

IN JULY of 1970, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation issued a list of seventy-two restricted chemicals. The original intent of the new regulation was that these restricted chemicals would be applied only by a custom applicator. In the original document, chlordane could be used only for termite control. Arsenicals were restricted to four pounds of active ingredient per acre. Mercury compounds and DDT were banned completely.

Golf course superintendents had lost most of their valuable, needed tools to maintain beautiful golf courses.

Several superintendents, associations and researchers wrote letters to the New York Commissioner of Environmental Conservation defending tri-calcium arsenate, chlordane and mercurial compounds. Researchers explained the expertise, knowledge and responsibility that professional golf course superintendents possess.

New York changed their recommendations to allow usage of calcium arsenate, lead arsenate and chlordane on turf by permit. The program is sound. Better utilization of chemicals will result from their sensible approach. They have recommended changes for restricted chemicals for 1972 that will allow professional managers' use of restricted chemicals. They have attempted to develop uniformity between requirements of several states and the Federal Government.

Several golf course superintendent associations, leading turf researchers, distributors, over fifty golf course superintendents and the Executive Committee of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America wrote letters to the Director of Pesticides Regulation Division, Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D. C. These letters were in defense of the usage of tri-calcium and lead arsenate to control **Poa annua** on greens and fairways. They reported that bent, bluegrass, zoysia, bermuda and fescue grasses are extremely tolerant to arsenical formulations. They pre-

THE PESTICIDE FUTURE IS BRIGHTER

By **CECIL F. KERR**
Chipco Turf Products Manager
Rhodia, Incorporated
Chipman Division
New Brunswick, N.J.

Guest Editorial

sented evidence that phosphates and arsenates are either fixed or absorbed by plants. Both phosphorus and arsenicals remain harmlessly in surface soils. They do not contribute to pollution of lakes and streams.

The Federal Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Science and Technology and USDA Arsenical Review Committees have outstanding scientists as members. We are confident that needed products will be allowed for use by permit for application by professional turf managers.

Dr. Paul Alexander and the Executive Committee of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America wrote to the Director of Pesticides in Washington supporting arsenicals, stating: "The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America represents over 2,400 golf course superintendents. We are firmly convinced that these men, because of their educational backgrounds, actual agronomic experience and professional integrity, are extremely well qualified to use the chemical tools which are vital to the growth and management of fine turf."

The members of our association should write to our state and federal agencies expressing their views of pesticide usage. The federal arsenic and lead committees are still evaluating the need for these materials. Write to:

Director, Pesticides Regulation
Div.
Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D. C. 20250
RE: F. R. Arsenic and Lead Notice

In your testimony, state the need for arsenicals, rates used, and weeds controlled. Point out that arsenicals remain on the soil surface and do not leach into lakes and streams. Birds are repelled by arsenicals and do not eat either lead or calcium arsenate. No injury or loss of life has occurred with proper arsenical usage. Request continuance of the wise use of needed tools to manage beautiful golf courses.

The review committees will thoroughly and intelligently examine our testimonies.