Environmental Safety Bulletin Available From Dow

Safety and Loss Prevention Services is the title of the first bulletin in a series on environmental health services published by Dow Chemical Company. The bulletin points up the company's capabilities in developing accident prevention programs aimed at producing a safer working environment for employees and minimizing losses to the employer. For more details circle (722) on the reader reply card.

Encapsulated Chemicals Decrease Human Toxicity

Encapsulation, once the tool of the science-fiction writer, is now being proved as a method of dispersing highly toxic insecticides. Scientists at Pennwalt Corporation's Agchem-Decco Division are encapsulating methyl parathion as well as other insecticides.

Dr. E. E. Ivy of Pennwalt says that test data shows the encapsulated methyl parathion—tradenamed Pencap M—is more than 500 times less toxic by skin absorption and 40 to 100 times less toxic by ingestion than conventional methyl parathion concentrate formulations.

The encapsulation development program was initiated at Pennwalt in an attempt to improve residual performance of methyl parathion and similar products and, at the same time, increase the safety of these products to the user.

The process involves micro-encapsulation of the insecticide in a plastic capsule, 30 to 50 microns up to millimeter size. The rate of release of the capsule contents is correlated with the capsule wall-type and thickness, permitting regulation of release rate from the capsule. This allows a degree of flexibility in designing a capsule for a specific pest control application with a given insecticide.

Dr. Ivy's laboratory and field tests with various Pencap M solutions proved them to be more effective on initial contact, as well as in sustained residual activity, than the emulsifiable concentrates. His tests included such crop and tree pests as

bollworms, boll weevils, spider mites, Japanese beetles and gypsy moth

Pencap M, the first encapsulated pesticide, contains two pounds of methyl parathion per gallon. It may be applied through conventional ground or air spray equipment.

Tests are also underway with encapsulated formulations of parathion, diazinon, malathion and several new experimental insecti-

Turf Equipment Firms Sign Marketing Agreement

A reciprocal marketing agreement between a British manufacturer of turf care equipment and Hahn, Inc. of Evansville, Indiana has been reached.

Ransomes Sims & Jefferies Ltd. of Ipswich, England has been appointed the exclusive world-wide marketer for the complete line of Hahn products. The agreement excludes the marketing rights in North America and Japan. Hahn will have exclusive rights for the sale of Ransomes' turf products in the United States.

