

Here's the sixty acre plant of Organic Compost Corporation in Oxford, Pa. The plant takes raw manure that might cause pollution problems, puts it through processing, mixing and composting, and then packages it for sale in a variety of products such as fertilizers, top soil and potting soil. Organic Compost also has plants in Germantown, Wisc. and Fort Worth, Texas.

Soil Fumigant Aids Organic Compost

Fertilizer From Animal Wastes

Cattle, hogs, poultry and sheep in the United States produce two billion tons of waste annually — enough to equal the waste from two billion people. That animal waste is concentrated in the growing number of feedlots where animals are brought together for marketing.

Unlike other pollution-causing wastes that eventually may be controlled, manure producing animals can hardly be shut off. These animals provide the meat needs of a growing and healthy nation of over 200 million people.

Recognizing that the cause of animal waste pollution can't be stopped, the Organic Compost Corporation, with plants in Oxford, Pa., Germantown, Wis., and Fort Worth, Tex., has made a specialty of recycling the waste through a patented process of composting manure.

One product that results from this composting process, and has found widespread application, is a top soil for golf courses. The top soil is a mixture manufactured by blending composted manure, loam and a soil fumigant to provide a rich, loose humus product that controls growth of unwanted weeds.

Initially the top soil was formulated without the fumigant, called Vapam. However, on some golf courses weeds began to grow from the soil part of the top soil mixture.

"We started out to meet specifications of the golf course superintendents by experimenting with a variety (continued on page 38)

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of weed killers," says Floyd Tamblingson, vice president of Organic Compost, and manager of the Oxford, Pa., plant. "Finally, we tried Vapam soil fumigant and found it to be less expensive than many others, highly effective, and easy to apply."

Stauffer Chemical C o m p a n y's Vapam is an all-purpose soil fumigant that enters the soil, fumigates it, and then disappears. It can be used, as Organic Compost does, by incorporating it in top soil and potting soil products, or it can be applied directly to lawns, flower beds and gardens.

With its top soil success for golf courses, Organic Compost then went to the homeowners and found equal acceptance. That success has continued in the many lines it sells, and yast year, Organic Compost experienced a 40 percent increase in its sale volume. Other end products are fertilizer and potting soil, which is similar to the top soil. They are packaged in five to 80 pound bags and sold through distributors and dealers to lawn and garden stores, landscape contractors, and nurseries, and to home, garden and, of course, golf course superintendents.

Through its three plants, Organic Compost has the capacity to produce two million pounds of finished maaterial daily. This capacity represents an input of eight million pounds of animal waste per day.

Manure is hauled to Organic Compost plants from various feedlots, meat packing companies and local farms. This raw manure is processed by specialized equipment, working with nature, until it has become bacterially active, finished compost. One such specially designed, patented machine is capable of handling 300 tons of manure per hour in the processing.

With more than mere rhetoric, Organic Compost has met the challenge of pollution and mastered it, while producing a product which is beneficial to our ecology and a boon to the individual gardener. Officials at Organic Compost say that because of its inherent nutrient value, a 50pound bag of manure, when used with an average size tree, is the best insurance for a healthy, growing transplant.

The company, founded in 1950 by George T. Klein, now president, does a large percentage of its business under private label packaging. It produces its own lines of potting soil, humus, and fertilizer under the "Fertilife" and other trade names.

System M Algaecide Introduced By 3M Co.

System M aquatic algicide has recently joined the ranks of Envirocap controlled release algicide and System E aquatic herbicide, according to the 3M Company.

The new algicide is a wettable powder formulation containing malachite to provide effective control of chara and many species of filamentous algae in non-moving lakes, ponds, canals and waterways. Malachite is the common name for the copper compound dicopper (11) dihydroxide carbonate. System M contains 55.8 percent copper.

According to Dr. William G. Paterson, manager of Environmental Products for the company's New Business Ventures division, the product is applied to infested areas in aqueous suspension through conventional spray techniques.

Dr. Robert W. Geiger, manager of 3M's; Lakes and Waterways Management Service (LAWMS) (See WTT, June 1970, page 16), said that extensive development work on System M has been carried out in the State of Florida in cooperation with state and Federal agricultural officials.

Generally 15-25 pounds of product per acre will control chara and filamentous algae. Treated areas should remain undisturbed for 48 hours following treatment.

For more details, circle (720 on the reply card.

Pulsating Sprinkler Head Offered By Melnor Industries

A new Pulsating Sprinkler Head and Sled Base for superior watering is being offered by Melnor Industries, a division of Beatrice Food Company. The Pulsating Sprinkler #9750 has a fingertip adjustment for watering a full 75' circle or any segment. A diffuser pin adjustment makes it possible to spray from a jet-stream to a fine spray.

Priced and packaged in combination with the new pulsating head is Melnor's new sled base. The base with widely-set side supports offers stability, and is ruggedly built of high impact material, designed with double connections for use in series or individually.

Other features of the new pulsating sprinkler head are its heavy duty zinc and brass construction and its high impact materials plus the two year guarantee. For more details, circle (721) on the reply card.