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Editorial...

Noise And The Federal Government

Without exception, everyone in the Green Industry is subject to two recently enacted laws that severely curtail the level of noise emitted into the environment. While little regulation has been done to date, you can be sure that only time is in our favor. The squeaking wheel will be getting plenty of grease, and soon.

We're now aware that the Occupational Safety and Health Act has made provisions for noise control. We need not further debate OSHA.

More importantly, however, is a new law, the Noise Control Act of 1972, which will be administered by the Environmental Protection Agency. Legislation for this law began in 1968 when Congress directed the Federal Aviation Administration to establish rules and regulations to control aircraft noise. Noise gained more importance when state and local noise ordinances were passed. The Clean Air Amendments of 1970 established an Office of Noise Abatement and Control within EPA and set up the framework for public hearings on environmental noise.

The result is the present law which in many respects has the power to curtail Green Industry noise all the way down to the power mower in the backyard.

Basically, Administrator Ruckelshaus has been given the authority to develop and publish information about permissible levels of noise, and then set noise standards for products that have been identified as major sources of noise. Categories of products rather than single products themselves are to be identified. Thus a chain saw may be grouped with all cutting equipment, or a chipper included in the same group as heavy machinery.

One noise abatement plan recently submitted for the aircraft industry would be to assign a certain decibel rating to each airline. Those airlines with noisy planes would either fly fewer flights or make greater use of newer low-noise jet aircraft and older prop-driven planes. Going over the assigned decibel rating would draw a penalty.

We do not propose that this plan be imposed on the Green Industry. Nor do we accept Green Industry equipment categorized with construction, transportation or other heavy industrial equipment. We believe that specific noise standards must be developed by Green Industry organizations that are acceptable to those who make up the industry. Each major organization has the capabilities and resources within its membership to produce industry standards.

As Dr. R. P. Upchurch, past president of the Weed Science Society of America said recently,
(continued on page 49)

For more details on following page circle (121) on reply card
WEEDS TREES and TURF

—insect report—

INSECTS OF ORNAMENTALS

PIT SCALE

(*Cerococcus Kalmiae*)

VIRGINIA: Overwintering eggs under dead females on heavily invested azalea in Norfolk. Collected February 15. This is second record of species in this State.

AN ERIOPHYID MITE

(*Trisetacus juniperinus*)

VIRGINIA: Severely infested Japanese garden juniper, *Juniperus procumbens*, in Falls Church, Fairfax County. Collected January 18, 1973. This is a new State record.

LONGTAILED MEALYBUG

(*Pseudococcus longispinus*)

FLORIDA: Nymphs and adults severely infested 24 to 40 sago palms, *Cycas revoluta*, around public buildings at Tampa, Hillsborough County.

GREEN PEACH APHID

(*Myzus persicae*)

ARIZONA: Abundant on weeds, ornamentals, and bedding plants in all areas of Salt River Valley, Maricopa County.

TREE INSECTS

SPRING CANKERWORM

(*Paleacrita vernata*)

KANSAS: Expected to be serious problem in 1973 on some elms, hackberries, and certain other trees in some eastern area cities during spring. Significant moth activity in Manhattan, Riley County, noted at lights and on trunks of elms and hackberries night of March 1. Males ranged 0-30 per tree on lower portions of trunks. High count of 4 females per trunk also noted. Examinations of fresh sticky bands on some elms in Topeka, Shawnee County, March 2 revealed significant moth activity. Up to 150 males and 30 females found in sticky bands on some larger elms.

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE

(*Dendroctonus ponderosae*)

CALIFORNIA: Epidemic infestations killed hundreds of lodgepole pines on south end of Lake Tahoe. About 150 acres of private land involved.

BENEFICIAL INSECTS

PENTATOMID

(*Euthyrhynchus floridanus*)

MISSOURI: This predaceous species collected on oak at Portageville, New Madrid County, September 28, 1972. This is a new State record.

ICHNEUMON WASP

(*Bathyplectes curculionis*)

MISSOURI: This parasite of "*Hypera postica*" (alfalfa weevil) recovered from alfalfa field in Ray County February 6, 1973. This is a new county record.

EDITORIAL (from page 6)

"... More and more we learn that the world is not waiting to hear from us but that if we speak to our conviction loud and hard and often our legitimate points will be heard and will have impact..." Waiting for government standards will be a compromise that in the end will lead to discontent.

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