

# Warren's® A-20

KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS

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RESISTANCE!**

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- Easy to care for
- Greens up earlier—stays green longer.

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In your editorial of Jan. 1973 you credited several states with programs to enable applicators to become licensed. As an aerial applicator I have been tested and licensed in three states, Colorado, Kansas and Oklahoma. I rate the three states in this order. For aerial applicators, the Colorado test requires the most knowledge to become licensed, and they have one of the best reporting systems (required monthly) during the season.

But I believe the State of Kansas has made more progress in educational programs than almost any other state. Starting in January 1971, a program was begun to educate applicators, both ground and air. Courses were held in vocational technical schools and 120 hours of instruction was given at a very nominal fee. Again in 1972 a 40 hour course was held.

Information on these courses was widely advertised and was there for the taking. Many applicators did not take advantage of these training programs because they are "old timers" and know it all.

The Kansas test was much too simple after all the training that was made available.

Oklahoma has a good test, but not real comprehensive or requiring any special knowledge or training to pass.

In January the area vo-tech school in Liberal, Kansas offered a program to license farmers to meet the proposed EPA requirements, along with a special corn producer class. Not one individual enrolled, but over 50 farmers enrolled in the corn producers class.

I . . . just want to see people who deserve an "E" for effort receive it. **Del Lawson, Elkhart, Kansas.**

I recently wrote a letter to my governor (Oregon) about the use of pesticides and insecticides. I wrote to him about the people who complain about the use of pesticides. It seems that the citizens of the U.S. want to see the ban of all pesticides because they feel that it is hurting our environment. In most cases the people who would like the ban of pesticides have never used them or even plan to. This is like saying you don't like ice cream with-

out even tasting it. (By the way, ice cream is very good.)

Not too long ago President Nixon said that he is trying to pass a law that the use of pesticides and insecticides be banned totally to the public except for licensed experts. This would be a very good law. It would probably reduce the complaints about pesticides to a very minimum. The reason: those who use pesticides (except experts) do not use them correctly and thus the public complains about how it effects our wildlife. **Juergen Witte, Medford, Oregon.**

In your January 1973 issue your editorial mentions the "International Pesticide Applicators Association, Inc." Would you kindly furnish me with their address and the name of the executive secretary or correspondent so that I may establish liaison with him.

Although I agree with the general tenor of your editorial I think you will find that there are several other states that are furnishing applicators with information and requiring some sort of examination. The north-eastern pesticide coordinators are presently well along in the preparation of a basic "core" manual for pesticide applicators designed as a self-training manual and will soon embark upon the preparation of several additional supplementary manuals in seven specialized areas.

In addition, the New England States and New York recently held a joint meeting of their regulatory officials and the pesticide coordinators to consider standardization of training materials, examinations, and registration for licensing so that licensing could be treated on a reciprocal basis. All of this bodes well for the applicator and hopefully will over the years improve his professional stature. **James E. Dewey, extension program leader, chemicals-pesticides, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.**

*Editor's Note: The executive secretary of the International Pesticide Applicators Association, Inc. is Lew Sefton, Sefton's Spray Service, 5600 S.W. Rosewood, Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034. JAS.*