



## Government News / Business

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The fertilizer situation especially phosphorus appears to be tight. While production is running at full capacity, several factors have made supplies to growers shorter than usual this year. According to Dr. William C. White, vice president member services, The Fertilizer Institute, fertilizer exports have been running heavy. In addition, reduced rail capacity to transport bulk fertilizer from the producer to the distributor has been limited. White says that producers have not increased production for the past several years due to overproduction. Current plans call for expansion, but results will not be seen much before 1975. Supplies of fertilizer are not short, notes White. There is just less being transported through the pipeline. Some manufacturers have attempted to use barges on major waterways. However, this has been less than successful with heavy flood situations in the central U. S. Order early, says White. It will help in getting fertilizer when you need it.

ANSI Z-133.1 report on the safety requirement for tree pruning, trimming, repairing, or removal is now available. This standard is the first to be endorsed by the American National Standards Institute. It was prepared in cooperation with the International Shade Tree Conference and the National Arborist Association along with other interested manufacturers and organizations. If your business is involved in tree care, it would be advisable to secure a copy of this standard. Write to American National Standards Institute, Inc., 1430 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Do you want to know the latest status of any bill before Congress? Then call (202) 225-1772. That's the hot-line number for an immediate computer read out, according to the USDA Office of Information. When calling, state the title or number of the bill.

The Environmental Protection Agency has proposed new rules governing hearing procedures for the regulation of pesticide products under FEPCA. The purpose of the rules is to insure that all parties adversely affected by EPA decisions will have a clearly defined avenue for seeking redress. The EPA Administrator may call a hearing to consider all information concerning a questionable pesticide, without the necessity of a cancellation, suspension or change of classification action. Additionally, in the case of a product suspension due to imminent hazard to the public, the new rules would accelerate the hearing process and thereby provide greater protection for the public. Other sections in the proposed procedures include: subpoena power given to EPA's administrative law judge in hearings; incorporation of the scientific advisory committee into the hearing procedure; and the right of the administrative law judge to make "initial decisions" which may become final where there is no appeal within a stated period of time.

The Environmental Protection Agency has granted registration to International Minerals & Chemical Corporation for the aerial application of Thuricide HPC in the control of gypsy moth. The product is a biological compound that was used widely by ground applicators last year to control this pest in forests, residential and public properties.