

## Stop Silver Maple Galls Spraying Is The Answer

Silver maple tree leaves covered with small red, green and black bumps are the result of maple bladder galls, says Donald L. Schuder, Purdue University extension entomologist.

Better spray now to prevent their recurrence, he advises. These abnormal growths are caused by small microscopic mites which feed on the foliage. Mite-feeding stimulates plant cells in such a manner that they form galls which serve to protect the mites.

The wart-like growths may occur singly or in clusters. They may become abundant enough to cause the foliage to appear gnarled and deformed. But even so, they seldom cause enough damage to affect the vigor of the tree, says Schuder.

Galls may be prevented by tree spraying just before bud break. Spraying at this time destroys the mites which overwinter in the cracks and crevices of the tree's bark. Spraying must be done, however, before new leaves are formed, or the mites will feed and galls develop.

plication of one quart of either mal-

The entomologist recommends athion or lindane emulsion concentrate per 100 gallons water. Dormant sprays of a superior oil or liquid lime sulfur are also effective.

## Pesticide Applicators Train For Safe Chemical Use

Tightening of regulations on pesticide use in Ohio has intensified educational training programs and licensing needs for pesticide applicators in the state. A series of six applicator's schools have been completed across the state with over 1,000 licensed applicators, operators, and other interested persons attending, says John Oren, associate state leader, agricultural industry, Ohio State University.

The continuing program, consisting of education, examination, and licensing, is a joint effort of the Division of Plant Industry, Ohio Department of Agriculture and the Co-operative Extension Service. Training schools annually incorporate latest changes and recommendations in chemicals and their use and revised or added federal requirements.

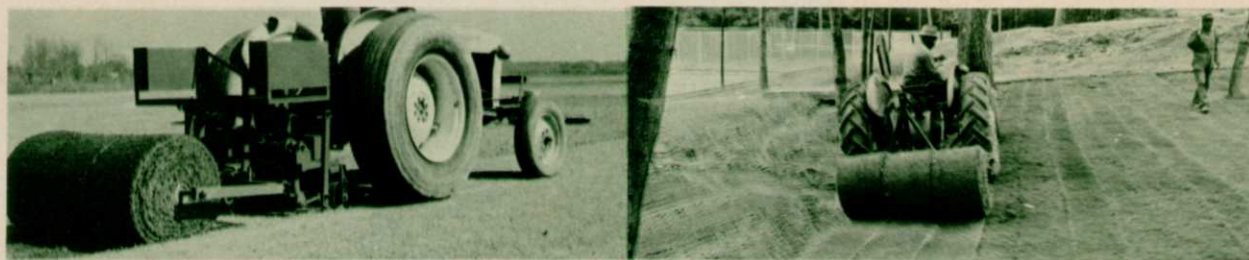
According to Oren Spilker, spe-

cialist in charge of pesticide regulations for the Ohio Department of Agriculture, 343 applicants took examinations at this year's meetings with the hope of becoming licensed applicators and operators.

To date, the Ohio Department of Agriculture has issued 938 applicators licenses; 933 operators licenses; 557 public operators licenses; and 575 licenses for pesticide dealers, Spilker adds. Another 2,226 users permits have been issued to users of restricted pesticide, he says.

Educational sessions cover latest recommended chemicals and their safe use in field crops, turf and ornamentals, vegetables, and industrial, aquatic and commercial vector control, according to John Oren. Schools are designed for both commercial and public operators as well as applicators of chemicals on a private use basis.

In line with the applicator schools, extension personnel have put together an Ohio Pest Control Handbook which is distributed to applicators, operators and other users of chemicals through the Ohio Department of Agriculture. The handbook includes 22 publications (updated each year) that cover previously mentioned chemical use fields.



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