

interest by those in attendance.

The ASPA field day this year was held at Richlawn Turf Farms, a sprawling complex of enterprises owned by Mel Rich that has grown in the past 10 years from 18 acres of sod to 1800 acres. Early in the day sod growers witnessed Richlawn turf installers lay sod in a new housing complex. Then everyone went to the sod field to view the equipment demonstrations.

Glen Seibold of Cleveland, North Dakota showed the group how the Harley landscape power rake and rock picker could improve their production of "rock-free" sod on well-tilled ground.

Three sod harvesters were demonstrated this year. They were the Princeton 4020, a totally new concept in harvesting design, built by Wiley Miner Princeton Manufacturing Co., Heightstown, N. J.; the Brouwer sod harvester, Brouwer Turf Equipment, Keswick, Ontario; and the Nunes sod harvester, built by John Nunes, Patterson, Calif.

Mowing equipment shown at the field day included units manufactured by Toro, Jacobsen and Ransomes.

New officers for the coming year are: Jack L. Kidwell, J. L. Kidwell Landscape Corp., Culpeper, Va., president; Charles Davis, Wharton Turf, Wharton, Tex., vice-president; Jerry Brouwer, Brouwer Sod Farms, Ltd., Keswick, Ontario, Canada, secretary; and John Nunes, Nunes Turfgrass Nurseries, Inc., Patterson, Calif., treasurer. The board of directors includes: Dale Habenicht, H & E Sod Nursery, Inc., Tinley Park, Ill.; George Stewart, Karandrew Turf Farms, Inc., Suffield, Conn.; Tobias Grether, Cal-Turf, Inc., Camarillo, Calif.; William Latta, Princeton Turf of Kansas City, Kansas City, Mo.; John Nunes, Jr., Nunes Turfgrass Nurseries; Wallace Huggett; Gerry Brouwer, Brower Sod Farms, Ltd.; Charles Davis, Wharton Turf; Parker Shirling, Princeton Turf Farms, Centreville, Maryland;; and Paul Florence.

Tank Mixed Compounds Okayed Says EPA

Can two chemicals each bearing an EPA approved label be tank mixed? Can you apply one compound immediately after the application of another compound?

These and other questions have haunted applicators across the country for many years. Now the Environmental Protection Agency has published guidelines. According to EPA, tank mixes and serial applications fall into one of several categories:

Category 1. Instructions provided for such use on one or more labels of EPA registered products;

Category 2. Such use may be covered by an intra-state registration;

Category 3. Various tank mixes and serial applications have been tested and recommended by agricultural experiment stations, state departments of agriculture or are common agricultural practices.

EPA says that tank mixes or serial applications which are consistent with the label constitute an acceptable use.

Intra-state registrations remain valid until replaced by EPA registrations under Section 3 of the amended FIFRA. This will occur generally after October 21, 1974, and be completed by October 1976, according to the timetable set for the Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act (FEPCA). Special actions taken by the EPA administrator in the form of orders could reduce this time schedule. For the time being, tank mixes and serial applications registered by a state will not be deemed uses inconsistent with the label.

EPA has said that in passing FEPCA, Congress intended for the Agency to apply the test of reasonability in enforcing misuse provisions. Thus, until FEPCA is fully implemented, tank mixes and serial applications in Category 3 will not be considered inconsistent with the label if:

1. The products in the mix are applied at a dosage rate not to exceed the label instructions for use of any product in the mix used single for the same set of insects on the same crop; and

2. the label on one or more of the products does not explicitly instruct against such mixture.

There's a lot of "iffy" and not assumed risk which EPA cautions applicators to take into account before mixing, however. For instance, EPA says it is okay to mix the compounds, providing efficacy or human and environmental safety data warrants the use. The applicator must also be willing to accept the risk with respect to effects on crops, equipment, applicator safety, environmental effect and tolerance pre-harvest intervals.

In other words, EPA has given permission but not granted approval. It still reserve the right to prohibit the action on a case-bycase basis.