

# COMPARE



## Our happiest M-437 Trencher customers are those who weren't Vermeer M-437 customers before!

Sure, it sounds strange . . . but anyone who has ever bought multi-purpose trenchers before, knows where the profit and loss is made: in the shop. And that's why "The Diggin' Dutchman's" dependable M-437 looks so much better on the rebound. Where's the difference? Machine weight and stability have a lot to do with it; but also compare chain strength, positive chain drive and center-pivot articulation . . . plus a whole list of protection-

engineered features that many never considered or took time to design. Vermeer craftsmanship? After 25 years of trenching and underground experience **on the job**, we'd like to think so. Next time compare . . . you'll be surprised. You may even be shocked!

Our 25th Year

### THE DIGGIN' DUTCHMAN

VERMEER TRENCHER-PLOW DIVISION  
7204 NEW SHARON RD. • PELLA, IOWA 50219



## Green Industry Book Report

**The DDT Myth: Triumph of the Amateurs**, by Rita Gray Beatty. Published by John Day Company, New York, New York.

Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane. Or DDT. You know what it is. You've heard about it. But chances are your information is based on claims by uninformed or misinformed overnight specialists.

Finally, a book has been written presenting documented evidence, pro and con, on the real story behind the ban on DDT. Rita Gray Beatty traces the history of DDT from Paul Muller, recipient of the 1948 Nobel Prize for his discovery of the lifesaving effect of DDT, to the June, 1972 ban by William Ruckelshaus and his Environmental Protection Agency. With a wealth of quotes and references, the 200-page, \$3.95 paperback book points out the strengths and weaknesses in modern pest control practices.

Beatty claims the chlorinated hydrocarbon we call DDT, the chemical that has caused a wave of passions and borne such grave implications for the future of mankind, has saved more lives than penicillin. Her claim is based on the control of the anopheles mosquito, carrier of malaria parasites, by the World Health Organization. Malaria is still the number one killer of mankind.

Insects, with their amazing adaptability, have contested our mastery of nature from day one. According to Dr. S.A. Forbes, entomologist, "Insects had, . . . all the advantages of a possession of the field when the contest began, and they have disputed every step of our invasion of their original domain so persistently and so successfully that we can scarcely flatter ourselves that we have gained any very important advantage over them . . ."

Beatty presents a sound case for the control of the gypsy and tussock moth with DDT. She documents case after case of uncontrollable insect damage to forests and our lack of economical chemical control. "The farmer like the forester, has many chemical pesticides available to him. He may use them if they will control the damaging insects on that crop and if they are economical enough to leave him a reasonable profit. . . . A safe, inexpensive, long lasting pesticide can spell the difference between a marketable crop sold at a profit or a loss."

One question reoccurs throughout the book: How can we ban the use of DDT when there is no equivalent substitute? For over ten years, false prophets, overnight ecologists and environmental alarmists have blamed DDT for crimes ranging from endangering wildlife to contamination of mother's milk. People are dying world-wide from insect-borne diseases, insects ravage our forests and crops and the public health and agricultural wealth of our own country are at stake. Scientists have developed no effective, safe pesticide to rival the success of DDT and yet until last month, DDT use has been forbidden in every state in the US.

Beatty also rebukes the news media for a strong tendency to accentuate the "bad" and to minimize the "good." She blames the emotional assertions in the press for misinforming the public and causing unfair pressure to ban DDT. She urges reasonable rather than emotional legislation regarding agricultural chemicals. She wrote a book that represents a plea for sanity, prudence and proper perspective on the part of all of us.