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Rumors advocating restrictions for non-farm use of fertilizer are increasing daily. Well-meaning politicians have proposed legislation suggesting that farmers in the U. S. could gain substantial fertilizer supplies for food production if non-farm use was diverted. Fortunately, some common-sense experts are also voicing their opinions. "It is unrealistic to talk about fertilizer being taken from golf courses in America to supply farmers in developing nations. What is needed is funds from the wealthier countries to secure fertilizer deliveries and to help pay shipping charges to the users," said Robert W. Steiner, fertilizer coordinator for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. A recent report from the American Association of Plant Food Control Officials indicated only 3.5 percent of total U. S. fertilizer was being used for all non-farm purposes. These uses include everything from airport runway de-icing, to vegetable gardens, public park and playground maintenance and highway shoulder stabilization. Ed Wheeler, president of the 300-member Fertilizer Institute said, "The small amounts employed (for non-crop uses) contribute not just esthetic enhancement to our environment, they make a necessary functional addition to it, as well."

Senate has rejected an appropriations bill amendment, by a 60-to-29 margin, that would have exempted firms with 25 or fewer employees from OSHA coverage. The house has previously passed a similar version of the amendment. The bill now goes to a House-Senate conference where a final decision must be worked out.

Rhodia, Inc., has changed the name of its Chipman Division to Agricultural Division. Rhodia acquired the Chipman Chemical Company in 1964.

Sandoz Inc. Crop Protection, Homestead, Florida, has acquired Komeen Aquatic Herbicide and K-Lox Algaecide from Kocide Chemicals Corporation, Houston, Texas. Komeen is a copper compound for control of Hydrilla. K-Lox is for use in lakes and ponds.

In other industry acquisitions, Toro Company recently signed an agreement in principle to acquire the stock of Irrigation and Power Equipment, Inc., Greeley, Colo., a manufacturer of center pivot irrigation systems marketed under the Raincat trade name. Purchase of the company would involve an exchange of stock and be treated as a pooling of interests.

Beginning January 1, 1975, employers will be required to record occupational injuries and illnesses on a revised form that distinguishes two types of lost-work days--"days away from work" and "days of restricted work activity." "Days away from work" are defined as any days on which an employee would have worked but could not because of occupational injury or illness. "Days of restricted work activity" are any days during which an employee was assigned to another job on a temporary basis, or worked at his job less than full time, or worked at his regular job but could not perform all duties connected with it because of occupational injury or illness.