

trimmings

Disposing of chemical containers is becoming a problem, say some experts. The National Agricultural Chemical Association suggests the rinse and drain method to help reduce the potential hazards of "empty" pesticide containers. First, the container should be allowed to drain in a vertical position for 30 seconds. Then, the container should be rinsed three times and allowed to drain 30 seconds after each rinse. The rinse should be drained into the sprayer that is being used for application. North Carolina State University specialists emphasize that used pesticide containers aren't safe for reuse for any purpose.

Who says you can't get something for nothing? A revised "Safety and Health Protection on the Job" poster is available free-of-charge from the Department of Labor. The poster, required by law to be posted in workplaces, is a more detailed version of the original one. It summarizes the provisions of the Act in easily understood language enabling both the employer and employee to understand their rights and responsibilities under the law. Posters may be obtained from OSHA regional offices in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Seattle.

Achtung! Experiments conducted at Bavendorf, Germany have shown that certain systemic fungicides are toxic to earthworms. Earthworm activity was reduced significantly in the grass sod of apple orchards in which the trees had been sprayed with either benomyl, thiophanate or thiabendazole. Applications of dilute concentrations of these materials to soil in enclosed containers also produced a significant drop in earthworm activity. Of the three compounds, benoyml produced the greatest effect.

"If you can't plant a flower ... pluck a weed." The City of Lubbock, Texas and Lubbock Chamber of Commerce have joined forces in a city-wide effort to rid alleys and vacant lots of weeds and rubbish. To be in violation of the weed ordinance, property must have a profusion of weeds that average 12 inches in height. If a violation exists, a notice will be mailed to the property owner who then will be given 10 days to cleanup.

Hitch hiking gypsy moths will be carried long distances by cars and recreational vehicles this summer. As the weather warms and more campers, fishermen and hikers seek recreational activity in the northeastern states, all stages of the gypsy moth — egg masses, larvae, pupae and adults can cling to vehicles parked in infested areas. Motorists are advised to perform periodical inspections of their vehicle to stop what may be the beginning of a new infestation.

A little more you-all. Forest Research News has changed its name. It is now For The South instead of Mid-South. The magazine is also being sent bi-monthly instead of quarterly.

The Committee of Nine, a top research advisory committee of the U.S.D.A. says the American consumer faces the possibility of certain food and fiber shortages within a few years unless state agricultural pesticide research and label clearance can be accelerated. The nine represent 55 state agricultural research stations in the U.S. The committee called for immediate computerization of pesticide tolerance data records and activities of interregional (IR) project IR-4, established in 1963. IR-4, under the direction of Dr. Charles C. Compton, Rutgers University, has developed a data collecting center and services as a clearing house nationally for the state agricultural experiment stations. This research data is used by IR-4 to obtain clearance from EPA for use of many pesticides not otherwise cleared by industry with EPA.



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