

trimmings

MULCH, MULCH, MULCH your weeds . . . has been recognized as an effective form of weed control under certain conditions for some time. Scientists apparently always on the lookout for a discovery have been wondering what to do with the old test tubes which once contained the promise of fortune and fame. May wonders never cease. The cleaning lady has made a discovery. Glass makes an effective mulch and aids in weed control. Well almost. A permanent fiberglass product has been produced from borosilicate fibers, bonded with resin, that permits moisture, air, and nutrients to enter the soil, but eliminates the emergence of weeds and grasses. The material will not rot, corrode or burn. It may be taken up and reused. Also, moisture evaporation is said to be reduced. Only the imagination limits where it could be used.

GRASS—A FAMILY FRIEND will probably play a more important role this year than ever before. The energy situation has forced families to stay home. And because the television offerings are becoming more limited, families will probably use outdoor living to a fuller degree. Just think of all the fun you can have on turfgrass lawn of Fylking, says Doyle Jacklin of Jacklin Seed. Football, badminton, softball, golf, even tag. Properly cared for turf will easily take these contact sports and more. And grass is one of nature's most prolific air conditioners as well as oxygen producers. Might not be a bad idea to encourage your customers to stay home more often.

SPRAY WITH A HEAD or foam is being considered a strong candidate in Ohio tests for the control of plant disease. Foam application of fungicides have shown promise in providing even greater protection to the environment than conventional sprays. Advantages include deposition of a greater proportion of the fungicide on plant leaves, uniform suspension of the material and treatment on days when wind prevent spraying by conventional methods.

DIAL-AN-ANSWER has a new number, says O.M. Scott & Sons, Marysville, Ohio. The current toll free number for answers on lawn care

problems are: 800-762-4010 in Ohio; 800-543-0091 in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming; an 800-543-1415 in all other states.

WOLF WOODS fools Mother Nature. That's what the Philadelphia Zoological Garden did. They have constructed a "wild" environment to help increase the population of two threatened species: North American timber wolves and South American maned wolves. The zoo actually improved on nature. Wolf Woods has an underground irrigation system to supplement rainfall to support a forest of transplanted trees and other vegetation. "We think Mother Nature would approve," says Charles Rogers, staff horticulturist. The irrigation system is Toro, designed by Jerry Purcell of Philadelphia Toro. It features automatic pop-up, pop-down heads. Trees include Douglas fir, white pine, locust, clump birch and dogwood. More than 20,000 square feet of sod was installed.

SOD GROWERS BEWARE! The common problem of vandalism experienced regularly by farmers and growers can also touch sod growers in a big way, too. Scattered reports of sod damage in Ohio, Maryland and New Jersey prompts action on the part of sod growers to keep their eyes open. Generally what happens is car tracks and litter—the awesome reminder of a previous night's party. Yet authorities also have reports of damaged irrigation systems, thefts of equipment, etc. It's a good idea to post your farm with "Keep Out" and "No Trespassing" signs. It won't stop the determined vandal, however.

WILL TRAVEL NO GAS may well become even more pronounced before the energy situation is cured. The Connecticut Tree Protective Association has come to the rescue of its members in a unique sort of way. They've posted the phone numbers of the executive directors of the various county offices of the USDA Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) for those engaged in tree service and other agricultural activities. This way members who need fuel oil, diesel fuel, etc. have a direct contact with those who can provide positive action. They have also provided members with other sources of information on fuel emergency.

NEED TO KEEP LABOR busier while on the job? It's true. Some labor crews just don't have enough work to keep them occupied. Lightning Protection Institute, 122 West Washington, Ave., Madison, Wis., 53703, suggests selling a lightning property. If it is a tree job, a little you discuss work to be done on the property. If it is a tree job, a little more time spent in the tree by the climber can pay a handsome dividend later.

IS HORTICULTURE considered agriculture? Yes, says a Washington spokesman. By definition, "agricultural production means the commercial farming, dairy, poultry, livestock, horticulture, forestry and fishing activities, and services directly related to the planting, cultivation, harvesting, processing and distribution of fiber, timber, tobacco, and food intended for human consumption and animal feed." All this means that nurserymen are now authorized 100 percent of their current needs for gasoline and probably will be allocated 110 percent of their needs for middle distillate during the 1972 base period.

NO NET GAIN. That's what EPA Administrator Russell E. Train says about removing the emission control systems from autos. "It is EPA's technical judgment that a mass program to remove or modify emission controls on existing cars would result in no net gain, and possible even some deterioration, in nationwide fuel economy," he says. "The only certain result of such a program would be a major increase in motor vehicle emissions."

Oseco Limited has announced that construction has started on an expansion of the company's office, warehouse, laboratory and processing complex.

The expansion, which will cost \$125,000, will double the capacity of the bagged-seed section of the warehouse, according to production manager Helmut Koops.

The head-office complex currently occupies about 45,000 square feet on 50 acres of land.

Oseco's products includes turf grass seeds for professional growers and retail markets, packaged flower and vegetable seeds, and forage and hybrid corn seeds.

The company ships seed to all parts of Canada and the United States, and exports grass and legume seed, including seed grown under contract in North America, to clients in Europe, Japan, Australia, Africa and South America.