#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## THREE IN ONE

I have read the very excellent article on Page 16 in the March issue of WEEDS TREES AND TURF entitled "Gypsy Moth Threat to the Midwest'

Also on Page 16 you had a brief notation entitled "What is BT?". While you have properly described BT I think you should have mentioned there are currently three (3) product brands registered for commercial use. These are Dipel, Thuricide, and Biotrol XK. Thuricide is a product of Sandoz-Wander, Inc. and

Biotrol is a product of Nutrilite Products, Inc. which is marketed nationally by Thompson-Hayward Chemical Company.

Both Thuricide and Biotrol were in the marketplace prior to the introduction of Dipel. The omission of all of the products in the field might prove confusing to those people we have been communicating with prior to this article. Bob DeCicco, Manager Marketing Services, Thompson-Hayward Chemical Company.

## NAME REQUESTED

In an article as a sidebar to "Bent



Mr. Brian Bouchard of Kingston Turf Farms, West Kingston, Rhode Island, says, "Beck's Big Roll Sod Harvesting and Laying System is the single, biggest improvement in sod handling methods since the industry started. It allows a landscaper or contractor to install sod quickly and easily and with a quality not ordinarily attained by using pieces."

Kingston's three-man crew will install 30,000 to 40,000 square feet per eight-hour day. And they have attained a single-day high of 52,400 square feet with only three men.

"Our three years' experience with this system indicates that under conditions in New England, we attain a 6% stretch factor in our laying operations. This is an added plus in the sale of sod because the contractor will actually purchase 6% less sod than he needs to cover a particular area."

The Big Roll harvesting operation in the field averages 12,000 square feet per sod hour, cut and loaded, using a crew of four men.

So, no matter where or when you sod, remember the proven Sod-O-Matic from Beck. For more information, write Box 752, Auburn, Alabama 36830.



on Better Fairways" in the January, 1974 issue of W.T. & T. it is stated, "Bermudagrass greens constructed according to U.S.G.A. Green Section specifications can easily be converted to bentgrass with a herbicide treatment . . ." Either the writer has his tongue in cheek, or he is referring to a more co-operative type of Bermudagrass than that which has invaded western Oregon from our southern neighbor. If there is a chemical that will do this job, I would like to know it's name

Thank you for your very fine magazine which in its month to month editions is "right on." Ken Purkey, Turf Foreman, City of Eugene Park Department, Eugene, Oregon.

#### ANSWERED

I believe the reference to chemical inhibition of bermuda in greens converted to bent appeared in material released by Dr. Richard Duble of Texas A & M University.

The DuPont herbicide Tupersan (Siduron) does indeed prevent germination of bermuda seed and encroachment from fairways and aprons, according to a number of experiences (involving conversion of greens to Penncross) reported on in detail in the Nov. 1971 USGA Greens Section Journal. The cases cited in this report come from tests and practical usage on courses in the Carolinas and Georgia.

Texas A & M has done similar work, I believe, and information might possibly be available from Dr. Duble at the Dept. of Crops & Soils, College Station, Tex. 77543.

I heard about Tupersan 3 or 4 years ago. But I never heard of bermudagrass in Oregon until you relayed this letter. Live and learn Hal G. Dickey, vice president, Siddall Assoc. Advertising.

## NOXIOUS WEED ACT NOXIOUS

I have been wanting to express my "great disagreement" with the editorial which appeared in the February 1974 issue of the Weeds Trees and Turf magazine in regards to the noxious weed law .

In essence, my basic disagreement is not in the fact that we need a noxious weed law and that there are several noxious weeds that should be controlled for the good of humanity, motherhood, childrenhood, etc., etc., but the manner in which the law is put forth is completely unfair in my opinion. If you will read close you will see that the proposal is to allow the Secretary of Agriculture, in this (continued on page 12)

# Letters

## (from page 10)

case Secretary Butz, to add noxious weeds to the current Federal noxious weed list without any public hearing. Now this, in itself, sounds very innocuous, however, it means that he can put any number at any time on the list without any due consulting with sod growers, seed growers, or any type of farmer/producers or even the prople of a certain state who produce a commodity that might have that weed in it and which may not be a problem in a different state. Again, the fact that the Federal government can maintain such direct control over this list without any public hearing, without any consultation with anybody whatsoever, makes this proposal unfair, unwarranted, and undesirable.

It is my belief that any Federal Noxlous Weed Act, if adopted:

(1) should exempt seeds intended for planting purposes;

(2) should be limited to the importation of noxious weeds which are new to the United States and are, or if imported are reason-

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Dept. WT.90, 109 McCoskry St., Saginaw, Michigan 48601 12 For More Details Circle (126) on Reply Card For More Details on Preceding Page Circle (141) on Reply Card ably anticipated to be, of economic importance;

(3) should include provisions adequate to insure that the act will not be administered in a manner which would create an unreasonable non-tarrif trade barrter;

(4) should provide for the necessary eradication of new weeds inadvertently introduced into the US and established in a small area; and

(5) should provide for a reasonable period for comments by interested persons, and for a public hearing if deemed necessary by the Secretary, or if requested by any person before any rule or regulation is promulgated.

Again, I don't disagree with your basic concept of the law, however, I disagree violently with the manner in which the proposal was put forth, that there would be no hearings allowed as is the case now and that the Secretary of Agriculture could, at his discretion at any time, put a weed or many weeds on this list. Doyle W. Jacklin, Jacklin Seed Company.



**Robert Felix** 

# NAA's Robert Fellx Named Exec. Secretary

The National Arborists Association, Inc. (NAA) recently appointed Robert Felix as executive secretary.

Felix, Wantagh, New York, has been active in NAA affairs as an officer and director. For over twenty years he was associated with Harder Services, Inc., Hempstead, N.Y.

"My plan is to initiate an aggressive program for the NAA which has members spanning the U.S. in the fields of utility and commercial agriculture, membership development, education, safety programs and a broad public relations program," said Felix.

The NAA moved its headquarters from Washington, D.C. to Long Island, N.Y. in early March.