

Trimnings

New copies of American Sod Producers Guidelines Specifications to Sodding have been printed and are available in quantity from the ASPA office in Hastings, Neb. Single copies are available on request, with additional copies available for 25¢ each plus mailing. These specifications should be provided to landscape contractors, architects, and others interested in providing quality sod at an ASPA standard. For more information contact: ASPA, Association Building, 9th and Minnesota, Hastings, Nebraska 68901.

"Hang in There" was the theme of the First International Hang Gliding Championships, held at Escape Country, California. Located in Orange County near El Toro, Escape Country was host to hang glider pilots from all over the U.S. and eight foreign countries. More than 4,500 spectators viewed the event live while millions watched the championships on CBS — TV's Sports Spectacular. Cal-Turf, Camarillo-based turfgrass grower, furnished the landing area and target for the glider pilots, which consisted of 10,000 square feet of Tifway Sod.

Live Oak, Texas residents claimed rats and snakes infested weed-choked creek banks and demanded city officials take immediate action. Mayor John Harper gathered city crews together and armed with 2,4-D attacked the infested embankments. Before all the handshaking and back-patting had ceased, residents near the sprayed area began complaining the herbicide caused numerous instances of dead or dying trees, wilted pot plants and roses and garden vegetables twisted into grotesque shapes. One Live Oak resident, complaining his family suffered headaches, nausea and diarrhea after the defoliant was sprayed, said he was told by the city poison control center it was toxic. Mayor Harper admitted there was some damage but added "It was just an act of God." He was referring to a storm that passed over town the same day the chemical was applied.

Harper said the wind picked up the chemical and blew it into nearby yards. City insurance carriers are investigating to see if any of the claims will be paid.

Five professional chain saws, replacement chain and bars were donated by Pioneer to help clear debris from tornados that struck Omaha, Neb., May 6. The saws were given to public works department workers shortly after twisters killed three persons and devastated

800 square blocks in this city's southwest and northwest sections. Damage exceeded \$500 million and hospitals treated 140 injured persons. "The destruction was awesome," Ed Molaskey, Pioneer field sales manager, said. "Homes were ripped apart, trees and power lines uprooted and large trucks twisted around telephone poles." Pioneer offered the saws to Mayor Edward Zorinsky with assistance from Mayor Sam Schwartzkopf of nearby Lincoln, Neb., the U.S. marketing headquarters for Pioneer.

Say: "Gypsy Moth"

... and every arborist in the United States knows what you are talking about, whether he is in a high infestation area or has never seen one.

For the past five years Chuck Cissel, Vice President of Guardian Tree Experts, has been working closely with Dave Shaw, Shade Tree Commissioner of Monmouth County, New Jersey, and Dr. Lou Vasvary of Rutgers University testing Mauget Tree Injectors charged with Meta-Systox R and Bidrin in the control of gypsy moth. This New Jersey area relives "January in June" each year as a result of the voracious feeding of the larva of this pest stripping the leaves from trees.

While it will not be practical to treat large tracts of land this way, individuals who do not want to spray due to any number of valid

reasons will have a viable alternative if this method is labeled for use as a result of the outstanding test results that have been gathered. With a sealed system such as Mauget Injectors, there is no drift, runoff, or wind and weather factors to consider. Killing effectiveness averages 30-60 days, and one minor miracle yet unexplained is the fact that it is very noticeable the following year that the moths seem to "bypass" trees injected the previous year.

Test data accumulated over the past five years indicate that an average of 90% control can be safely expected. While it is not the answer to everybody's problems, the professional arborist will be able to add another item to his medicine chest to fight the ills that plague his clients' shade trees.



(From left) Dr. Lou Vasvary, Chuck Cissel, Dave Shaw and Lew Kolb. Note: Injectors on tree in front of Vasvary.