

Trimnings

Turn about is fair play. WEEDS TREES AND TURF overheard comments from visiting Japanese horticulturalists that their number one insect pest was the American beetle!

A little misinformation upset a Kansas State University professor of ornamental horticulture when he discovered the European Horsechestnut offered under the nut tree category in a widely distributed nursery catalog from Pennsylvania. The listing also contained the statement "covered with large chestnuts in the fall." "The English Horsechestnut is a 'kissing-cousin' of several poisonous American Buckeyes," warns Dr. Ray A. Keen. "Most rural people are aware of the poisonous nature of buckeyes and horsechestnuts, but some urban dwellers may be uninformed." All you Euel Gibbons - types beware.

A recent U. S. Forest Service study indicates that trees can add as much as 27 percent of appraised land value. Related studies of half-acre lots show first 6-inch diameter tree adds \$300 per lot to appraised value; 10th tree added \$200; 20th, \$100; and 30th, nothing.

The April 1975 issue of WEEDS TREES AND TURF featured the L.A. Dodgers' spring training camp in Vero Beach, Fla. We weren't the only ones impressed by the facility's turf condition. Robert Markus, a *Chicago Tribune* sports editor, after touring the majority of the training camps in Florida wrote in his March 19th column: "The Dodgers' training complex is the best I've seen — and I've been to every camp except Montreal's, Detroit's and Boston's . . . The playing fields are as well-groomed as a golf course. The infields are like putting greens." Sounds like a homerun for superintendent Bill Moolenaar.

EPA recently hired a new Deputy Assistant Administrator for Pesticide Programs. "Edwin Johnson has been intimately involved with organization, policy and budget issues in EPA's pesticide programs

since the Agency's beginning. His two years of experience as director of pesticide operations and strategic studies make him well prepared for his new post," said EPA boss Russell E. Train. The pesticide program is in the midst of implementing several far-ranging regulations. Standards governing the certification of pesticide applicators and new regulations for the registration and classification of pesticides will increase environmental protection and provide safe, effective products for farmers and other users, said Train.

It's back to school for some Massachusetts arborists this summer as they sign up for a course on the recognition and control of common diseases of the shade and ornamental trees of Massachusetts. The course is being offered at the request of the shade tree industry and will be geared primarily to meet the needs of the professional arborist and municipal tree officials. Classes will be held at the University of Mass. in Amherst.

A new, 42-page directory of the leading builders of the country's golf courses is now available without

charge from the Golf Course Builders of America (GCBA), an association of major golf course contractors based in Washington, D.C. The directory contains listings and biographies of the association's members, both builders and suppliers, along with a selected number of advertisements. Contractor pictures and biographies identify the members and list their recent golf course construction jobs thereby giving architects, land developers, recreation groups and government recreation officials an opportunity to check the work of the members. The Golf Course Builders of America, located at 725 15th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, will send the pocket-size directory upon request. GCBA was organized five years ago by a group of middle-Atlantic golf course contractors. The association now has members from coast to coast and recently held its fourth annual meeting and exhibit during the New Orleans convention of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. Membership in GCBA is open to qualified golf course contractors if they meet construction experience requirements. Suppliers to the industry are accepted as associate members.



Country humorist Jerry Clower has been retained by Ditch Witch to help promote their line of underground construction equipment. Clower made more than 200 appearances during 1974 telling the

stories made famous on his albums. He is a featured performer on the Grand Ole Opry and has made scores of radio and television appearances.