

# Editorial

EPA needs to clear up some gray areas relating to user certification which will suddenly come about in October 1976. The effect of certification hasn't been fully realized by many in the business of supplying and using pesticides.

An early step needed by EPA is an agreement on reciprocity among states. Custom applicators, dealers who do custom work, company sales representatives who do demonstrations, and others many times find themselves working across state lines. Since each state will administer and regulate its own certification program — with standards approved by EPA — a situation is created whereby a commercial applicator will need multiple state certification. Without a reciprocity program, certification can become both costly and time consuming for the individual applicator. Varying standards among states will naturally create a problem in any program of reciprocity but this can and should be solved by EPA.

Another area which appears gray is the certification programs being set up by the 50 states. We can't see how this can be achieved without the restricted use pesticide list which is to be supplied by EPA. The list insofar as we know is not ready —

and a further burden is shared by those setting up state programs and by manufacturers who would like to develop their marketing programs.

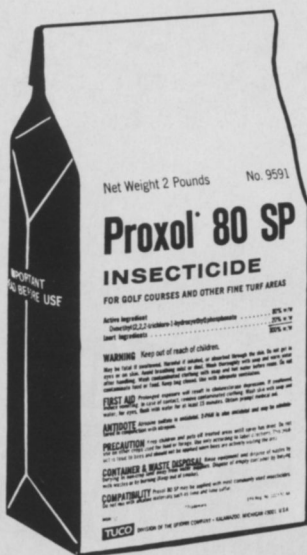
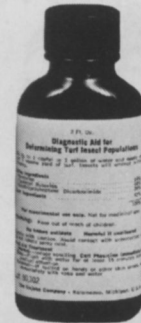
EPA Administrator Russell E. Train, speaking recently to the Weed Science Society of America, stated, "Our role it to ensure that essential and environmentally acceptable pesticide tools are maintained, but that also the benefits of these tools are not at the price of an ecological disaster." We would agree that this mandate is acceptable and simply stated. But its application to the specific pesticide industry and the effect on the nation's best interests are areas which are not so simple.

We are anxious for EPA to apply the "get tough" policies and regulations which were first anticipated with passage of amended Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act in 1972. Easing off on deadlines and penalties now is a mistake and unfair treatment for good custom applicators and basic manufacturers who have spent plenty of money in getting ready to comply with a stringent program backed by tough penalties. To let shoddy operators slip through because government hasn't fully prepared and clarified a program is unthinkable.

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One bottle of Diagnostic Aid FREE in each case of Proxol 80 SP.



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