Industry Newsand Newsmakers



From left: Frank Dobie, MITF director and general manager of Sharon Golf Club, Sharon Center, OH; Bill Burdick, MITF director and superintendent of Canterbury Golf Club, Cleveland, OH; Dr. Fred Gray, MITF president; Bill Lyons, MITF director and owner of Lyons Den Golf Club, Canal Fulton, OH; and Frank Floyd, president of Canterbury Golf Club.

Musser Invitational Benefits Research

The second Stroke Play Invitational Tournament, for the benefit of the H. B. Musser International Turfgrass Foundation, was held recently at Canterbury Golf Club in Cleveland, Ohio. This event was again arranged and conducted by the Cleveland District Golf Association. Mr. Henry J. Meiers, Executive Secretary of the Cleveland District Golf Association, said that the response was very gratifying and he predicted that the event would continue to grow with each consecutive year.

Proceeds of this event go to the H. B. Musser International Turfgrass Foundation to fund fellowships for individuals in the turfgrass research field who will be getting masters and doctorate degrees in turfgrass sciences, international in scope.

A field of 116 golfers participated. Prizes were awarded for low gross and low net. The \$35.00 entry fee, covered practice balls, golf carts, golf and an excellent buffet lunch. The event will be held again next year at a site yet to be determined.

Tree Borer Control Perfected

Dr. John Severson, a plant physiologist in the Dept. of Biology at St. Louis University has evidence which indicates that borers can successfully be controlled in municipal street trees with a minimum cost and effort.

His research to perfect an improved technique of controlling insects was prompted by recent regulations of the EPA regarding uses of certain insecticides in municipal tree spraying programs which has made blower-mist sprayers almost obsolete.

In a cooperative research venture with the St. Louis Community Development Agency, Severson treated a boulevard planting of Modesto Ash infested with the Lilac Tree Borer. The insects hatch in May and June and the larvae feast on sap in the cambium layer throughout the summer. The tree is soon completely prunned of top (continued

Game Time to Give Award

Game Time will again award four scholarships for the Spring Term of 1976, providing tuition support for research projects in the fields of recreation and leisure services. More than 200 colleges and universities that offer undergraduate or graduate degrees in those fields have been invited to participate.

Life Science Products Co. Stops Kepone Manufacture

EPA has ordered Life Science Products Company of Hopewell, Virginia to stop the sale, use or removal of the compound Kepone.

Life Science is the nation's sole manufacturer of the chemical and is under exclusive contract to the Allied Chemical Corporation. Kepone is used to fight fire ants and roaches.

Life Science's plant closed voluntarily July 24 after seven out of 10 employees became ill. The Virginia State Health Department later allowed it to reopen, but only to package the company's remaining inventory.

Alvin R. Morris, Deputy Regional Administrator, said the order was issued in accordance with the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act. An investigation is also being conducted to determine the health-related effects of Kepone as well as the extent to which it may be found in the water and on the land near the plant.

The order permits shipment of the remaining inventory to the Allied Chemical Corporation in Baltimore, Maryland in order to have the material located at a site where it can be safely handled and stored.

Further manufacture of the product is also prohibited since Life Science is not a registered pesticideproducer establishment.

The order requires Life Science to notify EPA in advance of any shipment, specifying the dates, amouints and modes of transportation.

Failure to comply with the order could subject Life Science to criminal penalties of up to \$25,000. growth by the insect girdling the limbs.

How to control an insect inside a tree that is planted in a tree well sur-, rounded by concrete sidewalks was the thesis of the research. A systemic insecticide was dissolved in a nutrient solution containing iron chelate and a plant growth stimulant which is subsequently injected into the root zone. A specially designed patented drill/injector was used to go rapidly through the concrete and adjacent soil without interference of roots and rocks. The drill/injector is attached to a self-contained unit with regulating control tanks. Various concentrations of systemic insecticides were used with some being dissolved only in water. Water soluble dyes were used as indicators in some of the treatments.

Results showed rapid translocation of the systemic insecticides into the woody tissue and leaves. Dead insect larvae were found in their tunnels containing the dye. Of course interest was the recoverative power of the Modesto Ash once the insect population was reduced or eliminated. New shoot growth and healing of open scars were observed when the treatment solution was applied.

Severson has shown that with proper tool and scientific control methods, municipalities can contro insects in street trees without spraying.

Northeastern Scientists Study Gypsy Moth Control

Scientists in Maryland and Delaware will study biological ways to suppress gypsy moths under two cooperative agreements with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

The gypsy moth, Porthetria dispar, is a forest pest which causes severe forest and environmental damage. Maryland is on the border of an expanding gypsy moth population.

USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) will provide \$169,000 for the two-year studies.

At the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Annapolis, Dr. R. M. Altman, entomologist, will lead a team of scientists studying ways to suppress gypsy moth outbreaks. Disparlure, a synthetic sex attractant for male gypsy moths, will be field tested in infested areas of Maryland. This testing, over about 35,000 acres, will determine disparlure's effectiveness in confusing and inhibiting mating in isolated infestations. Dr. Ralph E. Webb, entomologist, Beltsville, Md., is the ARS representative for this \$160,-000 agreement.

In Delaware, the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Delaware, Newark, will study moths on the Delmarva peninsula that may be alternate hosts for gypsy moth parasites. Imported parasites and predators of gypsy moths have been unsuccessful in keeping gypsy moth populations low. Alternate hosts could play a major role in maintaining sufficient populations of these natural enemies of the gypsy moths. Dr. D. F. Bray, professor of entomology and applied ecology at the university, is the project leader.



The 1975 expanded revision of the authoritative HAND-BOOK first published 1955 last revised 1966. Backed by assistance from outstanding U.S. turf authorities. Full color illustrations of turf diseases. weeds, weedgrasses and methods of control, proper spray methods, systemic turf fungicide discussion, use of turf colorants, etc. Focus on principles of sound turfgrass management, turf disease and weedgrass identification, and other features. Available through Mallinckrodt's nation-wide network of Turf Products Distributors for \$1.95.

Dow to Open 2,4-D Plant Bolster Supply for 1976

Dow Chemical U.S.A. announced that a new plant for the production of 2,4-D herbicide will be started up in the second quarter of 1976, eliminating the gap that has existed between supply and demand for the past two to three years.

Fred H. Sullivan, Dow marketing manager for herbicides, said critical shortages had been caused by worldwide growth in demand and shortages of raw materials. The new Dow plant will manufacture not only the 2,4-D but also the basic building blocks for this material. Under construction in Midland, Mich., since 1973, the new plant will increase Dow's domestic capacity for 2,4-D production by 70 percent.

The most widely used of the phenoxy herbicides, 2,4-D is in high demand in agriculture because it increases crop yields through the control of broadleaf weeds in lands planted to wheat, corn, oats, barley, sorghum, rice and sugar cane. It also is used to increase grass growth through brush and weed control on pastures and rangelands.

"Although 2,4-D has been used for 30 years, weeds have not developed resistance to the material," Sullivan said. "But there are changes in types of weed infestations. For tougher weeds, the farmer now uses 2,4-D in combination with newer herbicides, such as picloram, and the economics stay well within an efficient range."

Earlier this year, a report by the Council for Agriculture Science and Technology forecast "expanded usefulness for 2,4-D and related chemicals in the management of such diverse resources as croplands, forests, ranges, waterways, industrial lands, public utility properties, wildlife habitats, urban parks, athletic fields and landscape plantings."

"The phenoxy herbicides are widely used," the report said, "because they are more efficient and usually less hazardous and less injurious to the environment than alternative methods."

Environmentally, 2,4-D rates well because of its rapid breakdown into common elements such as carbon dioxide and water. This new facility will have a minimum of byproducts.

Fire Ant Control Extended Soll Movement Restricted

Fire ant quarantine restrictions on the movement of certain agricultural items are being extended to cover additional parts of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced today.

James O. Lee, deputy administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), said the action was taken because the imported fire ant has spread into areas that formerly were free of the pest.

"These states are already under the federal import fire ant quarantine," Mr. Lee explained, "But we restrict movement of items such as soil and earth-moving equipment out of those areas that are actually infested."

The latest action put movement restrictions — for the first time on articles in all or parts of these counties: Marshall, Ala.; Drew, Ark.; Broward, Dade, Martin, Monroe, Palm Beach and St. Lucie, Fla.; Chandler, Douglas, Hancock, Jefferson and Polk, Ga.; Leflore, Sunflower and Tippah, Miss.; New Hanover, N.C.; and Anderson, Bandera, Caldwell, Calhoun, Frio, Gonzales, Grayson, Guadalupe, Kerr, Leon, Limestone, Navarro, Robertson, Upshur and Wood, Tex. Also, movement restrictions are being extended to more parts of these previously infested counties: Lawrence and Winston, Ala.; Ashley, Ark.; Carroll, Haralson and Morgan, Ga.; Bolivar, Grenada, Humphreys, Lafayette and Prentiss, Miss.; Columbus and Pamlico, N.C.; Darlington, S.C.; and Collin, Comal, Fayette, Matagordo, Rusk and Tarrant, Tex.

"The fire ant's sting is extremely painful," Mr. Lee commented, "and can cause severe reactions in allergic persons." Besides damaging some crops, fire ants deface landscapes with large mounds and interfere with farming, gardening and use of parks, school grounds and other recreational areas.

The revised quarantine takes effect Aug. 6. A notice to that effect will be published in the Aug. 6 Federal Register. To obtain copies, at no charge, write Plant Protection and Quarantine Programs, APHIS, USDA, Federal Center Building, Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

First Centralized Library Set Up For Drip Irrigation

The world's first centralized library for information on drip irrigation is being set up at the University of California, Riverside.

Funding for the Center on Drip Irrigation — a relatively new dropwatering process involving the frequent slow application of water to soil — was authorized at the July, 1974 International Drip Irrigation Congress in San Diego.

"California has by far the greatest acreage of drip irrigation in any state," said irrigation and soils specialist Albert W. Marsh in explaining the choice of UCR as an information center.

"And Southern California has the greatest concentration in the state," he added. "Research on the process has been done mainly by people from this campus plus farm advisors and specialists in the counties. Riverside is the most logical place from that standpoint."

Since drip irrigation has been employed in the U.S. for little more than 10 years, information on its use will probably be limited to journals, monographs and commercial periodicals. Agriculture experiment stations in all 50 states and experts throughout the world are being contacted for materials.

Developed after World War II strictly as a greenhouse watering system, drip irrigation was first expanded on a major scale in Israel in the 1960s, where available water was limited. UCR soil scientist Sterling Davis initiated experimentation in California in 1963 on two citrus orchards in Southern California.

Today, some 50,000 acres in the (continued on page 38)



Ten Vermeer sales and service representatives were honored recently at the National Silver Shovel Awards banquet held by the Iowa-based firm. Named as charter members of the new sales club were: Leroy Jones, Noblesville, Indiana; Kevin Klein, Findlay, Ohio; Bob Cramer, Arvada, Colorado; Ron Herford, Olathe, Kansas; Mel Vander Schel, Eureka, Illinois; Bill Zigterman, Batavia, Illinois; Jerry Hilgenberg, Batavia, Illinois; Larry DeBruin, Pella, Iowa; Don Slagter, Pella, Iowa; and Ron Veenstra, Pella, Iowa. The awards which go to the top ten Vermeer salesmen of underground construction equipment throughout the U.S., were presented during a national sales meeting held in Des Moines, Iowa. Vermeer, headquartered in Pella, Iowa, manufactures and nationally markets a complete line of trenchers, vibratory plows and tree handling equipment.

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state are devoted to drip irrigation, with more than 100,000 expected to be using it in five years. No other state or foreign country approaches that volume, though Australia, Israel, Mexico and Hawaii have been world leaders.

The high frequency of irrigation allows highly saline (salty) water to be used, and in much smaller amounts than trench irrigation methods. Weed growth is minimal because water tends to be pinpointed near each plant, areas between rows stay relatively dry, and labor is reduced since valve adjustment is all that's necessary to maintain the system.

Though operating costs are reduced, equipment investment remains rather high and usage will necessarily be limited to "highvalue" crops, like avocados and fruits, according to Marsh.

"Where water is expensive and limited, however, this will work," he added. Locating the drip irrigation information center at UCR was the idea of Davis, an agricultural engineer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It will be housed in the Bio-Agricultural Library in Batchelor Hall.

Mount Sinal's Al Dennis Heads Turfgrass Council

Alan Dennis, grounds maintenance supervisor for Mount Sinai Memorial Park, Los Angeles, has been elected 1975-76 president of the 660-member Southern California Turfgrass Council.

He was installed during a recent council meeting in Los Angeles. Dennis succeeded Alfred N. Nobel to the post. The latter is a sales representative for B. Hayman Co., Inc., Santa Fe Springs-based distributor of turfgrass maintenance equipment.

Other officers inducted were: 1st vice-president, Sydney H. Gordon, Wilbur-Ellis Co., Los Angeles; 2nd vice-president, Charles F. Rei, Pacific Sod Farms, Camarillo; secretary, James G. Prusa, Mesa Verde Country Club, Costa Mesa; and treasurer, John F. Culbertson, Pacific Sod Farms.

Directors for the coming year will be: Quentin N. Crowell, Brentwood Country Club, Los Angeles; Robert Davidson, Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale; David Mastroleo, Hillcrest Country Club, Los Angeles; and Nobel.

The council conducts regular monthly educational meetings throughout the year, co-sponsors the Spring Turf and Landscape Institute with the University of California Cooperative Extension, promotes special educational seminars as the need arises, contributes funds for turfgrass research programs at the University, and stages the annual Southern California Turfgrass Equipment & Materials Educational Exposition. This year the show will be held October 22 & 23 on the Orange County Fairgrounds in Costa Mesa.



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the better idea from Holland For further information, write Vicon Farm Machinery, Inc. P. O. Box 6313, 3741 Cook Blvd., Chesapeake, Virginia 23323 Elects Officers, Directors The 1975 annual conference of the Professional

Grounds Management Society

Grounds Management Society (PGMS) adjourned with the installation of Allan Shulder as President.

The conference, which was held in Williamsburg, Virginia, September 2 to 5, marked the end of the twoyear terms of the Society's three primary officers, the installation of new officers and a turnover in three of the nine board of Directors positions.

Shulder, grounds supervisor of the Greater Baltimore Medical Center and past PGMS Treasurer, replaces Harleigh R. Kemmerer as PGMS President Kemmerer is grounds manager of Princeton University.

Newly elected Vice-President Charles Francis Lay, who is administrative chairman of the Arlington County Branch of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) Extension Service, relieves past vice-president Charles L. Hall, Jr. of his duties. Hall also works with the VPI Extension Service, in Fairfax County, Virginia. Filling Shulder's treasurer post is Tom Lepping, landscape supervisor for the County of Oakland, Department of Facilities and Operations in Potomac, Michigan.

A busy, four-day conference program was filled with educational seminars on topics such as pesticides, fertilizers, plant growth, equipment maintenance, and other subjects pertinent to the grounds maintenance field. A collection of the leading experts in the horticulture industry were on hand to lead seminars, or address the society on the specialized areas of their concentration.

Field trips into the conference backdrop of Colonial Williamsburg — a site lush with masterfully planned, well-manicured horticultural attractions that serve as settings for the colonial-period architecture — were welcome escapes from the Conference rooms.

For More Details Circle (154) on Reply Card