

Trimings

Controlled-release pesticide concept applies to such things as disease-carrying snails, aquatic weeds, crop-attacking insects and other pests may be on its way to becoming the most popular method of pest control. How the controlled-release pesticide movement developed, where it stands now, and what can be expected of it in the future are discussed in a new book written by Nate Cardarelli, associate professor of general technology at the University of Akron, Akron, Ohio. Cardarelli wrote the book at the request of Dr. Guntar Zweig of the Federal EPA.

"Controlled-release offers a heck of a lot of promise to control pests with much less environmental contamination than conventional pest control methods, which rely on massive dosing of the environment with consequent destruction of plant and animal life and general contamination of soil, air and water," Cardarelli said.

In the book, "Controlled Release Pesticides Formulation," such topics as antifouling materials, snail control, and various plant, insect, and rodent killers and controls are discussed.

Aquatic herbicides involve control of such plants as water hyacinth and alligator weeds, which foul up water and hamper passage by water craft. To continually cut the plants, he explains, means that they are free to float and take root elsewhere. Controlled release pesticides can attack this problem without harming other aquatic life. The book is scheduled for release in November.

More of our nation's 22 million senior citizens are turning to golf as the ideal sport and leisure-time activity. Several major cities throughout the U.S. have developed senior golf play activities on their municipal courses. The Milwaukee County Park Commission reports that during 1974, senior golf play accounted for 18.1 percent of the total rounds played on its 14 municipal courses. Tucson reports that 15.8 percent on the total play on its three municipal courses was played by the age 62-and-over crowd.

National Golf Foundation reports that there is every indication that

senior golf play will increase materially in the next quarter century. It is estimated that there will be a population increase of 30 percent in the age 65-and-over group by the year 2000.

"Senior Citizens and Golf", a 24-page booklet published by the Foundation contains a history of and details on several successful senior golf programs along with forms used in initiating and implementing such projects. For a copy (\$1.00 post-paid) write NGF, Room 707 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, ILL 60654.

USDA reports a first sighting of gall wasp in the U.S. The wasp, an oriental import, primarily attacks Chinese chestnut trees. The present outbreak involves chestnut groves in Bryon and Fort Valley, GA. The wasp is very small, about 1/8 inch long, black, with clear wings. The larva are only slightly smaller than the adults and resemble maggots. Other than the insect itself, the chief sign of the wasp's presence are "galls", or small brown knobs on the end of chestnut twigs. The agency reports that gall wasps are responsible for significant reductions in chestnut yields in Korea and Japan. Several control methods are available to growers if this new insect invader proves to be a serious pest in the U.S.

"Lawn Mower Safety", a 9 1/2 minute film released by International Harvester, is designed to alert the viewer to the fact that safe operation of a rotary mower requires certain common-sense precautions on the part of the operator. It's not a "rule" film. Its intent is to make the viewer want to read and heed the company's manual and the safety in a series of Super 8 Cinema safety films for use by dealers in educating their customers.

Other media material from International includes a new brochure featuring the company's complete line of snow removal equipment. The six-page brochure describes snow blowers, snow throwers as well as front blades. Copies are available from local International dealers or upon request from: Advertising Department, International Harvester, 401 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

National Golf Foundation is sponsoring two national daily fee golf course management workshops. NGF's first workshop will focus on the critical problems of operating a for-profit golf business, including: competing with low-fee municipal golf; lobbying for property tax and zoning equity; building better public and press relations; solving people problems; improving course maintenance within a budget; and attracting and properly educating new golfers. The Eastern workshop is scheduled for November 10-12, 1975 at Marriot Inn, Cleveland, Ohio and the Western workshop for November 17-19, 1975 at Hyatt House, Burlingame, California.

National survey figures recently released by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), intended to provide its membership general guidelines, also prove to be of interest to the comparison minded golfing public.

Knowing full well before they began that the "average golf course" does not exist, GCSAA's survey now reports some interesting points for golfers and non-golfers alike to ponder.

The mythical "average course" will be an 18-hole private course with more than 400 members. It will be open ten months of the year during which time 37,340 rounds of golf will be played.

The golf course superintendent will manage 168 acres with bluegrass fairways averaging 2.9 acres each, bluegrass tees of 2,460 square feet and bentgrass greens of 5,914 square feet.

To keep this area in the condition desired by his membership, the superintendent's annual operating budget will be \$109,501. This annual total includes items such as a \$7,964 investment in capital equipment, \$59,301 for labor (excluding the superintendent's salary), \$5,068 for fertilizer, \$4,298 for pesticides, \$4,810 for equipment repair and \$1,767 for seed.

A comparison of these recent survey results with those of a similar survey made in 1971 reveals a 19.7 percent increase in overall operating budgets while the actual maintained acreage of golf courses decreased 3.85 percent.