

# Government News Business

EPA boss, Russell Train, placed an immediate ban on approximately 85 percent of the uses of heptachlor and 70 percent of chlordane. He said continued production and use of these pesticides would create an "imminent hazard" of cancer in man, and that this risk outweighs the benefits of continued use. After the EPA ruling, the Environmental Defense Fund filed a petition in the U. S. Court of Appeals asking for a review of the EPA decision and arguing that the ban should be extended to all uses.

However, the law judge had said there wasn't sufficient evidence to suspend use of the chemical as an imminent cancer hazard and called the scientific evidence inconclusive. Train replied that despite the administrative law judge's comments, it isn't necessary to find "conclusively" that harm to humans will occur if the pesticides' uses are allowed. He said he found continued use of the pesticides would "likely" result in an "unreasonable risk to man."

Approximately 21 million pounds of chlordane and two million pounds of heptachlor were produced by Velsicol Chemical Company in 1974. He said residues of the pesticides have been found in human tissue, human milk and human fetuses; in air, soil and water, and in meat, fish and poultry.

Hearings will continue to determine if Train's ban should stand.

In further EPA action, Train appointed 15 public and 5 "exofficio" members to the Agency's newly created Pesticide Policy Advisory Committee. Train said its purpose was to broaden the in-put he receives from a variety of viewpoints on important pesticide actions.

Dun's Review magazine named Outboard Marine Corporation one of the 1975's 200 best-managed of 1,400 publicly held companies. The selection was based on short-term earnings performance, average rate of return on common equity over the last five years, professionalism of management, corporate planning, financial acumen and marketing strength.

Albright & Company recently announced their formation as a California-based distributor for turfgrass and flower seeds, Duraloam soil conditioner, and erosion control products.

Penn-Gro Corp. received exclusive franchise to distribute P. J. Engineering's automatic precision grinding machines for grass-cutting equipment.

The Fertilizer Institute energy survey results indicate that ammonia and phosphate producers have succeeded in trimming their needs of natural gas in all production activities. Ammonia producers have decreased their use of gas from 40,706 cubic feet per ton of ammonia produced in 1972 to 39,379 cubic feet in 1975; a drop of three percent.