

Government News Business

President Ford signed a law allocating \$71.5 million through March 1977 to EPA for its pesticides program. The act also contains the following provisions:

Delay through October 21, 1977 the deadlines for full registration of pesticides and applicator certification.

Require EPA to notify USDA and the public 60 days in advance of taking actions affecting pesticides.

Prevent EPA from requiring private pesticide applicators to take a test before certifying themselves as competent to use the chemicals. States could require them to pass tests, however.

Provide that educational information on integrated pest control be provided through EPA state agencies and the Extension Service.

Require EPA to assess the impact on commodities prices and production, retail food prices and other segments of the agricultural economy in changing pesticide classifications or cancellations.

D. B. Smith Company, Utica, New York, consolidated three of its manufacturing operations into new headquarters in Chadwicks, N. Y.

EPA's proposed Pesticide Policy Advisory Committee (re. Nov. WTT) was put in writing after a number of groups and individuals testified at the House Committee on Agriculture's Oversight Hearings. They testified that EPA was not considering the impact on the agricultural community to a sufficient degree as regulations governing the use of pesticides were being drawn up. The function of Train's committee when formed will be:...'to advise, consult with, and make recommendations (to Train) on matters of policy relating to his activities and functions under FIFRA. The Committee provides practical and independent advice to the Agency on matters and policies relating to pesticides and maintains an awareness of developing issues and problems in the pesticides area. It reviews and advises (Train) on regulations and guidelines that are required by FIFRA; makes recommendations concerning necessary special studies; recommends policies with respect to the promulgation of pesticide standards and regulations; and assists in identifying emergency problems relating to the use and control of pesticides. It proposes actions to encourage cooperation and communication between the Agency and other Federal governmental agencies, State agencies, user groups, the chemical industry, the research community and the general public.'

Agricultural Laboratory of United States Testing Company, Inc., recently moved its headquarters. The new facility is especially designed for processing large volumes of soil, plant tissue samples and other related work.

Ransomes, Sims and Jefferies, Ipswich, England, appointed Pen-Gro Corp. as exclusive master distributor of its grass machinery and replacement parts in California, Nevada and Arizona.