## Researchers tell story of aerial application

The Wright Brothers really started something in 1903 according to Connie J. Streeter and Dr. Orvin Burnside, weed scientists at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The UN-L researchers, reporting at the 1976 North Central Weed Control Conference held here Dec. 7-9, said the Wrights' airplane flight at Kittyhawk, N.C., has been followed by the use of aircraft for sport, transportation, war, transportation of mail and fast freight. More recently, planes have been used to apply pesticides, herbicides, and fire fighting chemicals.

The first use of aircraft for pest control occurred in 1922 when they were used for dusting catalpa trees. Militaryu aircraft were used because of their availability and the military did much experimentation in that era to aid the agricultural industry, the Nebraskans explained.

Ms. Streeter said that later outbreaks of the cotton boll weevil, locusts, and other devastating insect pl/gues did much to spur the development of th aerial applic/tion industry. Other successful agricultural uses for aircraft came into use such as sowing seed, fighting forest fires, and the application of herbicides. Helicopters as well as fixed-wing aircraft have become important in the aerial application industry since about 1946.

## Arborists to meet

The National Arborist Association will hold their annual meeting at the Don CeSar Beach Resort Hotel, St. Petersburg Beach, Florida, Feb. 13-17.

Robert Lederer, Executive Vice-President of the American Association of Nurserymen will be the featured speaker in a program which will explore avenues for environmental improvement and beautification.

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