## AAN backs FIFRA; urges some changes

In testimony before the House Committee on Agriculture, the American Association of Nurserymen gave its support to the basic concepts of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, which covers uses of agricultural chemicals. The House is holding oversight hearings on extension of the Act which is due to expire this year.

While giving its support to limited extension, AAN also urged that changes be made which would allow use by nursery growers of pesticides that have been registered for more sensitive uses around the home or on food crops. This must be done, said the nursery group, if nursery growers are to have any chemicals

available to them for pest control.

The testimony given by the AAN addressesd itself primarily to the unique problems with which the nursery industry is faced in the use of pesticides. "We say unique," explained Ray Brush, administrator for the trade organization, "because, unlike other agricultural commodities, we ship a live product, oftentimes with soil or growing media attached to the roots.

"Also the shipment of our product in intrastate commerce is subject to a plethora of federal and state quarantines and regulations.

"These programs are designed to restrict the movement of pests from geographic areas where they are known to be present in significant quantities to other areas where they are not present, and where substantial losses not only to nursery crops but also to other agricultural crops would result from their importation." continued Brush.

Since the enactment of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, the nursery industry has encountered a number of problems, Manufacturers and formulators of pesticides are required to obtain an approved registration from the Environmental Protection Agency for each pesticide. Each application must be supported by a wealth of data concerning the pesticide — data which must be based on extensive research.



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