

Industry News

Gypsy moth damage doubled in 1977

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that tree defoliation by gypsy moth caterpillars in eight northeastern states totalled 1.6 million acres in 1977. This is nearly double the damage caused by the pests last year.

Pennsylvania forests bore the brunt of the infestation, as they have for the past several years. Nearly 1.3 million wooded acres in that state were hit. Pike County alone suffered damage on 264,284 acres.

Other states affected were Massachusetts with 133,081 defoliated acres; New York with 91,313; New Jersey with 39,185; Vermont with 33,435; and Maine with 2,010. New Hampshire and Rhode Island got off lightly by comparison. A total of only 445 acres were affected in those two states. Last year the caterpillars attacked over 7,580 acres in Rhode Island alone.

The excessive damage this year is believed to have resulted from conditions favorable to gypsy moth survival, according to USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The potential exists for a similar situation in 1978. APHIS officials say the pests have not yet reached their peak strength. The infamous "Winter of '77" may have killed off many beneficial parasites, leaving the gypsy moth virtually unscathed.

APHIS officials say the moths are moving in a southwesterly direction, along the Appalachian Mountains. Oak trees, a favorite gypsy moth host, are abundant along this range.

Bogue cart production temporarily halted

Bogue Electric Manufacturing has called a hiatus of at least three months in the production of their four-wheel electric golf cars, ac-

ording to Anthony Sabbatino, executive vice president. The company has been awarded a \$22.6 million government contract which will require total utilization of its plant in Patterson, N.J.

The golf car will be back in production in a separate plant by January 1, 1978. Considerable research and development will be on-going during the intermediate time to affect improvements in design, style and operating features, added Sabbatino.

LCC is third group to affiliate with ALCA

The Landscape Contractors of Colorado have established formal affiliation with the national Associated Landscape Contractors of America, following approval actions by the Boards of Directors of both organizations. LCC, headquartered in Denver, becomes the third state group to be affiliated with ALCA as a Sponsoring Member. The California and Illinois Landscape Contractors Associations are the other two.

The Sponsoring Membership category is the term for organizational membership in ALCA and is the mechanism by which state or regional groups can affiliate with the national organization.

Under the arrangement, ALCA publications will be sent to LCC for reproduction and distribution to LCC members. LCC members will also be able to attend ALCA meetings and seminars at the member rates and will be able to purchase additional copies of ALCA publications at the member price.

New PGA headquarters complex to be built

A proposed new home for the Professional Golfers' Association is

to be developed in northwest Palm Beach County, Florida, according to a recent announcement made by President Don Padgett and Palm Beach County developer E. Lloyd Ecclestone, Jr.

The PGA will retain five acres of a 625-acre tract upon which it will build its headquarters office building. The remainder will be leased to Ecclestone, who will build three golf courses, the clubhouse, a Hall of Fame, a library and museum and an educational facility. Development costs for the project are estimated at \$15 million.



Chevron begins Unipel fertilizer production

Chevron Chemical Company has begun production at its new \$9 million ORTHO complex fertilizer plant in Kennewick, Washington. The plant is expected to produce some 190,000 tons of Unipel fertilizer pellets annually.

The Unipel pellets contain various combinations of nitrogen, phosphate and potash and are manufactured to suit various soil and crop requirements. Each pellet is produced to operate with maximum efficiency in mechanized fertilizing equipment. The precise ingredient composition and uniform sizing will help growers achieve maximum benefit and cost control.

The plant itself is as high as a 10-story building and occupies more than 20,000 square feet. Chevron is also planning to begin production at newly constructed nitric acid and ammonium nitrate plants at Kennewick this month.

News continues on page 28

CLCA seeks help with educational programs

The Education Coordination Committee of the California Landscape Contractors Association is seeking greater participation from other segments of the horticulture industry to help with on-going programs and provide fresh ideas for new programs.

The committee, formed five years ago by its chairman, Corte Madera landscape contractor Frank Peccorini, has included nurserymen, golf course superintendents, flower growers, maintenance contractors and suppliers and educators for the purpose of organizing and coordinating community college ornamental horticultural programs.

The committee has been successful in organizing better student

programs, according to Peccorini. A system of accreditation of college programs has also been developed with several colleges accredited and more requests pending.

Peccorini indicated that the committee also concerns itself with the continuing education of industry people through statewide seminars. The committee was also responsible for obtaining state funding for a free industry placement bureau, currently located at Butte College.

Tree course offered in California

A course in small tree farm management is being offered as part of the continuing education program of University Extension, University of California. Peter C.

Passof, forest advisor, Mendocino Cooperative Extension, Ukiah, will be conducting the course. It will focus on the more important elements of small tree farm management for those who are unfamiliar with basic forestry principles.

The course covers growth; practical ecology; silviculture; protection against forest pests; forest economics and marketing opportunities; regulations; future forestry practices, and multiple-use management concepts. Participants will learn how to get professional forestry assistance from the public and private sectors, and how to increase revenues by marketing a wide range of forest products.

Enrollment is requested by February 17. For more information contact Catherine Baker in the News Service Department, University Extension, University of California, Davis, Calif., 95616.

GOODALL

The Goodall Fillies



Introducing the 36 inch cut Goodall Rear Discharge mower. A new design deck allows close trimming on both sides, helps prevent windrows and gives you a clean manicured cut (not that just-cut look). The new variable speed drive gives a wider range of ground speeds. The 3 gallon fuel tank and Hi-Way front caster wheels are standard equipment. This new mower is designed for fine lawns and rough areas. The finger tip control gives the same easy handling and hillside stability and maneuverability as the other Goodall Self-Propelled models. Also available is a new 52 inch rear discharge mower.

Goodall Div. • 1405 Bunton Road • Louisville, Kentucky 40213
Phone 502/459-3811 Telex 204-340

Circle 152 on free information card

NEW! AQUAPROBE



Sub-Soil Moisture Tester

AQUAPROBE takes the guesswork out of soil moisture testing. Scientifically measures moisture at depths from 2 to 26 inches. No digging; no fixed point of measurement. Amazingly light-weight, portable and easy to use. Aquaprobe is low in cost, too. Write:

HOWARD S. CRANE, INC.
Oneida, N.Y. 13421

Circle 103 on free information card

LEARN PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPING



We prepare you to cash in on countless money-making opportunities in modern landscaping and show you how, by easy steps, to start your own business part or full time. You will learn latest developments in Modern Landscaping, including creative design—plant propagation—revolutionary new methods of growing in manufactured soils—practical soil testing—growth regulators—the low down on fertilizers—easy ways of plant identification—estimating and contracting. My unique home study course features easy to understand assignments with careful detailed illustrations. Certificate Awarded. May. I send FREE, and without obligation, my informative BOOKLET?

LIFETIME CAREER SCHOOLS Dept. A-242
2251 Barry Avenue Los Angeles, Ca 90064

Circle 122 on free information card



“Without Laval Separators, we couldn’t have opened for the winter season.”

—Arthur R. Weaver, P. E.
Perini Land & Development Company
West Palm Beach, Florida

“We were nearly finished with the North Course at the President Country Club. It was critical that we grass immediately to insure play by the coming winter season.

“But we had trouble with sand in our wells. So much sand was entering the electric solenoid control valve that our irrigation system wouldn’t function.

“We called on the Laval Separator distributor in our area. They installed two six-inch 600 gpm industrial separators.

“The separators did their job. In fact they did so well, we even bought two more for our South Course. And we’ve had no further sand problems.”

Laval Separators, from 3-4100 gpm, will remove up to 98% of all particles as small as 200 mesh (74 microns). If you’ve got a problem with sand, call on Laval.

For more information write: Laval Separator Corp., 1911 N. Helm, P.O. Box 6119, Fresno, California 93703

Dept. DD3



Industry News

Bacterial insecticide controls five insects

Bactur, a highly-selective biological insecticide, has been newly registered for use against fall webworms, cankerworms, tent caterpillars, rehdumped caterpillars and gypsy moths.

The insecticide contains bacteria (*Bacillus thuringiensis*), that paralyze the insects’ stomachs, causing death within 3-5 days after ingesting Bactur-treated foliage.

Because Bactur interferes with a fundamental biological function, insects do not develop resistance to it. Bactur also controls target pests without harming humans, beneficial nontarget insects, livestock, fish or wildlife. It can be applied in liquid or wettable powder forms and is marketed by Thompson-Hayward Chemical Company.

EPA halts DBCP sales

Sales and use of DBCP (dibromochloropropane) have been halted by EPA administrator Douglas M. Costle. DBCP has been used as a soil fumigant since 1955 and is now suspected of being a human cancer agent based upon stomach and mammary tumors found in laboratory rats and mice, according to Costle. DBCP is believed responsible for causing sterility or reduced sperm levels among more than 100 workers producing the pesticide in four states.

Dow Chemical and Shell Chemical, the principle manufacturers, voluntarily stopped production last summer. Despite the halt, other firms may still have some of the compound on hand. The EPA order would prohibit any future sale in the U.S. unless safeguards are met.

Costle declared that he would lift the “suspension order” for uses of DBCP such as treatments of home lawns and golf courses, if the makers will agree to change the labels of their products to restrict use only to trained applicators “wearing protective clothing and respirators.”

Ignoring the safeguards would be a violation of the 1972 Federal pesticides law, he warned.

NAPB releases Regal perennial ryegrass

Regal perennial ryegrass, a new turf-type variety from North American Plant Breeders (NABP) reportedly offers improved rust resistance, cuts cleanly and is said to be a darker green color than the other turf-type ryegrasses.

Regal offers the fast germination and rapid establishment characteristic of the perennial ryegrasses, and forms a thick turf which holds up very well to severe wear and tear. After establishment, however, it appears to grow more slowly than other ryegrasses. This can mean less frequent mowing.

Considering wood & brush chippers



Are you getting everything you should ?

Ask the ones who use them !!

Free! Write for the new illustrated Whisper Chipper brochure.

ASPLUNDH

Asplundh Tree Expert Co.
Manufacturing Division
Chalfont, Pa. 18914
215-822-0542

Circle 130 on free information card

Circle 143 on free information card