

GREEN INDUSTRY NEWS

CHEMICALS

Velsicol indictment comes as shock

A Federal grand jury in Chicago has issued an 11-count indictment against Velsicol Chemical Corp. and six of its attorneys and employees. The counts include conspiracy to defraud, concealment of material facts, and failure to submit animal data during the chlordane/heptachlor hearings.

A Velsicol spokesman said the indictments came as a shock and that they are "indictments," not convictions.

Among those charged were past and present employees and lawyers retained by Velsicol for the chlordane hearings. Possible penalties range from 20 years incarceration and \$31,000 fine to 55 years incarceration and \$83,000 fine.

The hearings in the cancellation phase of chlordane are in final stages with a final decision due in February. Talks to reach a settle-

ment are now underway.

The general feeling in industries using chlordane is that the product is often the most effective for some uses and completely safe when used by a trained and competent applicator. Velsicol has done basically what EPA has asked it to do throughout the hearings. Since there are either few or no precedents to go by, and rarely does a chemical company attempt to defend a product under EPA's scrutiny to the extent Velsicol has, the word fraud is even more suspicious.

The fact that the grand jury is charging Velsicol with insufficient reporting may be more a factor of unclear data requests instead of a criminal intent to withhold information. Cancer data requirements are still vague and standards to make any safety judgement by are still undetermined.

TURF

Snow didn't scare Ohio turf show goes

Despite nearly ten inches of snow in two days, more than 1,200 persons interested in turf made it to Dayton for the Ohio Turf Conference in December. Fifty exhibitors received the full attention of delegates as the weather made staying indoors favorable.

The event started with a general turf session. Dr. Michael Hurdzan got right to the point as he explained how golf courses work to protect our natural resources. The Tennessee Valley Authority's research on sulfur-coated urea was discussed and slides showing its benefits as a slow release nitrogen source were shown. Robert Felix, Executive Director of the National Arborist Association pointed out the need for

professional tree care in protecting those valuable aesthetic photosynthesizers. Tom Mascaro gave an insight to the value of the Turf Industry in Pennsylvania where it ranks as the second largest agricultural industry. Mr. Mascaro was of the opinion that it might rank first in Ohio.

The annual business meeting of the Ohio Turfgrass Foundation was sparsely attended in the afternoon. A general cry for more participation by members was called for by the president, Lou Greco. The planning of the 1977 conference was explained by committee chairmen, and new officers were elected. Merrill Frank is the new President-elect and Bill Hill was voted as the new vice president. Treasurer is Mark Yoder and Bill Burdick, Gene Bures and John Goodwin joined as new trustees.

The second day the group split into golf course and general grounds



Kenneth Gregory of Florham Park, N.J., is presented the New Jersey Arborists Association's Arborist of the Year Award from Will Cass, Clark, N.J., last year's recipient, during its 40th Anniversary Dinner Dance in October.

sessions. Some speakers presented their topics at both sessions so that nothing of relevance to either was lost. Dr. Harry Niemczyk's description of the Aetenius beetle's life cycle was particularly important. This is a relatively new discovery that is spreading and becoming more of a concern. Dr. Niemczyk, from the Entomology Department of OARDC, also explained an even newer pest discovery, that of the association of the winter grain mite with winter desiccation. The range of this mite is unknown at present and Dr. Niemczyk asked for assistance by notifying him if you discover this pest. It is a dark bodied mite and is easily distinguished by its red legs. Check for this mite next time you note winter desiccation.

The third day the general grounds session gave way to professional lawn services. Dr. Roger Funk of Davey Tree Services gave a rundown on soil pH and its adjustment and Herb Day discussed tank mixing of pesticides and pesticide fertilizer combination, among other topics.

The final morning the groups split again and many more areas specific to fine turf management

were put into perspective. Problems and the technology to control them are a necessary part of good turf management, as the attendance at this annual conference would indicate.

Throughout the show speakers were available at a special consultant's corner booth to answer questions.

AGRONOMY

Watson is presented agronomic award

The American Society of Agronomy has named Dr. James R. Watson as recipient of its 1977 Agronomic Service Award. Dr. Watson, vice president for customer relations of The Toro Company and that company's principal agronomist, is an internationally recognized expert on turfgrasses. He is the author of a number of articles dealing with various phases of turfgrass care and management. Dr. Watson's research has been concentrated on fertilization practices, winter protection techniques, snowmold prevention and the adaptability of various species and strains of turfgrasses.

Dr. Watson earned a bachelor of science degree in agronomy at Texas A & M University and his Ph.D. at Pennsylvania State University. He is a member of the American Society of Agronomy and the Crop Science Society of America. Last year Dr. Watson received the United States Golf Association's Green Section Award for distinguished service to golf through his work with turfgrass.

The American Society of Agronomy, a 9,400-member scientific educational organization, established this award to recognize the development of agronomic programs and practices and effective public relations programs aimed at promoting the understanding and use of agronomic science and technology by the public.

LANDSCAPE

Kentucky clinic to feature experts

The Landscape/Garden Center Management Clinic, co-sponsored by the National Landscape Association and the Garden Centers of America, will be held February 5-8 at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky. The four day program will

feature such authorities as Prof. James B. Sinatra, John Trocke, Eric P. McCarty, Tom McDonald, Jr., Melvin Brady, and Robert Garton.

Sunday afternoon, Feb. 5, is devoted to NLA Committee Meetings. A "How I Do It" session will be held in the evening featuring subjects such as "Efficient Planting," "Guarantees," "Design Sketches," "Soil Additives" and "Mulches."

Monday the focus is on landscape. Subjects include: What's Happening in Residential and Small Commercial Landscape Design, the NLA Awards Luncheon and Accounting for the Non-Accountant.

Tuesday is a day for everyone. New insights on communication: top management with middle and middle with top will be presented. Panel and group discussions plus a presentation on Analyzing Operating Costs will be offered.

Wednesday, the focus is on garden center operations. The theme for the day will be "New Challenges Facing the Nursery Industry" with session subjects such as: How to Sell a Half Million a Year and Net 15% in a Retail Nursery and How the Public Sees My Staff.

NURSERY

Cal Poly alumni to create curriculum

The Ornamental Horticulture/Park Administration (OHPA) Alumni Association of California State Polytechnic University at Pomona, is now working to establish a continuing education program for the professional and interested amateur in conjunction with Kellogg West, Cal Poly's Center for Continuing Education, according to James Prusa, newly elected president of the group.

Prusa also said unveiled OHPA plans have been formulated to benefit the rapidly expanding organization membership.

Other officers include Mary Olson of Environmental Care, vice president; Chris Greenwood of Armstrong Nurseries, secretary; Rodger Duer of Cal Poly, treasurer; and the following directors: Richard Greer of Pomona Wholesale Nursery, Donna Browne of Target Chemical Company, Ken Jones of Armstrong Nurseries and past president John Provine of the Los Angeles County Arboretum.

Persons interested in the OHPA alumni organization may contact the alumni affairs office at Cal Poly, Pomona, 714/598-4748, for further information.

IRRIGATION

Andrus agrees with irrigation rule delay

Secretary of Interior Cecil Andrus has agreed that the Bureau of Reclamation will postpone any final regulation regarding the use of federally funded irrigation water until March 1, 1978. Proposed regulations, issued by the Bureau on August 25, contained stringent acreage provisions (160 acre limit) and residency requirements that generated support for legislation calling for a moratorium on the implementation of the regulations pending a 12 month review of the present federal reclamation law.

CHEMICALS

Mirex OK'd for fire ants in S.C.

EPA has approved aerial application of Mirex to control fire ants in certain coastal South Carolina counties, provided that the State complies with modifications made by EPA in the S.C. plan.

The approval required that the treatment area be modified to prohibit aerial application: (1) "To any aquatic areas, except for intermittent streams where there is no flow and except for man-made or natural impoundments of water which do not exceed two acres in size and are not commercially fished. However, even these exempted waters should be avoided where possible." (2) "Where runoff or flooding will contaminate aquatic areas." (3) "In contiguous wooded areas except for a 100-yard swath contiguous to treated areas..."

The approval specified two Colleton County areas which cannot be treated. It also requires the State to perform human, environmental and application monitoring of the Mirex treatment and to have certification by a State official of an inspection for fire ant infestation.

CHEMICALS

Trichem applies for fire ant product

Trichem Industries Corporation has applied for a changed use pattern to register Trichem TCE. They propose that the use pattern of the pesticide, includes use as a fire ant fumigant.

GOVERNMENT

UPDATE

Heptachlor/Chlordane Hearing To Close

The heptachlor/chlordane case is in its last stages after almost two years of hearings. A final decision by EPA Chief Administrative Law Judge Herbert L. Perlman will be due about the first week in February, 1978. EPA and Velsicol lawyers, meanwhile, are debating over some type of settlement agreement.

Officials were not optimistic about a settlement, but noted that the briefing schedule would be followed, regardless. Indications are that EPA and Velsicol will continue to try and work out some type of settlement even after their initial briefs are filed.

Some EPA officials seem to envision a settlement with some major uses, such as on corn, being continued for a while and then phased out. Because of the greater complexity of the heptachlor/chlordane controversy and the number of uses involved, many observers do not foresee a settlement.

Cadmium Extended, Benomyl RPAR Issued

A rebuttable presumption against registration against cadmium was extended to February 10. This RPAR effects 35 turf chemicals.

An RPAR against benomyl, a systematic fungicide used on turf and ornamentals, was noted in the December 6th Federal Register.

Additional chemicals that have been designated for pre-RPAR reviews include: Dimilin, a gypsy moth insecticide; Telone, a soil fumigant and phosphorus paste, used in insecticides and rodenticides.

Du Pont Will Rebut EPA RPAR on Benomyl

The Du Pont Company has announced intentions to rebut the EPA notice concerning presumption against their product "Benlate" benomyl fungicide. Results from extensive scientific tests and from years of world-wide field use show that use of "Benlate" to protect food crops does not represent a risk to man or the environment, according to the company.

Grower, fieldman, and investigator comments and views on benefits of "Benlate" have been requested and will be of special interest to the EPA. Letters to the EPA should include specific information on crops and acreages treated, disease control experienced, benefits observed in terms of improved yield or improved quality, plus facts on previous (or alternate) ways to handle disease problems in various crops and economic value of crops protected.

Letters should be sent in triplicate to: EPA, Office of Pesticide Programs, Federal Register Section (WH-569), 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. Letters should also carry the notation OPP-30000/23 for correct identification with the RPAR notice on "Benlate."

Pennwalt Issued Experimental Use Permit

An experimental use permit has been issued to Pennwalt which allows use of approximately 5,114 pounds of an insecticide mixture of O,O-diethyl-O-(2-isopropyl-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinyl) phosphorotioate and aromatic petroleum solvent to evaluate control of insect varieties in residential, industrial, food processing and business sites, and on ornamental trees, shrubs and turf. The permit expires Oct. 14, 1978.

NEWS

NURSERY

AAN forms council for national promotion

The Nursery Marketing Council is the most recent addition to the activities of the American Association of Nurserymen. The council has been established to supply the nursery industry with professional market research and analysis and the resulting advertising and public relations to increase the sale of plant material and related products.

Forty-seven firms have agreed to participate so far. Each of the wholesale nursery growers will add ¼ of 1% of value of plant material to all invoices under Nursery Marketing Council Contribution. If the customer honors this voluntary contribution, the grower will match it and forward the total to the NMC.

The NMC is managed by the staff of the AAN and supervised by its marketing Committee with ultimate authority resting in the Board of Directors.

J. Frank Schmidt, Jr., whose wholesale nursery operation is headquartered in Boring, Ore., is the first industry executive to take on a leadership role in the NMC. His assignment is to establish a committee responsible for enlisting early endorsement and support from a number of major wholesale growers nationwide. Schmidt hopes to build a \$100,000 to \$200,000 fund the first year to support NMC market research and the resulting consumer advertising.

Ketchum, MacLeod & Grove, a 54-year-old marketing organization, which ranks 23rd among all U.S. agencies in billing volume, has been selected as the national advertising agency which will provide the consumer research and marketing services planned for the all-industry program of NMC.

TURF

Ohio research center to build rhizotron

The first turfgrass rhizotron is being constructed at turfgrass research plots maintained cooperatively by OARDC and Ohio State

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University. A rhizotron is an underground facility which has windows that allow scientists to observe root growth and development.

The turf rhizotron will have 30 independent observation cells plus a 14-foot square, insulated and heated underground instrument room. Scientists will be able to monitor turfgrass roots and tops and the interactions between growth, climate and soil under actual field conditions in different soil types.

SOD

Nassau conference set for sod growers

All preparations are complete for



Three Lofts Seed dealers are off to the sunny, palm beaches of the Bahamas this winter as winners of Loft's "Bahamas for Two" promotion contest. The dealers and their wives will spend eight days and seven nights in the islands. Helen Piorkowski draws the winning tickets as (l to r) Jon Loft, Bob Oberschmidt and John Morrissey watch.

the American Sod Producers' Association Midwinter Conference, Feb. 12-15, at Nassau Beach Hotel in the Bahamas.

The theme of the conference is "helping the sod grower save dollars and do a better job in producing quality turf." Presentations will include "Tax Free Dollars You May

Not Be Getting", update on seed, metrics, and insurance.

Meetings are planned to end in the early afternoon to permit the sod growers to enjoy the islands.

For further information contact the American Sod Producers, 9th and Minnesota, Hastings, Neb. (402) 463-5691.



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Florida nurserymen offer cold pointers

The Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association has offered some pointers on protecting plants from cold damage. Wrapping plants with plastic seems to cause more severe damage than when the plant is left in the open, unless there is something between the leaves and the plastic. There are two ways to successfully protect plants with plastic.

One is to build a tent over the plant on a frame and place a 100 watt light bulb beneath the tent. The heat radiated by the bulb will protect the plant. If the plant is to be wrapped, use an old blanket with some insulating qualities before covering with the plastic material.

Thirty or forty thicknesses of newspaper wrapped around the graft of a citrus tree can give it protection for temperatures in the low teens. The top may freeze completely, but the graft will survive. You should remove the paper as soon as the weather warms.

If water is used as a means of

cold protection, at least ¼ inch per hour should be applied. Limb breakage from ice formation should be considered as a side effect of this method.

Regardless of the method of cold protection, some injury may result. Wait until new growth appears before doing any severe pruning. Although a plant may appear completely dead after a cold winter, do not be hasty in disposing of it. If there is a strong root system, the plant may revive. Give it sufficient time.

TREE

Echo expands distribution facility

The Kioritz Corporation of America and its Echo Chain Saw Division are going to be moving into new and expanded quarters this Spring in an announcement made by N. Rock Watanabe, President, Kioritz Corporation of America.

"The Echo Chain Saw Division, Kioritz Corporation of America has experienced growth, particularly

during the last three years," said Watanabe. "The facility that we have been leasing in Northbrook has efficiently served our needs, but the current level of business and the expected growth over the next three years necessitates the move to larger quarters."

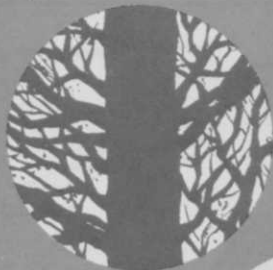
The new Kioritz facility, which will be located in Northbrook, Ill., will encompass approximately 42,000 sq. ft. of warehouse and distribution space, and an additional 4,000 sq. ft. of office space.

CHEMICALS

Insecticides may have tree uses

The USDA's Agricultural Research Service is providing \$7,000 to scientists at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center for a two year study to determine if some insecticides currently registered for use on other plants might also be effective on orna-

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TOUGH RUGGED HARDWARE for TOUGH RUGGED HARDWOOD

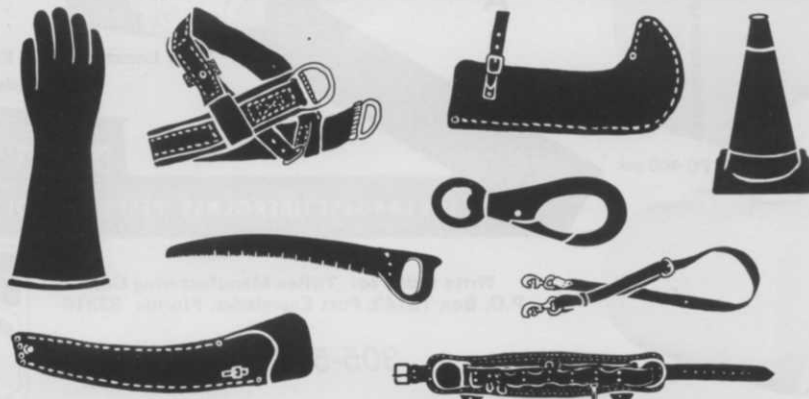
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mental trees and shrubs.

Because of the small potential market, product testing has been limited on ornamental trees and shrubs. If the project is successful, some already developed pesticides may be found effective and become registered for use on ornamentals.

Insecticide effectiveness in both field and greenhouse will be determined. The various targets include leafhoppers, aphids, lygus, thrips, bronze birch borer and black vine weevil. The researchers hope to find effective controls to protect such ornamentals as honey locust, white birch, azeala, rhododendron, taxus, flowering trees and shade trees.

Dr. David G. Nielson will be the principal investigator for OARDC. Dr. Thryil L. Ladd, research leader at the ARS Japanese Beetle Laboratory, Wooster, will represent ARS on the project.



Bob Earley, editor of LAWN CARE INDUSTRY magazine, points out the rapid growth and great potential of the lawn care industries. Earley spoke at the recent Ohio Turf Conference in Dayton.



Richard B. Craig, superintendent at Jack Nicklaus Golf Center, Kings Island, Ohio, discusses a successful lake management program. Speaking at the Ohio Turf Conference, Craig suggested German carp from Lake Erie as a solution to algae problems.

Capitol Nursery Supply, Inc.
Phoenix, Arizona 85005
602/272-5508

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Los Angeles, California 90023
213/264-5800

Foster-Gardner, Inc.
Coachella, California 92236
714/398-6151

Foster-Gardner, Inc.
Anaheim, California 92801
714/761-2521

Agri-Turf Supplies
Santa Barbara, California 93101
805/963-3691

Abate-A-Weed
Bakersfield, California 93308
805/589-0615

Robinson Fertilizer Company
Orange, California 92666
714/538-3575

Wilbur-Ellis Company
Chula Vista, California 92012
714/422-5321

Caceres Chemical Company
Los Angeles, California 90046
213/876-1460

Moyer Chemical Company
San Jose, California 95108
408/297-8088

Moyer Chemical Company
Santa Ana, California 92707
714/549-2871

Agri-Chem, Inc.
Ft. Lupton, Colorado 80621
303/288-4281

Avon Cider Mill
Avon, Connecticut 06001
203/677-0343

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Winter Haven, Florida 33880
813/293-3147

McMullen Feed Store
Clearwater, Florida 33516
813/446-5961

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Pompano Beach, Florida 33060
305/772-5550

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Atlanta, Georgia 30304
404/955-0774

Lawn & Turf, Inc.
Conyers, Georgia 30207
404/483-4743

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
East St. Louis, Illinois 62201
618/271-5650

Turf Products, Ltd.
West Chicago, Illinois 60185
312/668-5537

Turf Management Supply Company
Rockton, Illinois 61072
815/624-7578

Paarlburg Chemical Company
South Holland, Illinois 60473
312/474-3086

Olsen Distributing Company
Barrington, Illinois 60010
312/381-9333

Professional Turf Specialties
Bloomington, Illinois 61701
309/829-5031

Indiana Seed Company, Inc.
Noblesville, Indiana 46060
317/773-5813

Deisch-Benham, Inc.
D/B/A Desco Chemical
Nappanee, Indiana 46550
219/773-7781

Chemi-Trol Chemical Company
Indianapolis, Indiana 46225
317/634-7963

Seedkem, Inc.
Evansville, Indiana 47708
812/424-2401

Tri-State Toro Company
Davenport, Iowa 52802
319/326-4416

Leisur-Aid A Division of Aidex Corp.
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501
712/336-2441

Toro Service Center
Des Moines, Iowa 50318
515/243-0498

Big Bear Equipment Company
West Des Moines, Iowa 50318
515/243-1271

Champion Turf Equipment, Inc.
Wichita, Kansas 67209
316/943-0283

Rhodes Chemical Co.
Kansas City, Kansas 66103
913/432-2424

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061
301/760-5927

Cornell Chemical & Equipment Co, Inc.
Baltimore, Maryland 21227
301/247-1525

Vaughan's Seed Company
Div. of Vaughan - Jacklin Corp.
Landover, Maryland 20785
301/322-8800

R.F. Morse & Son Company
Wareham, Massachusetts 02571
617/295-1553

L. & E. Chemical, Inc.
Div. of Lawn Equipment Corp.
Royal Oak, Michigan 48067
313/398/3636

J.J. Dill Company
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49005
616/349-7755

Turf Supply Company
St. Paul, Minnesota 55121
612/454-3106

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Jackson, Mississippi 39205
601/366-4401

Champion Turf Equipment Inc.
Kansas City, Missouri 64114
816/333-8000

Champion Turf Equipment, Inc.
Springfield, Missouri 65803
417/869-2551

Professional Turf Specialties
St. Louis, Missouri 63155
314/225-7515

Big Bear Equipment, Inc.
Omaha, Nebraska 68137
402/331-0200

Rhodes Chemical Company
Lincoln, Nebraska 68507
402/466-8156

Clark County Wholesale Mercantile
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
702/382-7700

The Terre Company
Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07662
201/843-6655

Vaughan's Seed Company
Div. of Vaughan - Jacklin Corp.
Bound Brook, New Jersey 08805
201/356-4200

Wagner Seed Company, Inc.
Farmingdale, New York 11735
516/293-2920

Eastern Turf Equipment, Inc.
Fayetteville, North Carolina 28301
919/483-0179

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401
919/371-2216

Sidney L. Dryfoos Company
Cleveland, Ohio 44146
216/439-4363

Van Atta Seed & Imp. Company
Cincinnati, Ohio 45225
513/541-2051

C.O. Lowe Sales
Columbus, Ohio 43229
614/891-9668

Lee Road Nursery, Inc.
Cleveland, Ohio 44101
216/561-3786

Larry's Garden Center, Inc.
Maple Heights, Ohio 44137
216/662-3884

Binding Stevens Seed Co.
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135
918/627-4480

Lawn & Golf Supply Co., Inc.
Phoenixville, Pennsylvania 19460
215/933-5801

Allen's Seed Store, Inc.
Slocum, Rhode Island 02877
401/294-2722

Bell Oil Company
No. Myrtle Beach, So. Carolina 29582
803/245-1816

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Columbia, South Carolina 29250
803/254-5189

Central South Turf Distributor, Inc.
Nashville, Tennessee 37211
615/832-7725

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Houston, Texas 77002
712/682-6217

Turf & Garden
Division of Todd Farm Equipment, Inc.
Chesapeake, Virginia 23320
804/543-2071

Swift Agricultural Chemicals Corp.
Vancouver, Washington 98660
206/696-3321

Turf Management Supply Company
Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590
608/837-5598

Reinders Brothers Inc.
Elm Grove, Wisconsin 53122
414/786-3300

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