

# GREEN INDUSTRY NEWS

## TREES

### EPA officials observe tree spraying by NAA



Bob Felix discusses the spray rig and safety equipment as EPA officials watch and listen.

Approximately 15 state and Federal pesticide enforcement officials gathered in June near Washington, D.C., to watch members of the National Arborist Association demonstrate tree spraying. The purpose of the demonstration was to provide enforcement officials with an opportunity to observe all the details of the application of pesticides to shade trees, ornamentals, evergreens and shrubs.

As Robert Felix, NAA executive director, narrated, a crew from Guardian Tree Experts of Rockville, MD, demonstrated tree and ornamental spraying using water only. Earl J. Sinnamon of Swingle, Inc., Denver, CO, chaired the committee which arranged the demonstration. Walter Money and Charles Cissel of Guardian helped set up the meeting.

The enforcement officials seemed concerned primarily about drift and protective clothing on applicators. However, experience with EPA inspections has shown the greatest interest in the tank mixture.

One interesting twist brought out was the effect of pollution alerts on tree spraying. Maryland law requires that tree spraying stop during an inversion and resulting pollution

alert. Not only can air pollution harm some trees, but it also can make care of trees impossible under alert conditions.

Following the demonstration attendants asked questions and discussed misunderstandings at a luncheon at a nearby country club.

The demonstration was the first of its kind by arborists for EPA officials.

## ORNAMENTALS

### Soil pasteurization is cheaper alternative

Dr. David Rosberg of Texas A & M University has developed a cheaper type of soil sterilization called pasteurization. The process can cut the cost of sterilizing soil by 75 percent.

The current method of sterilization involves 212-degree steam heat which requires large amounts of energy. Soil fumigants are also used to sterilize soil.

Rosberg's method uses aerated steam to produce a temperature of 150 degrees for 30 minutes, with only

ten minutes of steam.

The system uses a drum type mixer. Beneficial microflora are not destroyed by the process unlike the higher temperature method. Rosberg says the beneficial organisms compete with plant pathogens that colonize soil mixes and cause root disease.

## GOLF

### Use of wastewater subject of survey

The American Society of Golf Course Architects Foundation, the National Golf Foundation, and the United States Golf Association are jointly involved in a survey to determine the status of the use of recycled water (effluent and other waste water) on golf courses.

Data received will be placed in a central data bank. The groups have promised complete confidence in information obtained through the questionnaires mailed recently.

A conference has been planned in Chicago, Nov. 13-14 to discuss the results.

# Landscape Contractor News

## OSU offers MA in landscape architecture

Ohio State University in Columbus, will offer a master's degree in landscape architecture, beginning with the coming Autumn quarter. OSU will be one of only 19 schools in North America offering such. Their program will focus on environmental planning. This differs from most schools, which tend to focus on environmental analysis. The new graduate program at OSU will also train students to produce designs. The undergraduate degree only prepares students to help implement designs.

While 200 master's degrees are awarded annually in landscape architecture in the U.S., job opportunities exceed the supply of graduates by at least 50 percent, according to a recent OSU bulletin.

## ALCA's Denver program detailed

Educational sessions at the Associated Landscape Contractors of America's Erosion Control and Revegetation Symposium in Denver, August 1-3, will include a presentation by Ed Johnston of Weyerhaeuser on "Revegetating Logging Roads." Other topics will include mulch and its effect on seed and surface, an engineered flow study evaluation of temporary erosion control liners, revegetation of a sand dune, and revegetation and stabilization in the coal mining industry.

After the meeting, on Friday, August 4, a two day tour will be sponsored by the High Altitude Revegetation Association. The field trip will visit Trail Ridge Road and other areas revegetation projects in the high Rockies.

For information, contact: Rick Randall, chairman, Erosion Control/Reclamation committee, 6000 S. Old Mill Road, Littleton, Colorado, 80120; or phone 303/795-2582.

## NMC releases preliminary consumer findings

The Nursery Marketing Council has released its preliminary findings in an intensive study of the nursery marketplace. Emerging trends show that, in the minds of the typical consumers in the initial focus groups, a "nurseryman" is a businessman who knows what he is doing with living plants, no matter what his specific role.

The homeowner tends to think of the place where plants are installed and growing as simply "the yard." Landscape may be used where there has been some attempt at formal planning and planting. "Garden" seems to mean the place where flowers or vegetables are growing and "lawn" is where the grass is.

Major buying motivation seems to be "appearance" or "beauty." Adding dollar value to the home received more attention than was earlier predicted by some observers. Another possible buying factor is "therapy." As one research analyst put it, "Working with plants lets them relax, get their minds off problems, releases their anger, lets them take out their aggressions by weeding, digging, etc."

## Union landscape laborers wages rise

Wages for union landscape labor in Southern California has risen from \$7.95 an hour to \$8.65 an hour as of July 1. Of the 70¢ increase, 40¢ goes directly to workers in increased wages. The remaining 30¢ goes into vacation and health and welfare benefits. These increases affect union contractors signatory to agreements with the Southern California District Council of Laborers, which holds jurisdiction in 12 of the 13 Southern California counties. In San Diego, a total package wage increase of 40¢ per hour was scheduled, increasing laborers' wages from \$11.75 an hour to \$12.15 an hour.

## COMPANY NOTES

### Branches added, moves announced

The Kioritz Corp. of America has changed its name to Echo, Inc., and moved into new quarters in Northbrook, Ill.

Jacobsen Mfg. Co. has expanded its production facilities in Brookhaven, Miss., and named Turf-Aid of Billings, Mont., a distributor of turf maintenance products. Little Wheels Turf & Equip. Inc. of Iowa City, Ia., has established a second Jacobsen branch in Peoria, Ill.

Brouwer Turf Equip. Ltd. has appointed Mumford Medland Ltd. as its P.T.O. gang mower distributor in the Yukon territory and the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

## TREES

### New tree wrap saves time, labor

Purdue University forestry research by Dr. Walter Beinke has shown a new material used to wrap tree grafts saves time and labor costs in grafting work.

The wrap has a paper-backed plastic film which eliminates the need to paint or dip the graft in paraffin. Work was performed on black walnut trees. Application time was cut to ten seconds from 40 seconds for grafting with paraffin painting.



**A check for \$1,500** to begin a special fund for creation of a playground for the developmentally disabled in Salem, Oregon, is presented to Paul Koch (right), Salem recreational director, by Don Hector and Francine Liming of the Manhattan Ryegrass Growers Association. The Growers will also plant the grass for the park at no cost.



# GOVERNMENT

## UPDATE

### Door closed on warrantless inspections

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June that Occupational Safety and Health Administration enforcement officials can be denied entry into a business if they lack a search warrant.

In a case which may set precedent over other types of inspections by government agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the high court called warrantless inspections unconstitutional as a violation of the Fourth Amendment.

Meanwhile, an EPA regional judicial officer in San Francisco required EPA inspectors to have warrants for searches to pest control operators and issue first-time warnings to label violators. The EPA case involves a fuzzy distinction between applicators and distributors, where distributors are subject to inspection and applicators are not.

Amendments to the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act have been in conference committee for months. Part of the holdup is wording which is meant to clarify the distributor/applicator status of pest control companies.

### Labor reform act bogged down

Opponents of the Labor Reform Act have extended debate to block passage of the law until major changes can be made. Votes to stop debate take place daily, but fail by less than five votes. If cloture is obtained, more than 600 amendments to the bill have been prepared to slow down passage. The bill would make union organization of small businesses considerably easier than at present.

### Fifth of restricted use products face cancellation

More than 300 of 1,600 restricted use products face cancellation because registrants have failed to file amended registrations or request hearings. EPA officials say the cancellation will not have a significant effect upon users because products identical to those in trouble are in compliance.

### Conditional registration rules await FIFRA

Final conditional registration regulations will not be issued until the FIFRA bill is passed according to EPA officials. Regulations will ease registration of products identical or substantially similar to registered products or for new uses to registered products. However, such rules include aspects such as data compensation and elimination of redundant safety test data.

### Illegal aliens subject of Senate action

U.S. Senate Bill 2252 now before the Judiciary Committee would fine employers up to \$1,000 for knowingly hiring an illegal alien. The law will require suitable identification documents so employers can determine the status of alien applicants. The Chamber of Commerce backs the bill saying illegal aliens deprive residents of jobs and opportunities.

## RECLAMATION

### Idaho foresters get revegetation results

University of Idaho forest management researchers have been studying an area in northern Idaho since 1972 to determine which species and planting methods can be used most successfully to revegetate the slopes and stream channels which have been damaged by mining and refining operations for almost a century.

"The results from the project have been very encouraging," says Roger Gordon, one of two research associates assigned to the project. "Certain species, including container-grown Ponderosa pine, Austrian pine and hawthorn, have had a high rate of survival in many test plots, and the mining companies have been able to use our findings to develop long-range revegetation plans for their lands."

## TURF

### Scotts gains label for *Ataenius* control

The Proturf Division of O. M. Scott & Sons has announced its Nematicide/Insecticide has received national registration for control of *Ataenius spretulus* larvae.

The product is applied as a granule which is watered into the turf rootzone after application. The active ingredient is ethoprop. It is not for use on bentgrasses, fine fescues, or ryegrasses.

## AQUATICS

### Tilapia fish has dual benefit

The *Tilapia*, a tropical fish originally from E. Africa, was successfully introduced into the United States in the 1950's as a control agent for weeds in irrigation canals in Southern California. Now, pending research, the fish may also become a harvestable resource.

The *Tilapia* has a spawning cycle of every 28 to 40 days and grows amazingly fast. Without harvesting, severe overpopulation would occur.