

# The Land Reclamation Report

## Acid rain follows SO<sub>2</sub> emissions in soft coal holdup

As workable compromises for sulfur dioxide emissions are being worked out and utility companies have installed costly scrubbers, a new threat to soft coal use is gaining momentum, acid rain.

The governor of a large coal using state, Ohio's James Rhodes, has appointed a task force to get solid answers on acid rain. Dr. T. Craig Weidensaul, environmental studies laboratory head at Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center in Wooster, has been named chairman of the eight-member group. Members of the group include Ohio Mining and Reclamation Association President Neal Tostenson, environmental control managers of utilities and key university staff members. Rhodes has defended Ohio industry against acid rain accusations from Federal and bordering state officials.

Weidensaul said there are many other minerals besides those in coal which mix with rain to form acid

rain. Pinpointing the sources of the other minerals will be difficult, however.

## Windfall tax passed, Coal conversion urged

Funds from the windfall profits tax will be used to convert 107 units at 50 powerplants to coal and to provide pollution reduction devices at existing coal-powered generating plants.

A total of \$4 billion is allocated for the conversion in the first phase. Another \$6 billion will be spent in phase two in an effort to trim oil imports by one million barrels per day by 1980.

## Reforestation is topic of Texas short course

The focus will be on reforestation of strip mined land during the first an-

nual short course sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service Forestry Project at Texas A&M, College Station, June 9-11.

The program will include sessions on soils, site preparation, species and utilization. Information will apply to any disturbed soils. Sessions begin at 1 p.m. Registration fee is \$40 and includes a copy of the proceedings. For more information contact Dr. Michael Walterscheidt, Department of Forest Science, Texas A&M, College Station, TX 77843.

## Wind erosion damage in plains tripled

Wind damaged almost three times more land than the year before in the Great Plains due to low fall rainfall and lack of snow cover. Texas was hardest hit of the Plains states with more than one million acres

*Continues on page 60*

## HYDROSEEDING AND MULCHING EQUIPMENT FINN LEADS THE INDUSTRY FOR OVER 30 YEARS



- Finn is the world's largest manufacturer of hydroseeding and mulch spreading equipment with over 30 years of experience.
- Turf establishment can be done for a fraction of the cost of other methods.
- Our 800, 1500, 2500 and 3000 gallon HydroSeeders are designed to seed most any size project economically.
- Two models of Mulch Spreaders that can spread hay and straw mulch from 4 to 15 tons per hour.

Contact FINN — Let us show you how to increase production, reduce labor and build profits. Call or Write Today!

**FINN**  
EQUIPMENT COMPANY  
2525 DUCK CREEK RD. • CINCINNATI, OHIO 45208  
TOLL FREE 800-543-7166 • OHIO COLLECT 513-871-2529



Write 128 on free information card



## **OTTERBINE Spray Sculpture Floating Fountains. Now you can clean up ponds and lakes naturally.**

These self-contained water quality improvement systems help you keep unsightly algal growth and objectionable odors under control naturally, without costly chemicals.

And their sparkling spray displays may dramatically change the natural beauty of your ponds and lakes.

For the Otterbine dealer in your area contact:

### **OTTERBINE**

576 North St., Emmaus, PA 18049 • 1-215-965-6990

Write **175** on free information card

## **SUPER D WEEDONE<sup>®</sup> APPLIED BY METER-MISER**



**Only way  
to total  
lawn weed  
control!**

Super-D is the formulation that's right for you with broader coverage for your dollar and a broad range of weeds under control.



AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS COMPANY, INC.  
AMBLER, PENNSYLVANIA 19002

Write **109** on free information card

### **Reclamation**

*from page 56*

damaged. South Dakota, Kansas, and Montana also ranked high in damage.

Of the total acreage damaged, 96 percent was cropland and three percent was rangeland. Topsoil loss of cropland is a critical problem with American agriculture supporting such measures as no-till farming and planting a cover crop during unproductive months. Rangeland losses are considered a threat to wildlife and natural fauna and floral.

### **News** *from page 53*

ways. Application of the Rhone-Poulenc product should begin when conditions first become favorable for disease development. Two additional applications should be made at 14 to 21 day intervals.

Chipco 26019 is also registered for control of Dollar Spot (including Benomyl resistant strains), Brown patch, Helminthosporium leaf spot and melting out, Fusarium patch, and suppression of gray and pink snow mold.

### SOIL

#### **No-tillage cuts K leaching losses**

Potassium leaching is a serious problem on sandy soils, but Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station researchers have found that no-tillage reduces the problem dramatically.

The researchers compared fields that were in continuous corn for eight years, from 1972 to 1979. Half the plots were plowed, disked, and cultivated, while half were planted without tillage in corn crop residues from the previous season.

In each case, 200 pounds of potash were broadcast each year for the entire period. By 1979, there was about 60 percent more soil potassium at the zero-to-three-inch soil depth on the no-till fields.

On the tilled fields, the level of soil potassium ranged from six parts per million (or 134 pounds per acre) at the zero-to-one-inch soil depth, to 127 parts per million (or 254 pounds per acre) at the six-to-nine-inch depth—clear evidence of leaching.