

GOVERNMENT

UPDATE

dent Gordon King and Past President Yvon Fournier discussed the need for a commercial arborist association of ISA. A planning committee of five ISA members was appointed to study and evaluate the needs for it. A student from the University of Massachusetts will run a survey of the membership, and the planning committee will submit its findings at next year's meeting in Michigan.

Executive Director Cal Bundy says the movement has strong support. Sixty percent or approximately 4,000 members of ISA are involved in commercial arboriculture.

INDUSTRY

Court upholds CPSC power mower standard

The safety standard for walk-behind power mowers issued by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has survived industry challenges and been upheld by the Fifth Circuit Court. Barring further delays, mowers with all the required safety features will be on the market in 1982.

The CPSC standard requires the following safety features for mowers: protective shields at the rear of the mower to keep the operator's feet clear of the blade; shields that will automatically close or prevent the blade from spinning when a grass-catcher or other accessory is removed; and a "deadman control" that must be held down to allow the blade to turn and that will, when released, stop the blade within three seconds, according to *Consumer Reports*.

The standard also requires the protective shields to pass two tests: one for strength, another to insure that the shields won't interfere with a mower's convenient operation, so consumers won't consider them a nuisance and remove them. As a final precaution, both rotary and reel-type mowers must carry a warning label. The safety devices and tests will add about \$35, on average, to the price of a mower, according to CPSC estimates.

CPSC claims that blade contact accounts for about two-thirds of the injuries, or 77,000 persons a year, that sustain bruises, cuts, or the loss of at least one finger or toe. The agency says that mowers could be designed to eliminate or reduce the severity of more than three-fourths of all blade contact injuries.

The Outdoor Power Equipment In-

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Farm labor bill introduced to House

Rep. Leon Panetta, D-CA, has introduced Farm Labor Contractor Registration Bill HR 7824 to the House of Representatives which will effectively exempt nurserymen from amendments to the FLCRA Act. This bill is identical to the amendments recently passed by the Senate's 57 to 37 vote.

Panetta said, "The passage of this bill would not only restore the basic intent of the law but would ensure that the Department of Labor directs its limited resources to the important and difficult job of protecting farmers and farm workers from the abuses of unscrupulous crew leaders who generally move with the harvest and serve as independent labor suppliers to more than one operation at a time."

The American Association of Nurserymen (AAN) and American Sod Producers Association (ASPA) are urging their members to write their representatives asking for the bill's support.

ASPA members are also being asked to send any copies of their replies to ASPA Washington representative Tom Hammer, % Nelson & Harding, 1101 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Assistant ag secretary Cutler resigns

Rupert Cutler has resigned his assistant agricultural secretary position to accept a position with the National Audubon Society, which specializes in research and lobbying on wildlife, wilderness, public lands, endangered species, and water resource management.

LANDSCAPE

CONTRACTOR NEWS

Architects' exhibit will attract suppliers

Landscape industry suppliers are expected to exhibit their products and services to hundreds of landscape architects at the 1980 American Society of Landscape Architects' Educational Exhibit Nov. 22-24.

Held in conjunction with the 1980 ASLA annual meeting at the Fairmont Hotel in Denver, the industry show will attract landscape architects to learn 1980 state-of-the-art information for their design profession.

ALCA directory contains over 800 listings

The Associated Landscape Contractors of America has published the 1980/1981 Who's Who in Landscape Contracting with listings for commercial landscape contractors throughout the United States.

The new listing is available on request to landscape architects, general contractors, and other qualified buyers and specifiers of landscape work. Cost is \$3. Write on letterhead to: ALCA, 1750 Old Meadow Road, McLean, VA 22102.