

GOVERNMENT

UPDATE

ALCA from page 8

economic computers were built for small industry, said Paul Ritchey of Gustin Gardens, Inc. Now it is a booming industry which should change much in upcoming years. It no longer takes a special computer operator to handle basic functions—payroll, general ledger, accounts payable/accounts receivable, and mailing lists—and secondary problems, such as generating statements and tax forms, word-processing, and analyzing value of services and personnel.

Sally Kujawa of Kujawa Enterprises, Inc. told her success story with a computer system and what guidelines to follow when purchasing one. These include knowing the software vendor and who he buys from, picking the type of software program for your particular needs, and getting a written agreement if you buy software from a different vendor than the hardware seller.

In a session entitled, "Learning to Live with a Computer (Marriage, Not Divorce)," a panel of industry representatives and contractors discussed the problems with a computer once you are engaged with one. "There is a direct correlation between top management's involvement and the success of a computer installation," said Frank Ross of Ross-Payne Associates.

Dale Saville, manager of computer operations for the J.P. Stevens Co., listed troubles from computer installation, which if not handled, could and have forced companies out of business. Yet it is inevitable that computers are here to stay. "Automate?" Saville asked. "Yes. People not doing it will be left behind. In this decade, those not involved will be gone."

Specialty workshops that ran concurrently dealt with marketing design/build, people development in maintenance firms, land reclamation, and task force, which discussed how landscape contractors and landscape architects could work together. Jot Carpenter of Ohio State University conducted a separate workshop on how to read design plans and how to design your own plans clearly.

New ALCA officers for 1981 are: Allen Keesen (Allen Keesen Landscape, Inc.), president; Ray Gustin III (Gustin Gardens Inc.), president-elect; David Pinkus (North Haven Gardens) and J. Landon Reeve (Chapel Valley Landscape Co.), vice presidents; Rodney Bailey (Evergreen Services Corp.), treasurer; and Irvin Dickson (Chem-Lawn), secretary.

EPA advisors recommend pesticide study

The Committee on Urban Pest Management of the National Academy of Sciences has recommended to the Environmental Protection Agency that it undertake "a comprehensive nationwide study of pesticide use in urban areas," including use and exposure of pesticides to professional and private applicators, as well as the exposure and effects of pesticides on others.

The committee stressed the need for special attention and regulation of non-agricultural pesticide use. It suggested grants to urban governments for the management of pests tied to enforcement of laws for pest management as a condition of funding. The committee recommended establishment of guidelines followed by regulation.

If put into effect, the regulations could provide needed funding for pest management technology. However, such regulations would add a second layer to the current regulations intended to cover both agriculture and urban pest control. They would also require personnel to enforce and manage.

Members of the committee included national experts in urban rodent control, insect control, public health, medicine, and law. The Environmental Defense Fund was also represented.

Fire ant program restored with pesticide

The recent conditional registration by EPA of Amdro, a bait product, has regained USDA support for aerial fire ant programs. Support was stopped in 1977 due to problems with mirex.

Seven southern states have indicated interest in aerial programs. North Carolina and Mississippi will conduct ground application programs with Amdro.

The imported fire ant has been found in nine southeastern states. It looks like an ordinary red ant but is aggressive and has a vicious sting when disturbed by humans or livestock. They create large colonies dependent upon worker ants to collect food. When the workers pick up the pellets of Amdro combined with soybean oil and corn grits and take them back to the colonies control approaching 98 percent is achieved.

North Carolina State University entomologist Charles Apperson has been tracking the spread of the ant in North Carolina. He says Amdro brought back to the colony kills the queen ant only. He expects a delay of two to three years before full registration is obtained. North Carolina farmers have reported soybean crop losses caused by the ants.

More funds available for small businesses

The Small Business Administration has acquired an extra \$200 million to lend through Local Development Companies for plants, buildings, and machinery. Terms are up to 25 years to pay and a \$500,000 ceiling. Details are available from local SBA offices.

IPM from page 8

1981 are: Walter Money, Guardian Tree Experts, president; Eric Haupt, The Haupt Tree Co., president-elect; Lee Lesh, Lee's Tree Surgeons Inc., vice president; Robert Mullane, Alpine Tree Care Inc., secretary; and Neil Engledow, Midwest Tree Experts, treasurer.

The arborists also dedicated an historic tree, a huge banyan. It was

growing at the Thomas Edison Home in Fort Myers.

COMPANY

Toro president leaves in major cutback

Toro, suffering from overcommitment to the snowblower market and two mild winters, released President Jack Cantu and three vice presidents. More than 125 salaried employees lost their

Continues on page 53