

LETTERS

Lindane wording unclear

I believe that the wording in your short news article on lindane, which is found on page 48 of your January issue, gave a mistaken impression of the status of the Lindane RPAR and Zoecon's evaluation of the safety of this important insecticide. I have enclosed for your information a news release prepared by Zoecon, and also a short article from *Pest Control Magazine* (p. 56), February 1981, which I believe summarizes the Scientific Advisory Panel Meeting accurately and concisely.

I would be very happy to supply any more information on the status of the Lindane RPAR if you would find it useful.

Terry L. Burkoth, Ph.D.
Director of Product Development
Zoecon Corporation
Palo Alto, CA

The Science Advisory Panel made these recommendations to the EPA:

Household use of Lindane should be cancelled immediately in treated shelf paper and floor waxes; on pets; and as ornamental applications.

Preparations containing Lindane should be available only to licensed veterinarians, commercial ornamental applicators, registered pest control operators, and certified livestock applicators only with full warning label cautions and full protective clothing as proposed by EPA.

Uses on pineapples should be retained with warning label cautions. Uses on cucurbits, avocados, pecans, Christmas trees, and hardwood logs and lumber should be continued under restricted classification with such labels and protective clothing. Similar restrictions should be required for certified operators using Lindane in bark beetle control or seed treatment.

A three-generation reproductive study should be performed on an appropriate laboratory animal to determine whether Lindane interferes with reproductive processes.

Proper pruning cuts

The following is in relation to the comments made on pruning cuts in the April issue.

Practicing arborists have long recognized the value of the heal collar. The problem of the flush cut evolved from the old practice of stub cutting when pruning or reducing the size of trees.

Since trees are individuals and have different growth habits, it is hard to train men just where and what degree to cut.

With the advent of the chain saw, slab cutting became easier. In the past no tree skinner worth his salt, working with a hand saw, would make a cut twice as large as necessary. In this age of mechanical pruning, better training and supervision must be used to reach a happy medium.

Freeman L. Parr
Horticultural Consultant
(Tequesta, Florida)

Missing references

While looking for a citation in Dr. Richard Smiley's article on thatch (April 1981), I found that his reference section was truncated and the last two references were deleted. I am sure both Dr. Smiley and other readers would appreciate it if you print these in a future issue. The two references are: "Whitehead et al 1979" and "Waite and Gorvod 1959."

Thank you,
Julie Welch (Bureau of Solid Waste)
Madison, Wisconsin

Terribly sorry. The citations are:
Waite, R., and A.R.N. Gorrer. 1959. *The comprehensive analysis of grasses. Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture* 10:317-326.

Whitehead, D.C., H. Buchan, and R.D. Hartley. 1979. *Composition and decomposition of roots of ryegrass and red clover. Soil Biology and Biochemistry* 11:619-628.

Interested in mowing

Enjoy your magazine. We maintain above 325 acres of turf for industrial business and the city of Syracuse. Would like to see an article on "contract mowing" done in your magazine.

Ted Stetler
Marcellus Nursery Inc.
Syracuse, NY

Thanks for your suggestion. We agree and are working on this subject for a future issue.—Ed.

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