

CAST asks EPA to dispose silvex by use

The president of the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST), R W Fogleman, has made the latest request to the Environmental Protection Agency to consider disposing of silvex by use rather than by incineration and burial.

Fogleman offered seven points to EPA Administrator Douglas Costle to consider. These include:

- The TCDD in silvex products would decompose in one day if they were applied to foliage as an herbicide or to soil as a fertilizer top dressing.
- TCDD in the solid products may last a long time if buried. Almost all of the TCDD in liquid silvex is decomposed if the incineration temperature is sufficiently high.
- Disposal of the silvex products by use would be a less expensive, more responsible use of public funds than disposal as hazardous wastes.
- If EPA goes ahead with the disposal of silvex as hazardous wastes, it "will be spending more than \$26 million to dispose of less than 0.03 pound (one-half ounce) of TCDD."
- "To destroy at great cost and as hazardous wastes the silvex-bearing products that could otherwise be used to improve societal welfare without constituting a significant hazard is a waste of the valuable resources used to produce, transport, and dispose of them, as well as a misrepresentation of the character of the products to the public."

U.S. Government promotes tree planting

The government is encouraging home owners to plant trees around their homes to save energy and money.

"The trees can easily pay for themselves in fuel savings in a matter of a few years," says a USDA representative. The agency says that a row of trees can cut down wind and reduce home heating bills by as much as 20 percent.

The government's basic premise contends that trees help cool the home in summer, cut wind and cold air in the winter, increase the value of the home, attract birds, and clean the air.

Trucking deregulation bill is passed

A new trucking deregulation act makes it easier to obtain certification by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The act retains agricultural exemption (which includes nursery stock) and also eliminates the gateway requirements and circuitous route limitations imposed on motor carriers. Carriers now are permitted to carry mixed loads of both regulated and exempt commodities. Nursery stock may still be transported by nonregulated carriers.

AAN Traffic Consultants have published a booklet entitled "Trucking Deregulation: How Far It Actually Goes," available from Bohman Industrial Traffic Consultants, 335 East Broadway, Gardner, MA 01144. Prepaid orders are \$8.95 each.

Government regulation will be curtailed

Government regulation will decrease in the Reagan Administration, owing to protests against the cost of government paperwork by the business community. No new regulations will be issued by agencies until the new Administration has had the opportunity to review them and determine whether they are needed.

Crop insurance amendment covers nurseries

The Federal crop insurance program has been amended to cover nursery crops. The amendment was requested by the American Association of Nurserymen and introduced by Representatives Panetta and Coehlo (D-Calif.). Under the provisions of the act, participation in a program is voluntary, and the Federal government will pay 30 of up to 65 percent of normal crop yield.

and the suspended use of the herbicide 2,4,5-T. Such actions, he said, have sparked anti-pesticide sentiment in many local areas and helped influence a growing trend by some states to out-regulate the federal pesticide law.

To reverse this trend, the NWSS has recently launched a plan to offer expertise and advice to state pesticide associations in dealing with legislative issues. This plan includes legislative workshops and an enlarged media tour program for the coming year. Dr. Early also called for "an increased level of cooperation between state pesticide associations and allied agricultural and scientific groups."

On Wednesday, January 7th, a special symposium was held on biological weed control with the use of plant pathogens. Dr. D.S. Kenney of the Abbott Research Center, and Dr. S.W.T. Batra and Dr. Bob Enge, both of USDA, discussed this alternative method of control.

At a business meeting, Tom Watschke, weed control turf specialist at Pennsylvania State University, was elected vice president. The 1980 president-elect, R.B. Taylorson, automatically became president during 1981, and the new president-elect is Steve Dennis.

PEOPLE

Golf course builders elect new officers

The Golf Course Builders of America, an association of golf course contractors and industry suppliers, has elected Frank A. Underwood of Bowie, Texas, president. Mr. Underwood, who served as president in 1974 and 1975, succeeds Nick A. Siemens of Fresno, CA.

Robert Ryan, vice president of Moore Golf, Inc., in Culpeper, VA, was chosen vice president. Carl Hedlund and James J. Kirchdorfer were re-elected secretary and treasurer.

ACQUISITION

Florida nurserymen buy plant exposition

The Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association has purchased The Tropical Plant Industries Exposition held annually in January at the Diplomat Hotel in Hollywood, Florida.

Terms of the sale call for FNGA to continue the annual exposition as a high-quality foliage show with at least a

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