

Budget exterminating pesticide programs

President Reagan's firm resolve to decrease the regulatory burden where he feels the federal government has intruded excessively and unnecessarily has hit hard at EPA and USDA pesticide regulatory programs. In fiscal year 1983, EPA pesticide activities would be cut by \$3 million and 84 employees from the 1982 figures of \$51 million and 661 employees.

The new administration hopes that streamlining product reviews, reducing time on registration and tolerance applications and new management reforms will result in more work being done with less money and staff. Reductions are more drastic in USDA. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service plans only minimal funding for the imported fire ant, boll weevil, gypsy moth and pink bollworm programs and no funds for golden nematode, grasshopper, West Indian sugarcane root borer, noxious weeds and witchweed programs. Revoking federal domestic quarantines for many of these regulated pests (gold nematode, gypsy moth, pink bollworm and witchweed) is under consideration.

The U.S. Forest Service cuts will spell the end of the federal cost sharing suppression programs aimed at chronic pests. The service is slated to lose 1751 positions and eight research facilities. Priority would be given only to protecting Federal lands and timber resources from major outbreaks of pests leaving state and private interests to protect their own lands.

Congress directs change in mower regs.

The U. S. Congress has directed the Consumer Product Safety Commission to change its safety standard for certain walk-behind power lawn motors. These are the rotary types in which the cutting blade stops within three seconds after the operator releases the handle and the engine stops. If the mower's starting controls are within 24 inches of the top of the handle or if there is a protective foot shield completely around the mower housing, they will meet the safety standard and can be marketed. These features will provide adequate safeguards for the feet and the hands of the user. About 77,000 injuries occur each year from contact with the blades of walk-behind mowers.

Pesticide use survey in Pennsylvania

Commercial nurseries are known to use pesticides extensively but there being only limited information available it is informative when a survey comes to light. Recently Pennsylvania State Extension Service interviewed 167 nurseries in seven southeastern counties of the state. The nurseries owned about 8,000 acres with about half of that in field production and only 20 acres under some type of structure.

Only 20 nurseries used about 800 pounds of rodenticides, mostly Warfarin and zinc phosphide and one nursery accounted for 300 pounds. There were no nematocides and only 39 pounds of the fumigant, methyl bromide. 65 nurseries (39%) used no herbicides—most of them growers with less than 20 acres. Over 1100 pounds of post emergence herbicides were used with glyphosate (Roundup) accounting for 61% of the total. Almost as much Simazine (47%) was used as all of the other 2 tons of pre-emergence herbicides. It has been the basic material in nursery weed control programs for many years. There were only 25 cases of crop injury with herbicides. Over 7600 pounds of insecticide were used with the top three being carbaryl, malathion and Diazinon.

Of particular interest to me was the result that the Extension Service was the primary factor (38%) in the selection of pesticides by the nursery men. Previous experience, salesmen and other growers represented 42% of the responses.

revenue growth, debt and welfare costs.

The availability and productivity of the labor force was estimated by assessing the amount of vocational education in the state, totalling the number of manhours lost and the average hours worked in a week. State regulated employment costs were figured using unemployment compensation, unemployment, net worth, maximum workers' compensation payment and the workers' compensation rates. The labor cost estimations utilized a combination of hourly wage, the change in that wage and the cost of unionization.

Other manufacturing costs were taken in to account such as energy costs, environmental controls, population density and the change in population.

CHEMICALS

Garnett to manage Chipco Products

Jerry Garnett, from May and Baker Division of Rhone Poulenc in the United Kingdom, has been named product manager for Chipco turf and landscape products.



Jerry Garnett

Jerry will move to Monmouth Junction, NJ, from the U.K. Before joining May and Baker, Garnett spent ten years launching new products for Fisons, now BFC Chemical.

Lebanon promotes Mengle, four others

Lebanon Chemical Corp. recently announced five new appointments to their staff.

Paul Mengle was promoted to sales

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