

UPDATE

EPA stops all registration in data dispute

The Environmental Protection Agency temporarily halted all registration in April until a ruling was clarified by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri. The Court found sections of the registration regulations "unconstitutional and unlawful" in a case brought against EPA by the Monsanto Chemical Co., St. Louis.

Monsanto brought the suit against EPA because its data allegedly has been used to support registration of competitors products. EPA at first halted all registrations, then relaxed its position to register only those chemicals supported by data owned by the registrant and "me-too" chemicals supported by data used with permission of the owner.

While EPA and District Court lawyers attempted to explain the full impact of the court's ruling, EPA froze all registration applications. When lawyers suggested the ruling protected only Monsanto's data, a dozen other chemical companies filed a brief to the court seeking similar protection. The case may eventually reach the Supreme Court for further clarification.

EPA officials have felt it appropriate to consider all data on file when weighing the costs versus benefits of registration applications. Chemical companies dispute the use of their data for consideration of competitors products, claiming protection as a trade secret. The law and EPA have been vague for years on use of registration data. The controversy has finally reached court level and will be tested. Changes in sections of FIFRA are likely as a result.

Bill earmarks \$1.1 billion in landscape work

The controversial Emergency Jobs Bill passed by Congress in March contains more than \$1 billion in grants and funding for landscape improvement. \$50 million of this is targeted for small business grants for tree planting and upgrading of recreational areas. Another \$40 million is available to urban parks on a matching fund basis.

The American Society of Landscape Architects is recommending its members contact local and state officials for potential work. The Bill stipulates much of the funding must be spent by October 1983, so haste is advised.

Much of the funding is intended for high population density areas with high unemployment. Much of the money will be spent in summer programs that employ large numbers of unemployed.

State spray laws spread

A bill introduced in the New York State Senate in late March is similar to a bill recently defeated in the state of Washington. The bill requires commercial applicators to notify all adjacent property owners of spraying prior to application of pesticides. The New York bill, like the Washington bill, is the result of careless spraying practices being uncovered by local media.

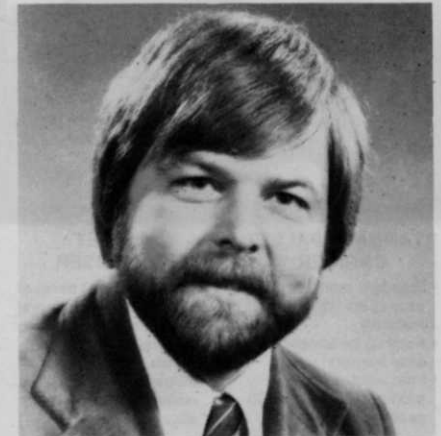
Embark PGR, introduced by 3M in 1978, has been used extensively to reduce mowing costs on low-maintenance grasses and difficult-to-mow areas by golf course superintendents, highway maintenance crews and others. Turfgrass researchers at Michigan State and Pennsylvania State identified Embark PGR as a valuable tool for golf course superintendents when applied during the spring before seedheads have emerged. The product suppresses *Poa annua* seedhead development, which results in healthier root growth, enhanced summer color and increased drought-resistance, the researchers say.

INDUSTRY

Jacobsen names Kepner Chief Test Engineer

Kent G. Kepner has been appointed Chief Test Engineer for Jacobsen Division of Textron, Inc.

In his new position, Kepner will be responsible for establishing testing and evaluation programs for Jacobsen



prototypes and components at the company's Racine test lab and at field sites in Arizona, Texas and Florida.

Previously, he was test engineer supervisor. Kepner joined Jacobsen in 1970 and has held a variety of test engineering positions in Racine and at the company's providing grounds facility in Phoenix, AZ.

INDUSTRY

Teledyne opens new Memphis headquarters

The Teledyne Total Power Co., opened its new headquarters in Memphis, TN, in April. The company was formed late last year to handle all marketing, engineering and product support of Teledyne Wisconsin air-