

UPDATE

Harper's Ferry drowns in debate

The Harper's Ferry bill, called an environmental want list by industry, was thrown out by a House subcommittee as the core for amendments to the Federal Insecticide Fungicide Rodenticide Act. The House will prepare a totally new bill to package changes in FIFRA. This action will delay amendments to FIFRA until this spring.

Both new EPA Administrator William Ruckelshaus and Edwin Johnson, director of pesticide programs, have said most changes to FIFRA can be handled without more regulations and the rest should wait until new assistant administrators were in place, the staff has had time to size up current legislation, and the Supreme Court data compensation case brought by Monsanto is settled.

The new goal for FIFRA amendments is May. Congressmen are stating further delays are unacceptable.

OSHA backs labor's right-to-know

An employee's right-to-know the potential harm of chemicals in the workplace was affirmed in late November when the Occupational Safety and Health Administration issued a new "hazardous communications rule". Seventeen states already had right-to-know legislation.

Companies are now required, under the new rule, to conduct educational programs about the hazards of chemicals they handle. The cost to industry of the new regulation is estimated at \$600 million, mostly in manufacturing industries.

The rule requires release of trade secrets in emergency and need-to-know cases with chemicals.

EPA seeks end to Silvex hearings

The Environmental Protection Agency has asked all registrants of 2,4,5-T and Silvex to voluntarily end all uses without hearings in the wake of Dow Chemical Company's voluntary cancellation of registration in August. The agency also required each registrant to identify the source of the chemicals in a confidential statement.

Existing stocks of 2,4,5-T and Silvex will continue to be distributed and used according to the labels until depleted.

Union Carbide may join data suit

Monsanto may be joined by Union Carbide when a pivotal data compensation case goes before the Supreme Court this spring. Both companies have won U.S. District Court cases restricting use of their data by other companies for the purpose of gaining EPA registration.

Until Monsanto brought suit against Stauffer Chemical Co. and EPA for use of Monsanto's glyphosate lab data, EPA was allowing data used to support registrations to be used by competitors. Since the District Court's ruling, EPA has allowed registrations only for products supported completely by the applicant's own data or data used with permission of its developer. The law, FIFRA, is unclear on data compensation.

EPA says the Union Carbide suit should be tried together to avoid conflicting decisions.

NOR-AM from page 16

its name to NOR-AM Chemical Company as part of the buyout of the company by Schering AG of West Germany in July 1983.

NOR-AM, previously owned by Schering, is taking over the BFC operation but will move from Illinois to Wilmington, DE. The new address is NOR-AM Chemical Co., P.O. Box 7495, 3509 Silverside Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803.

George Jones, director of communications for BFC, retains a similar position with NOR-AM.

SEMINAR

Athletic turf seminars set

The National Institute on Park and Grounds Management and Park Maintenance Magazine, will sponsor two athletic turf management seminars, one in Anaheim, the other in Seattle.

Victor Gibeault, John Van Dam, Steven Cockerham, William Davis and Jewell Meyer will be the featured technical speakers at the conference March 19 and 20 at the Ramada Inn, Anaheim.

The second conference, scheduled for March 22 and 23 at the Edgewater Hotel, Seattle, will feature Dr. Roy Goss, Puyallup, WA.

Both programs will include specific information on varieties, fertilization and management, disease and pest control, irrigation and other problems found on heavily used athletic areas. Construction and renovation and case studies of areas and programs by professional managers will be on the program.

For more information, contact Athletic Turf, Box 1936, Appleton, WI 54913, (414) 733-2301. Registration is limited.

CORRECTION

In a story that appeared in the August issue, the companies that produce Rebel and Falcon turf-type tall fescues were misidentified. Rebel is a product of Lofts Seed, Inc., Bound Brook, NJ, and E.F. Burlingham & Sons of Forest Grove, OR, produce Falcon. We regret the error.