

UPDATE

Dicofol link to DDT raised

Two U.S. Senators have asked EPA to look into Dicofol, the ingredient in Kelthane, charging it contains as much as 15 percent DDT. EPA Assistant Administrator for Pesticides and Toxic Substances John Moore told the Senators it would be difficult to determine the residues of dicofol compared to DDT, since DDT residues still exist.

Dicofol is used primarily as an acaricide for cotton and citrus. It also has landscape uses.

The issue was raised as a result of the recent controversy over EDB (ethylene dibromide), a citrus fumigant. Moore said tests show dicofol is stable for 350 days in field plots, but can last for four years in soils.

EPA explores chemigation regs

Concern over contamination of irrigation water sources by EPA is being discussed with the National Agricultural Chemicals Association. EPA and NACA have reached agreement on additional statements on labels requiring backflow prevention on irrigation systems into which pesticides are injected. Chemigation is a growing area in both agriculture and landscape maintenance.

Defense cites Fifth to Monsanto

The Fifth Amendment has become a major issue in Monsanto's Supreme Court case against EPA and Stauffer Chemical Co. over use of glyphosate health and safety data.

Deputy Solicitor General Lawrence Wallace, defending EPA, told the Supreme Court EPA did not exceed Monsanto's rights under the Fifth Amendment. Wallace claimed EPA has the authority of Congress to negotiate compensation for data submitted to gain registration.

Monsanto's attorney Raymond Randolph Jr. told the Court that state and Federal law recognizes trade secrets as property, emphasizing the cost of developing data to meet EPA requirements.

Many registrations are held up by EPA until data compensation is clarified. The Court must decide on the case before its summer recess.

Geographic label limits sought

EPA is exploring geographic restriction on pesticide labels to prevent their use in areas with groundwater contamination problems. This would protect pesticides from national or state cancellation because they present problems in just one area, i.e. the high water table and sandy soil of Long Island. EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs will monitor groundwater by region to determine areas to be restricted for use of certain pesticides.

BURPEE from page 10



Dr. Lee Burpee speaks on diseases to the Canadian Turfgrass Conference in Toronto in March.

more likely to be hit by disease. If a problem develops, such as anthracnose, start applying fungicides in June. For other *Poa annua* problems, the population of annual bluegrass can be reduced by overseeding with perennial ryegrass instead of bentgrass and controlling irrigation levels.

Burpee said he sees progress in the area of biological disease control. Diseases have been reduced by 50 percent by inoculating turf with another organism which discourages pathogens.

CONSERVATION

L.A. Water donates seeds for Olympics

As part of a major beautification and conservation effort taking place in Los Angeles for the 1984 Olympic Games, the Department of Water and Power, Los Angeles, has donated 100 one-pound bags of wildflower seeds to community groups.

The wildflowers are estimated to cover nearly 20 acres, or the equivalent of 200 average-size city lots.

Duane L. Georgeson, DWP chief engineer of water works, explained, "These donated seeds, which are a mixture of 12 different wildflowers, will bloom into red, white, and blue colors.

They will not only help beautify Los Angeles, but will also help in the efficient use of water, since once established, they need little, if any, irrigation." The seeds were distributed to a diverse group of local improvement associations in the area, called Los Angeles Beautiful.