

## Fewer new homes for '87

■ Housing starts for 1987 will be around 1.65 million, according to Lawrence Chimerine, chairman and chief economist at Chase Econometrics. That would be about 200,000 fewer than in 1986, Chimerine said. He was speaking at a media seminar held by the National Association of Home Builders. Chimerine said he did not think the nation was headed for a recession, but neither would it enjoy an economic boom in the next one to three years.

Chimerine said four things are slowing purchases of new homes:

- a decline in incomes;
- fewer high-wage, middle-income jobs like steel-working;
- lower wages of jobs in the service industry like Burger King;
- the indebtedness of many families.

## Pre-mixes: here to stay?

■ A change in the way pesticides are marketed is manifesting itself in the golf and landscape industries. Many chemical companies have started, or plan to start, selling products called pre-mixes—pre-packaged or in-the-can combinations of more than one chemical. One of the most popular herbicides on the market is Team from Elanco Products, a combination of benefin and trifluralin. Rhone-Poulenc markets a combination of buctril and atrazine.

"Everyone in the landscape market is looking at pre-mixes," says Dan Stahl of Rhone-Poulenc. "The trend is toward lower cost and making use of generic materials, and pre-mixes are that. They are also easier to get on the market."

Pre-mixes provide the landscape manager with broader and/or better control; they eliminate possible mixing errors; and they reduce the number of containers to be disposed.

## IPM unit created

■ Denver Leasing and Manufacturing and the F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Co. have developed an innovative integrated pest management unit. The unit is a unique four-pump, four-mix chamber, four-reel, selective pesticide and fertilizer application device.

"This unit not only complies with federal and state regulations, but also provides the user with the latest technology in pesticide application," says Bob Smith of Denver Leasing.

The main tank carries only water. The operator mixes chemicals in any of the four chambers, and can select the appropriate strength and quantity for each particular situation. Quantities delivered can be from one ounce to 150 gallons.

For information, call Smith at (303) 422-7608 or write him at 6945 Indiana Ct., Golden, CO 80403.

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