

CONFERENCES

Lyme disease occurrence on rise across Northeast

TARRYTOWN, N.Y. — Last year, 7,400 cases of Lyme disease were reported to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, 45 percent of them in New York State. This is a marked increase over previous yearly totals: 5,000 reported cases in 1988 and 2,400 in 1987.

Other high concentrations of the disease were found in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

"Lyme disease is the most frequently acquired of all vector-borne diseases in the continental U.S." said Dr. Joseph F. Piesman at a symposium held here in May. Piesman works at the Centers for Disease Control, Ft. Collins, Colo.

More than 200 public health administrators and disease control experts listened to findings of 12 leading research scientists from across the country.

First identified 15 years ago, Lyme disease has

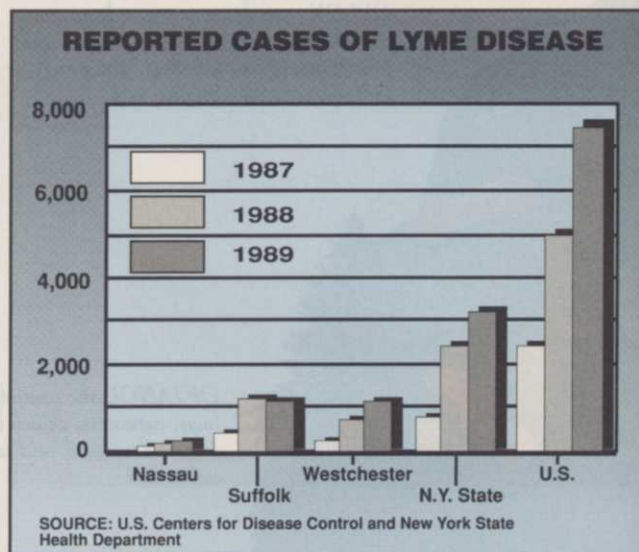
spread to 43 states.

Piesman identified four areas as major habitats for the deer tick: lawns, ornamental planting areas, ecotonal (transitional) areas which divide lawns from wooded areas, and woods.

Results from an August, 1989 survey of land around 66 properties in Armonk, N.Y., showed more than half of all nymphal ticks to be located in wooded habitats.

Piesman suggests homeowners put down a barrier such as mulch, crushed coral or pine needles to separate high and low risk areas.

The Lyme disease symposium was presented by New York Medical College under the sponsorship of Rhone-Poulenc Ag Company. Rhone-Poulenc manufactures the Chipco Sevimol and Sevin brands of carbaryl insecticides, both of which have proven



effective in deer tick control.

According to Rhone-Poulenc, four tests conducted in New Jersey, Connecticut and New York using liquid applications of Chipco Sevimol and granular Sevin brand carbaryl

insecticide showed effective control of adult and juvenile life stages of deer ticks.

Damminix, made by Ecohealth, Inc. has also been effective as a more "surgical" approach to controlling ticks. Cotton balls saturated with permethrin are placed around risk areas in cardboard tubes. Field mice then take the cotton for use as nesting material. The ticks feeding on the mice are controlled after the mice bring the cotton to the nest. The mice remain unharmed.

Dr. Andrew Spielman of the Harvard School of Public Health and Dr. Thomas J. Daniels of New York Medical College listed some common tick carriers: white-footed mice, dogs, cats,

Lyme disease: preventive measures

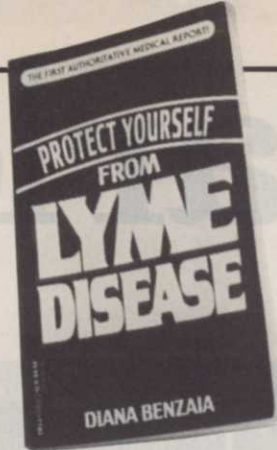
If you live in a wooded area or participate in outdoor activities within the range of the deer tick, the New York Medical College recommends the following:

- Wear light-colored clothing;
- Pull socks over pant cuffs;
- Use an insect repellent containing "Deet" to repel ticks;
- Make frequent body searches for the small nymphal tick.

If bitten by a tick, remove it imme-

diately with fine tweezers. Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and, with a steady movement, pull it straight out. Apply an antiseptic such as alcohol to the tick bite to prevent secondary infection.

Do not apply mineral oil, Vaseline, heat or anything else to the tick. Send the tick to your local health department for identification or contact the Lyme Disease Center at New York Medical College: (914) 285-1700. □



"Protect Yourself from Lyme Disease:" send \$6.50 to Dell Reader's Service, P.O. Box 5057, Des Plaines, IL 60017.

raccoons and squirrels.

Typical symptoms of the disease are a bull's-eye shaped rash, headaches, fever, chills, nausea, fatigue, muscle and joint pain and swollen glands.

Symptoms can worsen to include arthritis, nerve or heart disorders, meningitis, encephalitis and facial paralysis.

Brochures on Lyme disease are available from The Lyme Disease Center, New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY 10595.

—Terry McIver □

SHORT CUTS

CREEPING BENTGRASS SOD...is still in short supply as demand for the cool-season species remains high. Seed Research of Oregon has an information kit for growers interested in producing high quality creeping bentgrass sod. Information contained in the kit deals with all aspects of high quality bentgrass sod production, from developing a proper rootzone mix to harvesting and shipping. The number to call is (503) 757-2663 or (800) 253-5766.

INTERESTING 'DWARFS'...Pickseed West, Inc., of Tangent, Ore. continues to emphasize low-maintenance, high quality cool-season turfgrass varieties, according to plant breeder **Dr. Jerry Pepin**. Newest "dwarf" varieties from Pickseed are LowGrow perennial ryegrass; and Shortstop, Crossfire and Mini-Mustang turf-type tall fescues. Shortstop was made available last year. Crossfire and Mini-Mustang will be available this summer from selected Pickseed regional distributors.

TREE LEADER EXPANDS...The Davey Tree Expert Co. has acquired Canadian Shade Tree Service, Ltd., of Montreal. Davey says Canadian Shade is the largest residential tree care company in Montreal. The Kent, Ohio-based company has other Canadian divisions in Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia.

BIRD LOVERS LISTEN UP...Landscaping with certain trees, shrubs or vines will have special appeal to birds, says **David Tatnall**, garden specialist with the University of Delaware. Tatnall says suitable tree selections are small-fruited crabapples; white pine and hemlock from the evergreen family; shrubs such as Japanese barberry and Tatarian honeysuckle bear. Virginia creeper is an ideal vine, Tatnall says, but hummingbirds are attracted to the large orange and scarlet flowers of the trumpet creeper, which should be used moderately, especially against structures.

PROMOTING THE PROFESSIONAL...is the goal of an advertising program initiated by the California Landscape Contractors Association. The ad encourages commercial clients to hire CLCA members for "the finest in landscape installation and maintenance." Public relations chairman **Richard Plaxo** says CLCA "wants to stress that when clients hire a member, they're assured quality results and professionalism." The ad is available to CLCA chapters; insertion costs are shared equally by CLCA headquarters and chapters.

SEED INDUSTRY

Buffalograss gets okay for production

HEALEY, Kans. — Sharp Brothers Seed Co. and the University of Nebraska have reached an agreement on worldwide production and marketing rights to the new generations of buffalograss.

The company will distribute what are described as "new generation cultivars" of the extremely drought tolerant buffalograss into all regions of the U.S., especially those areas where environmental and water conservation concerns are high.

"We feel this is an opportunity to provide the turfgrass industry with varieties of buffalograss which require low amounts of water and maintenance and yet perform as a beautiful, durable turf," says

Steve O'Neill, turf division manager at Sharp Brothers.

According to Sharp President Gail Sharp, the first challenge will be "to utilize these varieties not only as vegetative, but as seeded varieties also. Evaluations will be instigated immediately within our production facilities. We hope to supply seed from these varieties within the next few years."

Dr. Terry Reardon, turfgrass breeder from the University of Nebraska, says a turf-type buffalograss will allow the consumer to continue to have a nice lawn, park or golf course, but with significant reductions in demands on the environment, such as less use of water and control products. □

LAWN CARE

Brooks requests changes

MARIETTA, Ga. — James R. Brooks, executive vice president of the Professional Lawn Care Association of America (PLCAA), has recommended to the board of directors that it reorganize staff responsibilities.

Brooks, with PLCAA since 1983, has requested his own title be modified as

he concentrates more on membership development and trade show marketing.

"The lawn care industry continues to diversify," Brooks told the board, "and PLCAA needs to make a more concerted effort in identifying and meeting the business efforts of all types of companies, particularly the smaller operator." □

SUPPLIERS

Lesco files suit against Echo and its distributors

CLEVELAND — Lesco Inc. has filed a suit in U.S. District Court seeking injunctive and other relief from Echo Inc. and its distributors to prevent them from breaching or interfering with its contract, in violation of federal antitrust law.

In the suit, Lesco said it obtained contractual rights to distribute Echo power equipment and introduced the line at its national sales meeting. However, Lesco said it was told later that it was no longer possible for Echo to sell products to Lesco because of coercion and threats from certain Echo distributors and dealers which encouraged Echo to breach its agreement and to restrain trade.

"We feel there's no substance in the lawsuit filed by Lesco," says Echo's Eugene Stanky. "We've been

meeting with Lesco for the past month (May) in hopes of resolving this. We think there's just been miscommunication, but it takes two to solve a problem."

Lesco seeks to enjoin certain Echo distributors and dealers from coercing or encouraging Echo to breach its agreement, according to a press release from Lesco. The suit includes more than 50 defendants affiliated with the Echo distribution network, the announcement further notes.

According to the release, Lesco has yet to determine the full extent of damages as a result of the breach of contract, but is seeking damages and costs plus punitive damages of \$20 million in each of five specific claims against Echo and the other defendants. □



Honored

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — Dr. Kent Kurtz, a member of the LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT technical advisory board, won a special award from the California Association of Park and Recreation Commissioners, and a merit award from the California Park and Recreation Society. Dr. Kurtz received the awards at the 42nd California and Pacific Southwest Recreation and Park Conference in San Diego.

LITERATURE

Information on PVC available

WAYNE, N.J. — A new information package about various applications of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) in water and sewer pipe projects is available from the Pipe Resource Organization of The Vinyl Institute.

"PVC for All the Right Reasons" contains case histories of PVC pipe applications, testimonials from engineers and municipal water officials, and a list of Vinyl Institute members.

"Our goal is to provide accurate and timely information about PVC pipe to both current and prospective users and to communicate PVC's many advantages," says Dave Peters, chairman of the Pipe Resource Organization.

For more information, contact the Vinyl Institute: Wayne Interchange Plaza II, 155 Route 46 West, Wayne, NJ 07470; (201) 890-9299. □

EASY COME.



Top row: Leaf-feeding caterpillar, Mealy bug, Japanese beetle, Bagworm, Gypsy moth. Bottom row: Cankerworm, Leaf skeletonizer, Tent caterpillar, Webworm.

MUNICIPALITIES

Escondido planting program is aimed at improving air quality

ESCONDIDO, Calif. — This city has launched an ambitious program to plant 5,100 trees within the city limits this year. The program is being implemented to help promote better air quality—a concern in this part of southern California—and to beautify the environment.

Two thousand of the trees will be given free of charge to residents to plant, and 3,100 additional trees will be planted by city workers throughout the municipal park system.

City Parks and Recreation Director Don Anderson says the general public would be given the necessary guidance to assure the health and stability of their newly-planted trees. For starters, residents receive a detailed instruction booklet when they pick up the trees at City Hall.

In addition, V.I.T. Products donated "Cinch-Ties" to the city so tree-tying devices would not have to be purchased. According to V.I.T. president Don Pagano, "This left more money in their arbor program budget so that even more trees could be purchased. This is our way to show that we care about the quality of life within our



Don Pagano, left, donates Cinch-Ties to Escondido Parks Director Don Anderson.

community."

Cinch-Ties are positioned around the tree trunk and secured to lodge poles to promote stability and flexibility as the tree grows. For more information, contact V.I.T. Products at 300 Enterprise, Suite 0, Escondido, CA 92025; (619) 480-6702. □

CORRECTION

Baldwin College has ornamental, turfgrass studies

TIFTON, Ga. — Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College here offers seven ornamental and turfgrass study courses leading to two-year Associate of Applied Science degrees.

According to Prof. Ed Seagle, the areas of study are: floral design, ornamental production, landscape management, golf/turf management, golf club management, commercial turf management and turf equipment management. Seagle, along with students William Dillard and Janna Waters, were inadvertently not identified in a photo recently. The original photo appeared on page 28 of the May issue of LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT.

For more information on the college, write him at P.O. Box 8, ABAC Station, Tifton, GA 31794. □

EASY GO.

NEW!

The invasion is coming. An army of hungry insects, ready to destroy everything you've worked so hard to achieve.

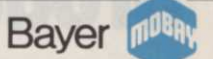
But with new TEMPO® insecticide, they're stopped dead in their tracks. On arrival. With excellent residual



control. And all while using about 60% less chemical than most of the competition.

It's really a simple idea. Ornamentals need protection when insects mount their attack. With new TEMPO, the battle is over before it's even started. No contest.

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