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WEEDS and TURF

October 1964

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Contents of this Issue @ Trade Magazines, Inc., 1964

A Clarification

When You're Talking Turf...

TURF HERBICIDES

COMPA

FISONS MCPP SELECTIVE WEED KILLER A potassium salt formulation containing 2½ lbs. of MCPP per gallon. Made available through Fisons research in England. Developed especially for use on fine turf grasses where control of chickweed (common and mouseear), clover, and knotweed has heretofore been difficult to accomplish without injury to bent grasses, bluegrass, and fescues. Because of its safety features, it is slowacting; full effects from treatments are not visible for about three weeks.

DOGGETT EISON

NY

Also available — FISONS DSMA 100 AMA for crabgrass control as well as FISONS DSMA 100 for control of Dallis grass.

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Elsewhere in this issue spokesmen for regional trade groups discuss the pros and cons of a national association of weed, turf, and tree spraymen. At the Horticultural Spraymen's Association of Florida Convention in Ft. Lauderdale next month (Pier 66 Hotel, November 5-7), delegates will actually establish such an organization, it is reported.

While W&T has stood squarely behind this movement from the beginning, we feel obligated to clarify our position. Weeds and Turf feels that a hard-working group of applicators, functioning within the framework of a well-conceived nationwide association, can do the industry immeasurable good.

Advantages, for example, include a national voice for influencing legislation; a coast-to-coast means to improve the industry image; and the opportunity for applicators from all over the country to exchange technical know-how and business insights. A fringe benefit, of course, is the effect such a confederation might have on suppliers, who would better understand the nature and scope of the industry, and thus could cater more adequately to its specific needs.

However, this magazine does not endorse any single alliance to the exclusion of another. In addition to HSAF, societies in Portland, Oregon, and Seattle, Washington, for example, are considering national status. There are also groups in Oklahoma and Texas, and elsewhere in the Midwest. Communications among many of these assemblies were originally initiated by W&T staff members. because we seek only to better serve industrymen everywhere by making them aware of the advantages inherent in a well-managed trade association. Our goal is to disseminate information about various federations which are considering national status. We hope that the several regional divisions will be surpassed, and that all industry representatives will find it possible to fuse their several organizations into a coalition which all will find acceptable.

We have devoted much space to discussions of the need for an action such as that to be undertaken next month in Ft. Lauderdale, and which was discussed last month at the Pesticide Sprayers Association of Portland (Oregon) during a joint meeting with other Northwest groups. We welcome the opportunity to tell our readers about the progress which is being made, so that each can decide for himself the course he wishes to advocate in the establishment of a single convocation which can effectively promote the weed, turf and tree maintenance industry in the US.

WEEDS AND TURF, October, 1964



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Seeks Dodder Control

Can you tell me if there is a fungicide that will control the fungus known as dodder (also known as "golden thread," "hell bind," "strangleweed")? This orange-colored, sticky, stringlike fungus attacks any and all plants and succeeds in strangling even the hardy Algerian ivy.

During the past two years I have discussed this problem with several nuserymen and a representative from the Department of Agriculture. These gentlemen have suggested a strong solution (50%-80%) of ammonium sulfate applied in a spray as the only method of chemical control. I found that such a solution only marginally affected the fungus but did kill the plant to which it had attached itself.

I would appreciate your readers' comments and advice.

C. M. Quigley

8640 Metz Place Los Angeles, Calif.

Readers are invited to write directly to Mr. Quigley. Ed.

Father-Son Team Want More Training

Detroit, Mich.

My son and I want to expand our services to include aquatic weed control. We also want to obtain more information on tree spraying, etc. Could you suggest where we could receive instruction and training in these fields?

Paul Kucik

The Aquatic Weed Control Society, secretary of which is Albert Lopinot, Illinois Dept. of Conservation, Litchfield, Ill., and the Hyacinth Control Society, William Dryden, secretary, P. O. Box 1711, Fort Myers, Fla., can give you information which will help you in your objective. The National Arborist Assn., can help you on the subject of tree spraying, etc. Dr. Paul E. Tilford is executive secretary and

may be reached at P. O. Box 426, Wooster, Ohio. Weeds and Turf has a 16-page reprint, "Applicator's Manual of Aquatic Weed Control," (\$1) which should be helpful.-Ed.

W&T Article Well Received

After publication of my article on roadside spraying in W&T for July (p. 8), I had a number of messages and telephone calls which indicate: first, that your magazine is being read by a great many people; and, second, that a number of people were glad to have someone express a positive opinion on our responsibility to the public when applying roadside sprays.

Fred A. Ashbaugh

Supervisor of Forestry West Penn Power Company Greensburg, Pa.

Westerners Eye National Assn.

I believe there exists a definite need for a horticultural spraymen's association on a national scale and I would gladly help to organize such a group. We must face a few hard facts however:

1. Such an association must be progressive in action as well as in thought;

2. An organizational meeting should be held at a location and time mutually arranged by those concerned;

3. All sections of the spray industry should be represented;

4. For the good of the industry's future, this association must promote its interests and otherwise operate on the highest ethical plane.

Robert B. Cockburn

President Northwest Chemical

Applicators Assn. 1523 63rd Street

Everett, Washington 98202

Needs Complete Weed Book

I am a golf course greenskeeper trainee trying to learn all I can in order to be good. I'm especially interested in weeds. I would like to be able to identify all the weeds I run across on

the fairway. I may know almost all of them already.

I wonder if you have any kind of complete book showing all the weeds with their pictures for identification, and if so, if this book is for sale.

Your Weeds and Turf magazine is the best I ever saw.

Baltimore, Md.

Carl J. Foster

We do not have a complete book of weeds like the one reader Foster requests, although we publish each month our weed identification box. Other than that, one of the best suggestions we have is a book called Weeds of the North Central States, published by the University of Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station. While it is a regional publication, most of the weeds discussed thrive in wide-spread areas throughout the US. It's available for \$1 from the Station in Urbana. If readers have other suggestions for Mr. Foster, we'd be happy to pass them along in this column, should we receive any such letters. Ed.

WT: Don't Forget the Newcomer!

We would like to see more articles directed toward the newcomers to the business. I tend to get the impression from some of your articles that everyone is an expert and that they all started out that way. All companies dealing in weed control are not large firms. Not griping, just passing along my views.

Robert R. Shaw Oklahoma City, Okla.

We try to achieve a balance in articles directed towards the "neophyte" and articles for the "old pro," and have published many basic articles meant as background. However we welcome these comments and will pay close attention to articles like the ones reader Shaw desires. Ed.

Weeds and Turf welcomes expressions of opinions from its readers. Send ideas and comments briefly as possible to Charles D. Webb, Editor, Weeds and Turf, 1900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115.



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WEEDS AND TURF, October, 1964

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How to LIVE WITH LEGISLATION

By N. CURTIS PETERSON, JR.

In these days of increasing attention to pesticides, personnel concerned with protecting turf and trees, and with eliminating weeds and brush, find it necessary to live with an ever-growing number of laws, some good, some bad. This article tells how to achieve more balanced legislation, how to lobby effectively, how to prevent passage of some laws and how to introduce favorable ones, and how to use existing trade groups for legal benefit. Peterson's views are particularly timely now that spraymen are considering a national organization to help them achieve uniform and fair industry laws. AGRI-BUSINESS is Florida's largest industry-exceeding the two-billion-dollar tourist trade by more than a billion dollars annually. Horticultural specialties make up a large segment of the agri-business; over \$330 million of Florida's yearly income is from this source. And Florida is not alone; all over the country, horticulture's hand can be felt on the economy. Its voice should be heard in favor of fair and equitable treatment when the general good of the vegetation maintenance and control industry is at stake.

The experiences in legislation we horticulturists have had spotlight several important points which should be considered by anyone faced with a legislative problem. Our work has been primarily with state government, but the basic principles apply at any legislative level.

Sometime ago, for example, our organization, the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association, promoted a bill which we hoped would be added to the Florida statutes. Our efforts brought us in close contact with legislators and their ways. At no time did we pressure, demand, or coerce the lawmakers. All we asked was for them to examine the circumstances to see if our proposal was good for all concerned and especially good for the public interest. This is very important, for if you ask for special consideration at the expense of others, you become a "special interest" group. But, if you tie your needs to those of an expanding economy and rapid growth of the state, and if you can show that your plans will benefit the general public, then your needs can be justified.

When Is Legislation Needed?

Agri-businessmen are not only citizens deserving consideration; they are also members of an industry that provides much that is beneficial to the general public. With these facts in mind, the man who seeks to propose legislation has some criteria on which to base his demands. Certain other essentials also support proposed legislation.