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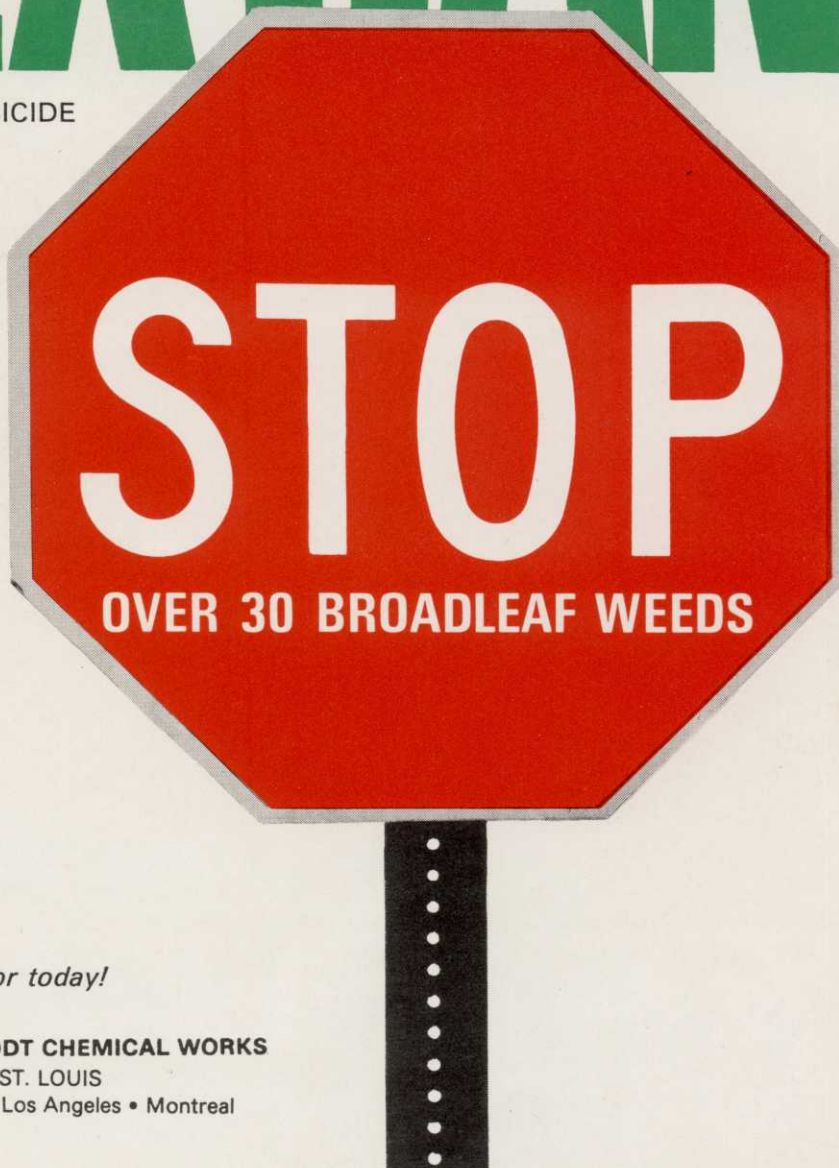
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WEEDS TREES and TURF®

Volume 10, No. 3 March, 1971

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The Cover

You may need to get down on your knees to discover this pesky annual dicot weed that reproduces profusely by seed. Perhaps Dick Bangs at O. M. Scott & Sons, Marysville, Ohio, did to take this picture. This is knotweed and it grows in compacted soils, such as athletic fields and playgrounds, throughout the northern U.S. and to a lesser extent in southern states. It germinates early, often in March, and resembles new seedling grass for a while. Upon maturing, it becomes a prostrate-growing weed and grows in all directions from a small taproot. Forming a dense mat, it smothers out desirable turfgrasses. "The Grass People" say herbicide formulations of dicamba will now control this serious weed pest, at rates of only 1/4 lb/acre of active ingredient.



WEEDS TREES and TURF is published monthly by The Harvest Publishing Company, subsidiary of Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc. Executive, editorial headquarters: 9800 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44102.

Single Copy Price: \$1.00 for current and all back issues. Foreign \$1.50.

Subscription Rates: WEEDS TREES AND TURF is mailed free, within the U.S. and possessions and Canada, to qualified persons engaged in the vegetation care industry and related fields in controlled circulation categories. Non-qualified subscriptions in the U.S. and Canada are \$10.00 per year; other countries, \$12.00 per year. Controlled circulation postage paid at Fostoria, Ohio 44830.

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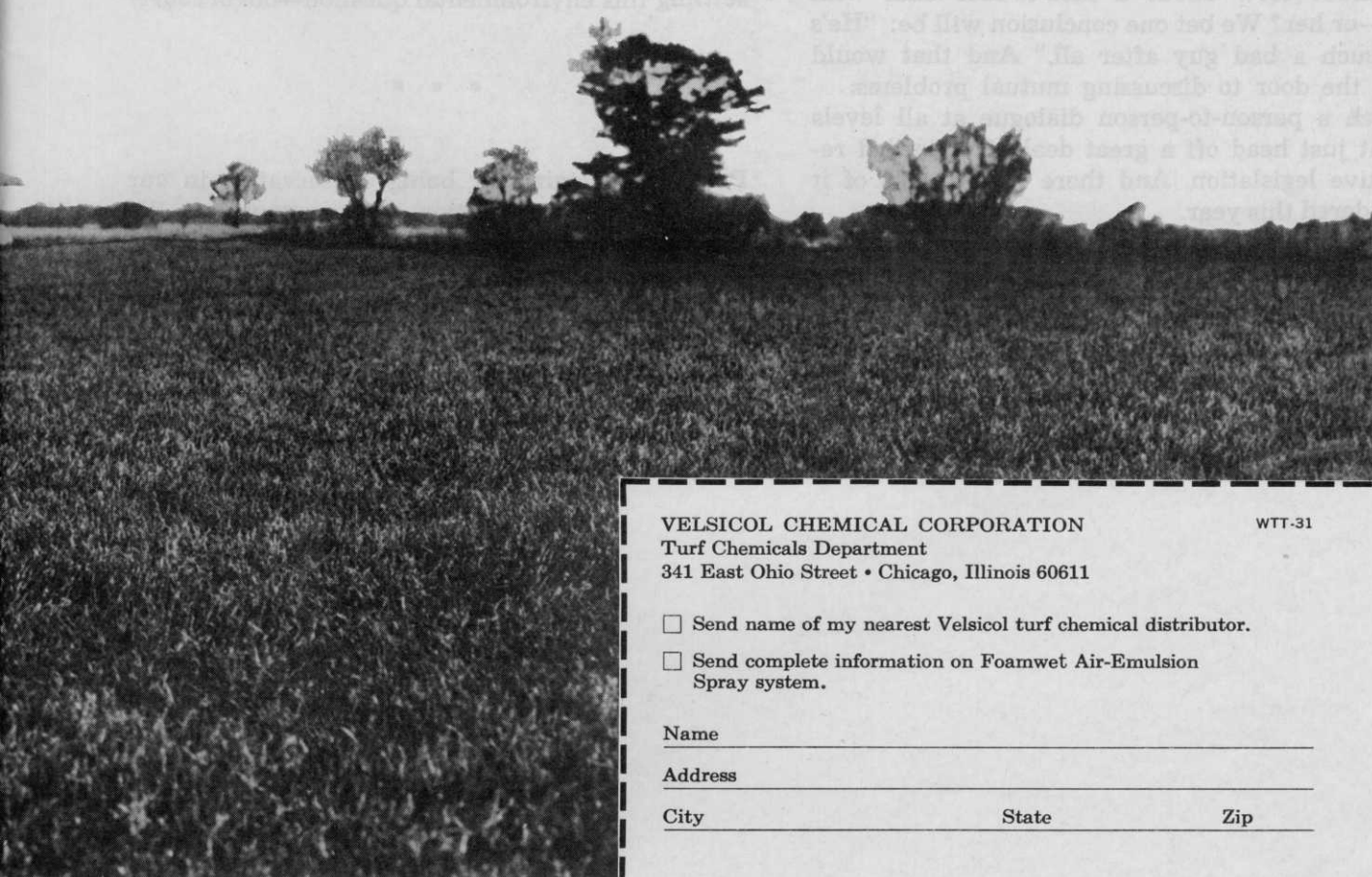
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WTT-31

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Pesticides and the People-to-People Approach

WHEN EVERYTHING ELSE FAILS, try the personal approach. We believe it is time for pesticide industry professionals to sit down beside the ecologists and pollution fighters to discuss improvement of the world we live in. The least, but a most important, result would have to be the discovery that all parties were sitting on the same side of the environmental fence.

Face it . . . there is a considerable communication gap between such groups as the chemical industry and conservationists and naturalists of all degrees. And all of the scientific data hurled both ways via the airways, the printed media, and the conference rostrum occasionally as close as across town has not narrowed the gap.

The pesticide industry still wears, if not black, a shady hat in the minds of members in organizations such as the National Audubon Society.

Who is the person in your town who is anti-pesticide? How about a face-to-face chat with him—or her? We bet one conclusion will be: "He's not such a bad guy after all." And that would open the door to discussing mutual problems.

Such a person-to-person dialogue at all levels might just head off a great deal of unneeded restrictive legislation. And there will be lots of it considered this year.

"While I believe there was a need for some restrictions, I personally think DDT is perfectly safe," said an official who had been in the Food and Drug Administration, but is now a part of the Environmental Protection Agency. "But people got scared," he added, and government is obligated to do something.

And another federal administrator who's now

a part of EPA confessed that until he was invited to speak he had never heard of an organization such as the Weed Science Society of America. But he quickly added that he was ready to get acquainted. "Come in and see us; tell us your problems and your needs," he challenged.

So next to getting to know the person who appears to be against your business interests, you should make acquaintance with the "mediator" of your differences.

To continue our role of providing what hopefully is useful information, we're carrying an article in this issue (Page 16) that gives the basic organization of EPA and the direction that EPA Administrator William Ruckelshaus hopes to go. The article includes a listing of the 10 interim regional coordinators with complete addresses and telephone numbers. The rest is up to you. Isn't it worth trying a people-to-people approach to settling this environmental question—out of court?

* * *

P.S. We apologize for being conservative in our estimate of your reaction to this magazine. We announced a special feature for March—an index to sources of information on weed control. We had no idea how many there were. One hundred sounded like a nice round number. Phew! Response from industry, government, university, and our own files turned up close to 400! And we're sure we've missed a bunch. Sorry about that; we shall try listing them next time.

Gene Ingalsbe

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NEW PESTICIDE BILLS were introduced in both houses of Congress Feb. 10. They are H.R. 4152 and S.745. The Senate Bill is essentially an updating of previous acts to underline the responsibilities of the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. There are some new provisions, however. The EPA administrator has the power to classify usage of a pesticide, upon registration. He may designate it for "general use," for "restricted use only," or for "use by permit only." The restricted use classification is defined to cover any material that "if used without restriction could cause injury to the applicator, or when care is needed in its application to protect the environment." Restricted pesticides could be used "only by or under the direct supervision of approved pesticide applicators." Permit-only pesticides could be used by anyone "who has a license issued by the state in which such operations are conducted, upon the basis of a demonstration of his competence in the use and other handling and knowledge of the toxicity and antidotes of the pesticides involved, according to standards approved or prescribed by the Administrator." Pesticides in this category will be made available only with approval, in writing, for the amount and type of article for each particular application, of an approved pest management consultant (presumably a designated state or area federal official). The EPA administrator also has the power to change the classification of a pesticide by 30-days' prior notice in the Federal Register. The bill does not bar states from enacting more restrictive regulations.

URBAN TRAVEL CAN BE EXPECTED TO INCREASE 75% by 1990, predicts F. C. Turner, Federal Highway Administrator, given a 50% increase in urban population. Heavy additional demands for highway transportation will develop—and be met with increasing efficiency and minimal crises . . . if. Addressing the 50th meeting of the Highway Research Board, he contended that long-range highway planning had been reasonably accurate, except for private development that followed. "The public expects us to plan highways properly, but it refuses to work with us by advising us of its plans," he charged, citing as examples a sports arena, shopping center, or hotel-motel complex that is built after the highway is finished. He asked for and foresees a public agency that would coordinate and integrate the total land development as a part of highway planning. Turner sees no great change in the physical appearance of highways nor in the vehicles that travel them by 1990. The big change will be in how highways are planned, "with increased attention given to social and environmental factors."

A "FANTASTIC FUTURE" is predicted for the nursery industry by Robert F. Lederer, executive vice-president of the American Association of Nurserymen. But it may not be realized by those who continue to "do business in the same old way because 'this is the way we have always done it'." New corporations are entering the industry with new concepts, he told the Allied Horticultural Trades Congress. "They see the tremendous future and are either going to