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WEEDS TREES ET URF.

AUGUST 1977, Vol. 16, No. 8

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SAN FRANCISCO: 615 Montgomery St., San Francisco, CA 94111 (415-982-0110) Robert A. Mierow, Western Manager **12 Conserving Water with Purr-Wick**—This total management system for greens can save you up to 200,000 gallons of water a year.

16 Our 1977 WT&T Awards Committee — Four of the nation's leading turfgrass specialists will assist in the selection of our Outstanding Achievement Award winners.

20 Space-Age Technology for Irrigation Controls — A microprocessor that can handle four, 14-day schedules, is the key to the new solid state controller.

22 Chlordane — What Are the Alternatives? — By fall, Chlordane probably will not be available for use on turfgrass and temporary alternatives will become the norm.

26 Principles of Soil Physical Amendment — Reaching the "threshold" proportion of an amendment is necessary before soil physical improvement is affected.

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ON OUR COVER — A Purr-Wick is installed at Knollwood Golf Club in Granada Hills, California. For the full story, see page 12.

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TO OUR READERS

This week marks my first anniversary as editor of WEEDS TREES & TURF. It has been a most enlightening and enjoyable year, thanks, in large measure, to you.

I have been most fortunate to meet many of you at conventions and conferences and through letters and telephone calls as well as through story assignments. And Assistant Editor Ron Morris and I plan even more travelling in the months ahead.

Morris has just returned from St. Paul and the Sod Producers Association annual meeting. Full coverage will appear in next month's issue. "After the three-day meeting, I felt like I knew a little about the sod business and that the people who knew a lot had learned even more," he says. What more can we say about the success of this record attendance convention.

The Pennsylvania Allied Nursery Trade Show in Hershey was a similar success. We had the pleasure of introducing our new publication, LAWN CARE INDUSTRY, there, which was received most enthusiastically. Many of those who attended from all over the country were regular WEEDS TREES & TURF readers.

On page 12 you'll find the results of another conference in "Conserving water with Purr-Wick." Morris, who wrote the story, met Don Parsons, the enthusiastic and articulate superintendent of Knollwood Golf Course, who has had very successful results with this system following Parsons' presentation at the Turfgrass Sprinkler Irrigation Conference at Lake Arrowhead, Calif. last month. But read the story for yourself.

Drought and what to do about it, was the theme of the meeting. A report of other highlights appears on page 34.

Parsons at Lake Arrowhead

Art Spomer, associate professor of plant pathology in horticulture at the University of Illinois, updates the principles of soil physical amendments on page 26.

Special thanks go out this month to the four men who are assisting us in the selection of winners in the WEEDS TREES & TURF First Annual Outstanding Achievement Awards to be announced next month. They are: Dr. Ray Freeborg, research agronomist at Purdue University; Dr. Henry Indyk, extension specialist in turfgrass management at the College of Agriculture and Environmental Science, Rutgers University; Dr. Fred Grau, executive director, emeritus, of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council, and Dr. David Martin, extension agronomist and assistant professor at Ohio State University. For more about these prominent men in the turfgrass field and more about the awards, please see page 16.

Next we head for Philadelphia for the International Society of Arboriculture Annual Convention, incidentally, covering this convention last year in St. Louis, was my first assignment for WEEDS TREES & TURF. I look forward to seeing many of the friends I met in St. Louis again. If you plan to attend, please stop by the WEEDS TREES & TURF booth. We appreciate your comments.

Yail D. Nogan

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The <u>FIFRA certification amendment</u> of S1678 <u>may be revised</u>. The anticipated revision would provide that <u>EPA would "consult" with state governors</u> in initiating federal applicator certification. As adopted by the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, the amendment would provide for federal <u>certification of</u> applicators only if requested by state governors.

The question of whether the state <u>applicator certification program is proceeding</u> "as envisioned" will be studied by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), under a \$180,000 cooperative agreement with the EPA.

CEQ will let a contract to one of six proposed firms to do the actual study. The <u>evaluation will look at the need for the certification training program "from</u> the standpoint of cost effectiveness, benefit to applicators themselves and to society in general and to clarify the impact of re-registration classification and labeling determinations," according to the interagency agreement.

The evaluation will determine whether training courses, training materials and certification programs need to be improved. Variations in quality between state examinations and the value of continuing education programs as a condition of recertification will also be assessed.

Section 5 experimental use permits issued recently by the EPA included one to the Forest Service for use of 25,460 baits of synthetic beetle pheromone to suppress bark beetles in a Dutch elm disease control program. The program is authorized in Calif., Colo., Conn., Del., D.C., Ill., Mass., Mich., Minn., N.Y., N.C., R.I., S.C., Vt., Va. and Wis. The permit is in effect from May 18, 1977 to May 18, 1978.

<u>A permit was also issued</u> to Aldine Products Co. <u>to allow the use of 1,800 pounds</u> of the fungicide dichlorpohene on trees to evaluate control of Dutch elm disease. That program involves 711 trees in Ill., Ind., Maine, Mich., Ohio, Pa. and Wis.

<u>The EPA's "expedient, but unjust" pesticide hazard evaluation policy "will</u> <u>certainly result in the banning of highly beneficial compounds</u> and uses for which the risk to man is, at best, hypothetical," according to a paper prepared by the <u>National Agricultural Chemicals Association"s (NACA) toxicology committee</u>.

The NACA paper, in summary, had three recommendations for EPA to adopt as solutions to the problems: (1) <u>Publicly acknowledge the inadequacies of the tests</u> for cancer and be willing to defer action when the data are not clear; (2) return the authority for decisions on hazard evaluation to qualified scientists within the agency, being guided by a uniform national cancer assessment policy; and (3) after insuring that the experimental studies were properly done, let the data set the course of action: to permit, to ban or to defer without prejudice."

6 WEEDS TREES & TURF/AUGUST 1977



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Industry News

EPA approves elm disease fungicide

EPA has approved a new fungicide, 'Arbotect' 20-s, for the control of Dutch elm disease.

Manufactured by Merck, Inc., the fungicide is recommended as part of a comprehensive program to combat the disease. According to Dr. Ronald Landis, manager of agricultural chemical development for Merck, the fungicide is helpful in preventing the spread of the disease and can also help control the disease in newly-infected trees, "as long as the disease isn't too far advanced."

Irrigation home study course is published

The Irrigation Association and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln have announced the publication of a new correspondence course on basic irrigation techniques.

The course was developed at the University of Nebraska through a grant from the Irrigation Association. Planning and development, which took two years, was carried out by University personnel working with the Association's correspondence course committee.

For more information write to the Irrigation Association, 13975 Connecticut Ave., Silver Spring, Md. 20906.

Black vine weevil project progresses

First year findings of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center's black vine weevil control program show success in developing techniques designed to discover the life cycle of the insect.

OARDC entomologists also carried out the first stages of insecticide screening aimed at finding replacements for the chlorinated hydrocarbon insecticides.

The goal of the three-year pro-

gram, funded by the Lake County, Ohio Nurserymen's Association and the Ohio Nurserymen's Association, is to provide nurserymen with a black vine weevil control recommendation that is safe and effective. The project is limited to the use of conventional pesticides.

NACA is cited for public relations

The National Agricultural Chemicals Association was named winner of the Public Relations Society of America's Silver Anvil Award for the most outstanding public relations program during 1976 in the public service category.

The national Silver Anvil Awards are presented to public relations programs which demonstrate professional performance, sound public relations objectives and philosophy, and the highest standards of production, presentation, execution and results.

Costle, Bush discuss pesticide problems

EPA Administrator Donald Costle met recently with representatives of agricultural pesticide users, including Ray Brush of AAN. The purpose of the meeting was to express industry concerns, problems and suggestions for improvement. "Specialty use" registration of pesticides, EPA's interpretation that the "label is in the law," and the need for a scientifically-based national cancer policy were among the topics noted by Costle for review.

Scholarship offered for landscape design

The National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. has announced a \$25,000 endowed national scholarship in landscape design in honor of Robert H. Rucker, professor of horticultural sciences at Texas A&M University.

The new Rucker scholarship will be awarded for the first time in May 1978, as the eleventh continuing scholarship provided by the National Council in the amount of \$1-500 each. Students from all states are eligible to compete and a screening committee will make final selections.

OMC to discontinue Pioneer Chain Saws

Outboard Marine Corp. announced that the manufacture of Pioneer Chain Saws will be discontinued when the present production schedule is completed this fall.

OMC President Charles D. Strag said "in this increasingly competitive price market, we have determined that it is unlikely that we can achieve sufficient volume to generate adequate earnings."

Sales of chain saws and parts constituted only 3.3 percent, or \$19,-108,000 of OMC's 1976 total sales of \$582 million, and the company has reported losses from chain saw operations in most of its recent years.

Canadian firm OK'd for Toro production

Toro has licensed Outdoor Product Mfg. Ltd., a subsidiary of NOMA Industries, Ltd., of Scarborough, Ontario, to manufacture for the Canadian market selected Toro products.

The licensing agreement was announced by John C. Norton, Toro executive vice president-international/distributing, and in Toronto by Thomas Beck, NOMA's president and chief executive officer. NOMA Industries, Canada's largest manufacturer of flexible wire products, acquired Outdoor Products Mfg. three years ago.

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The Associated Landscape Contractors of America's new Executive Director is John S. Shaw. Shaw holds a B.A. degree in design from Wesleyan University, did graduate work at George Washington University, and holds a M.B.A. degree in association management from Florida Atlantic University. He is general manager of the Screen Printing Association, International in Vienna, Va.

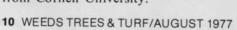
B. Cleve Larson is the president of Oregon Toro Distributors of Tigard, Ore. Larson, formerly vice president and marketing manager, has been with Oregon Toro two years. He holds a B.A. degree cum laude from Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash.He also holds an M.A. with honor from the University of Washington.

William G. Adams is the 26th president of the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association. He operates Adams Citrus Nursery in Florida. Adams received the Butler-Odenkirk Award for Outstanding nurserymen of the year in 1975.

Sam Terry has been promoted to branch manager of the Little Rock distribution center at Thompson-Hayward Chemical Co. Terry will be responsible for the sale and administration of the company's complete line of products. He has been with Thompson-Hayward for 11 ½ years.

Joseph A. Dietrich has retired after thirty years as Director of Parks and Recreation for the city of Greenwich, Conn. Dietrich was past president of the New England Parks and Recreation Association and also of the International Shade Tree Conference.

Dr. Roy Mecklenburg has been appointed president of the Chicago Horticultural Society and director of the Chicago Botanical Gardens. Mecklenburg is currently professor of landscape horticulture at Michigan State University. He holds a B.S. degree from Michigan State and an M.S. and Ph.D. from Cornell University.





Adams









Simpson



Terry

F.J. Calderoni has been promoted to manager of market research in the agricultural chemical division of Stauffer Chemical Co. He will be responsible for coordinating divisional market research activities for new and existing agricultural products and services. Calderoni has been with Stauffer since 1968.

Dr. O.V. Simpson has been appointed to senior market analyst and A.G. Cvetkov has been promoted to market analyst in the agricultural chemical division of Stauffer Chemical Co. Simpson is responsible for the review and analysis of market potential for new and existing agricultural products, practices and services. Cvetkov is responsible for examining and evaluating pertinent market information relative to agricultural products.

Douglas J. Bell is assistant sales manager in charge of customer service and sales administration for Melnor Industries of Moonachie, N.J. He has attended Rutgers University and Paterson State College, majoring in business administration.

Amchem Products has appointed **Jerry D. Lavoy** associate national program director for Growth Regulators. He will work with Amchem's domestic and international field development groups and be responsible for projects relating to plant growth regulating compounds.

James D. Moore is Chevron Chemical's new manufacturing manager of the ORTHO Division. He will be responsible for manufacturing of domestic fertilizer, pesticides and insecticides in five U.S. plants. Moore has been with Chevron 36 years.

Dan Dunstan has been elected Secretary of Lakeshore Equipment and Supply. Credit manager for Lakesore for about two years, Dunstan holds a degree in accounting from Ohio State University. John Horvath will serve in the newly-created position of advertising and public relations manager for Lakeshore.