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GREEN INDUSTRY NEWS

Gypsy Moth Heightens Attack on Northeast Trees . . . Soil Scientists Studies Mt. St. Helens Ash . . . First Roadside Management Program Set For San Antonio . . . Nurserymen To Stress Togetherness in 80's at Annual Convention . . . CIMA Proposes Anti-Theft Equipment Training.

FEATURES

Arborists Remain Unphased by Slowing of Economy

Worry does not fit the mood of members of the National Arborist Association, even in the midst of work cut-backs. They discuss what adjustments they have made, if any, for the "so-called recession." 16

Good Herbicide Program Involves Many Factors

To obtain year-round weed control, keen observation and knowledge of environmental conditions are both important. Dr. Thomas Fretz deals with weather, soil, and timing. 20

SEED — TURF MANAGEMENT SERIES, PART 1

The first part of our series covers the progress of the seed industry and those involved that made it the thriving business it is today. 21

Yews Make Regal Addition to a Landscape

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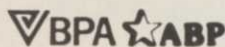
Cover: Bentgrass seed in hourglass represents past and future of the turfgrass seed market.



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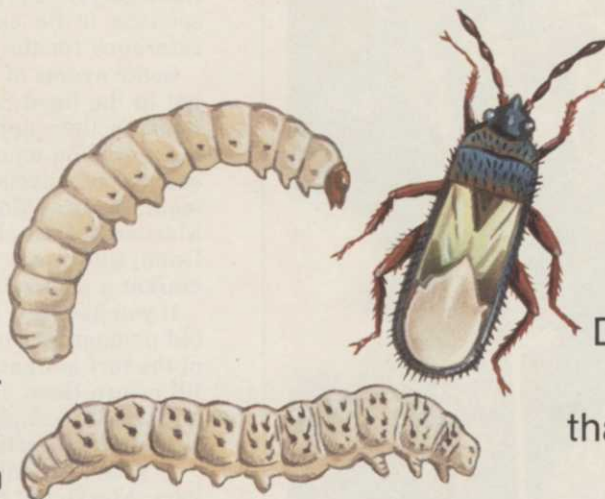
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OUTLOOK

By Bruce F. Shank, Editor

The editorial staff would like to express its gratitude for the tremendous cooperation of many turf industry principals during the construction of the Seed Section in this issue. Without them the section would have been the same as past coverage of the seed market, showing only the surface of this complex and interesting group of people.

We welcome any remarks on the Seed Section, or any part of the magazine, and intend to make any necessary corrections to the Section before it is put into book form with the next five parts of the Turf Management Series. We want everything in these sections to be accurate and endure as a future reference for the industry.

Some events of historical significance which are not in the Seed Section will appear in future sections as they apply more directly. For example, there will be more on USGA, GCSAA, ASPA, and our valued specialists in the area of turf management, such as Engel, Watson, Indyke, Kneebone, Mascaro, Daniel, Beard, Turgeon, Shearman, Dunn, and many others who have made the turf market a sophisticated and respected one.

If you have any historical information to relate or old photographs of events significant to the growth of the turf market, please contact me or send them. I'll return them as soon as the project is complete and credit each photo used in the cutline. Everyone is invited to participate in this history.

A special thanks goes to Fred Grau of College Park, Maryland. He is an amazing source of information and he has lived each major event of the turf market for more than 50 years. Weeds Trees & Turf and Harvest Publishing Co. have made a matching gift to the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation in Fred's name. It is very likely that much of the royalties from the book will go to turf research via the Fred V. Grau Turfgrass Fellowship Fund.

Please read the Seed Section and send any comments or suggestions to Bruce Shank, Weeds Trees & Turf, 9800 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, OH 44102. I'll contact you for more information.

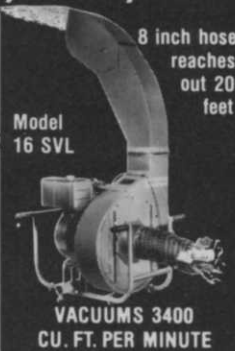
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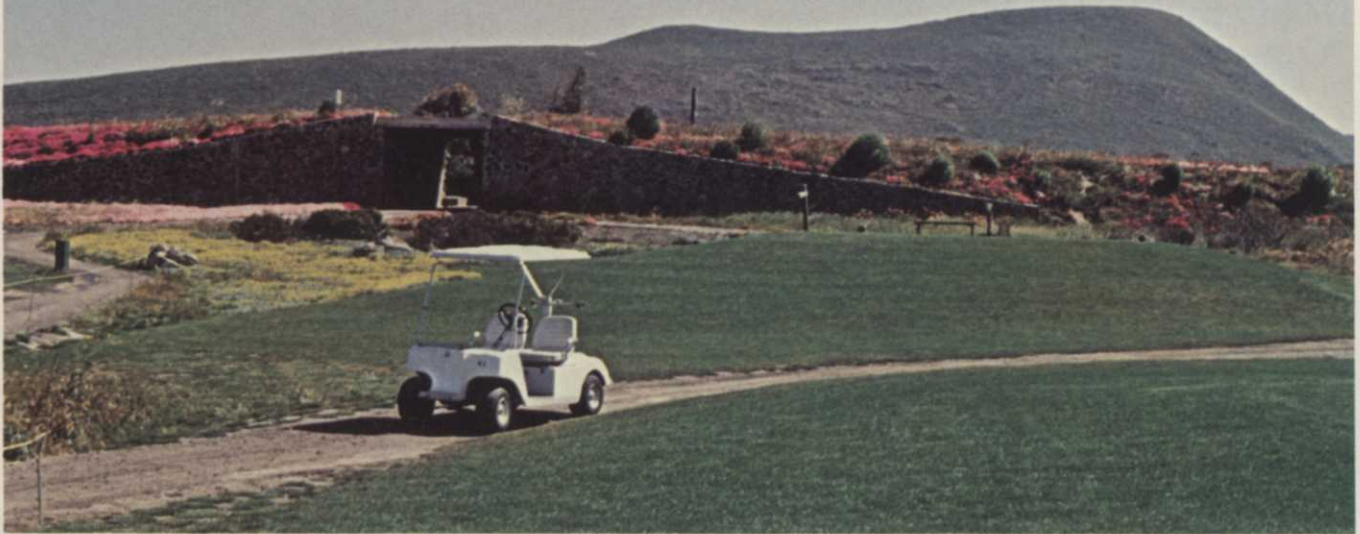
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GREEN INDUSTRY NEWS

PESTS

Gypsy moth plagues Northeast trees

The gypsy moth and other types of caterpillars are wrecking havoc on oaks, poplars, and fruit trees in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Long Island, and parts of Pennsylvania and New York.

In areas of severe infestation, the pests are defoliating or greatly reducing the vigor of trees. Entomologists say that if the problem continues through this summer and next, they expect to see high losses of trees.

Joe Savage, an entomologist with the Nassau County Cooperative Extension, says that three years of defoliation expose trees to severe winter damage. After this three years, 80 percent of a healthy stand of trees will die in five to eight years. For trees in poor health, 80 percent will die in three to five years.

Savage says that the past mild winter did not kill a great number of the pests. Others blame the problem on a peak in the cyclical caterpillar population and restrictions on spraying pesticides.

In northeast Connecticut, scientists have found 10,000 egg masses per acre. Towns in other parts of the state have reported infestations, with no pattern of location, except that many have come from western Connecticut. One indicator of their preference may be the type of native trees. Gypsy moth caterpillars feed primarily on oak, poplar, willow, apple, speckled alder, basswood, and gray and river birch.

In Nassau County, one resident heard caterpillars dropping from trees one night "like hailstones falling." A Massachusetts resident, driven from his home, said the caterpillars poured from old poplar trees "like water from a faucet."

The eastern tent caterpillar and fall canker worm have also ravaged foliage, but these have about completed their feeding.

Although the problem is not as bad as 1971, when 600,000 acres were defoliated by the gypsy moth and elm span worm, it is more serious than last year, says Ken Welsh, assis-

tant entomologist for the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven.

Welsh answers calls daily on the pest and provides information to homeowners. It is too late to begin spraying trees, but he suggests a

band of wax paper or sticky material like tar paper to keep the caterpillars off or stop them from spreading. Yet there is nothing to prevent the wind blowing caterpillars from an infested to uninfested area.

SOIL

Volcanic ash fair as soil, poor fertilizer

Mt. St. Helens volcanic ash "might not be too bad" as a soil material, a University of Idaho soil scientist says.

Dr. Denny Naylor, professor of soil science, said results of first analysis of ash samples showed it to be high in sulfur and potassium and medium in phosphorus. The material also has a small amount of nitrate-ammonia nitrogen, around 10 parts per million.

He said the nitrogen content was a surprise as was the amount of chloride and sulfate salts of sodium, potassium, calcium, and magnesium. While the salt content is not high, there is enough to make the material "a pretty good electrical conductor." Salts of calcium and magnesium

make up most of the salt compounds in the ash, and the sodium content is low.

Meanwhile, specialists at the U.S. Department of Agriculture have begun gathering reports from federal, state, and local officials in the state of Washington to coordinate emergency programs for farmers and others affected by Mt. St. Helens' eruption.

Nursery growers may apply for disaster loans from the Farmers Home Administration or Small Business Administration (either, not both). Landscape and retail firms should apply to SBA. The area must be declared a disaster area to receive federal assistance.



The first ride on the Excel 261 mower occurred this May at the company's Optimistic Day in Hesston, KS. About 350 people attended the plant tours and equipment demonstrations. The 261 sports a three-way deck with side discharge, rear discharge, and mulching modes.