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#### News from page 14

75 percent green-goods display. The association has agreed to pay the present 25 stockholders \$60,000 plus a booth credit in the show for the next four vears.

FNGA's executive vice president, Charles W. Dunn, said that the exposition will offer the association's foliage division a vehicle to promote its Florida product further. "The production of some of the world's finest foliage is based in Florida," he said. "These growers need to expand markets and seize every opportunity to develop new ones."

#### RESEARCH

#### Study on California's use of pesticides

California, the nation's leading agricultural state, is also its leading user of pesticides, reports Security Pacific National Bank in a study, "California Agriculture." The study shows that in 1979 the state used an estimated 139 million pounds of pesticides, which included more than 118 million pounds used for agricultural purposes.

Vernon M. Crowder, assistant vice president of the bank's research department, says, "California has regulated pesticide usage for more than 40 years." He emphasizes that many of these pesticides are nontoxic, and that the last recorded death from pesticide usage involving an agricultural worker occurred in 1972.

California growers, says Crowder, also use a variety of "natural" means of control, such as weather, irrigation, crop rotation, natural predators, selection of resistant plant varieties, sex attractants, and the introduction of sterile male pests.

New regulations governing the use of pesticide will increase the costs of the state's agricultural industry. "Ultimately," says Crowder, "the added financial burden would fall on the consumer-either at the checkout stand in the market or on the tax bill." He reports that California growers also are concerned that freedom to use pesticides when needed is essential to the production of reasonably priced, high quality food products.

#### CONFERENCE

#### Annual weed control conference held

The North Central Weed Control Conference elected new officers recently at its 35th annual gathering in

Omaha, Nebraska, James D. DiVall of Stauffer Chemical Co. was elected second vice president; James W. Herron, University of Kentucky, agronomy department, was named president; and Robert L. Benson, Monsanto Co., became first vice president.

The conference's two keynote speakers lauded the accomplishments of weed scientists during the past decade, but said they need to be more active in public affairs in order to meet the challenges of the '80s.

Will D. Carpenter, president of the Weed Science Society of America, urged his audience "to work toward responsible regulations-not no regulations. If you choose not to become involved, you can be assured that others will," he warned. He said that although research and development professionals have little control over inflation, the declining food supply, the decreasing availability of resources, and the political environment, they need to be active in public issues which affect agriculture.

G.F. Warren, professor emeritus of Ohio State University, reviewed developments in herbicides and biological weed control during the '70s. Reduced tillage to conserve moisture and reduce soil erosion has grown popular, he said. But finding ways to control resistant weed species continues to be a problem.

The speakers mentioned two new trends in weed science personnel: many noted scientists who began their careers in the World War II era will retire in the 1980s, and more women are choosing careers in weed science than a decade ago.

#### **CONFERENCE**

#### Turfgrass meeting draws huge crowd

The Ohio Turfgrass Conference and Show, held December 2-4 at the Ohio Center in Columbus, drew a record number of 1,745 people from 34 states.

Some 85 show exhibitors, representing fertilizer, seed, and equipment companies, chemical firms, irrigation specialists, and even a computer company, filled all 180 booth spaces.

The keynote speaker at the opening session, Dr. Roger Blackwell, professor of marketing at Ohio State University, spoke on "Changing Consumer Lifestyles: Implications for the Turfgrass Industry." The educational program was split into concurrent sessions on golf courses and on professional lawn

Continues on page 86

#### **Embark® Plant Growth Regulator Distributor Locations**

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Moyer Chemical Co. San Jose Santa Ana Target Chemical Co.

Cerritos San Jose Van Waters and

Rogers San Jose Los Angeles San Diego Wilbur-Ellis Co.

Chula Vista Santa Fe Springs Fresno Woodland

Colorado

Balcom Chemical Inc. Greenley

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Souther Agricultural Insecticides, Inc. Palmetto

Georgia

Regal-Chemical Co. Alpharetta

Illinois

Chicago Toro Drake-Scruggs Equip. Inc. Decatur Turf Products, Ltd. West Chicago

Indiana

The Daltons Inc. Warsaw

Big Bear Equipment Des Moines Davenport

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Kentucky

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### TWO GREAT GAMES ONE GREAT GRASS

Super Bowl XIV and the Rose Bowl classic were the great games. The turf? That was Derby Turf-type perennial ryegrass.

Derby was selected by George Toma, the man responsible for the Super Bowl XIV turf and Gus Huntly, turf manager for the Rose Bowl game, because of the special requirements for these special games.

Toma and Huntly wanted a fast-germinating, dark-green, handsome grass as well as one tough enough to take a pounding and still look great for the television cameras:

And Derby did it all. Of course, it will do more. It mows beautifully and thrives when cut at 1½ inches or at 3/16 inch on golf greens. In Southern areas it's a top choice for winter overseeding of golf greens.

Derby is also a great mixer, combining with the fine fescues and bluegrasses to form an outstanding turf.

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#### 2,4-D from page 52

peated. Reproductive studies were done intensively and an EPA advisory report said that it could show no effective levels that are higher than human exposure. These are justifiable things. It's impossible to prove a negative, that 2,4-D is not harmful. Studies can't always define every situation. You have to study the benefits of continued use to see if they outweigh any contradictory evidence. I'd rather see any contradictory evidence. I'd rather see the old experience that is proven more than something newer, not as well tested. The city parks department has been using 2,4-D for 25 years without complaint.

WTT: Do you think medical evidence may show that the child (Zachary) was affected by the spraying of

2.4-D?

**R G H:** There's no reason to believe this. It is generally accepted that the applicator is the most likely person to be the most exposed. No correlation has been observed previously of this type of symptom. Nothing in scientific literature lends credibility to the father's claim. The doctor claimed the child had a history of these types of seizures. A neurologist testified at the hearings that there was no correlation between the child's history and 2,4-D. It occurred in an uncontrolled situation; there is no way to control the circumstances. The family hasn't given medical evidence to confirm or deny the accusations. All you have to go by is the parent's opinion that this seizure had to do with the use across the street at the park.

WTT: What do you think will happen to this issue in the

future'

RGH: I have no idea. In this city because of liberal politics, the tendency for an emotional reaction that's traditionally taken place — anything is possible. The health director wanted stoppage of the use of all herbicides. This wasn't based on any data, but on his own emotional concerns. He didn't talk to anyone about herbicide chemistry.

Nationwide, many people and organizations are trying to stop the use of any type of pesticides. They wish to go back to organic farming, and are anti-technology. Many are very well meaning. It is their privilege to have these beliefs. Based on these feelings, their basic philosophy is to raise the 2,4-D question in every town hall, county commission, and school hall — to get the word "herbicide" in the press as much as possible to raise the excitement of the public.

I believe logic will prevail; decisions will be made on scientific review and analysis. I sure hope this is the case. Otherwise, the future of the country is in trouble. There's no guarantee that there won't be some discovery of a hazard with 2,4-D or anything. Who knows what will come along? I hope whatever happens is based on scientific review, not on emotional, unscientific data.



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Actual Size

service and grounds maintenance. Among the speakers were Dr. Roy Goss of Washington State University, who talked about "Fertility Programs and Other Methods of Annual Bluegrass Management," and Dr. Win Hock of Pennsylvania State University, who discussed "Pesticide Spills." On the last morning, there was a third session—a disease and insect identification workshop.

At a business meeting, Mark Yoder was elected president and Dick Warner became president-elect. Tom Baker was elected vice president, and Gary Rasor is the new treasurer.

The Banquet Guest Speaker was Wayne Woodrow "Woody" Hayes, who served for 28 years as head football coach at Ohio State University. Hayes reviewed the history of Ohio State football, which he related to political history, concluding "That's the way the ball bounces."

The "Man of the Year" Award for Professional Excellence was presented to Wilbur Waters. He recently retired as superintendent of Inverness Golf Club in Sylvania, Ohio, and had been associated with the golf course business for 54 years.

#### CONFERENCE

#### Maryland turf group meets in Baltimore

Some 600 people attended the Maryland Turfgrass Council's Educational Conference & Trade Show at the new Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Maryland, on January 5-7.

Several out-of-state speakers delivered talks, including Dr. Harry Niemczyk of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, whose subject was the absorption of insecticides by thatch. He told how to control chinch bugs and billbugs with one application of insecticides during the spring.

Two speakers discussed the severe drought and practical ways to conserve water. Dr. Jack Butler of Colorado State University talked about managing water with limited quantity and quality. Dr. Al Dudeck of the University of Florida spoke on water management problems and related research in Florida.

Dr. Tom Watschke of Pennsylvania State University covered the subject of growth regulators for turfgrass, including their current use and the potential for in-depth research at the university.

Mr. J. M. Jalone of J. M. Malone & Sons talked about aquatic vegetation and control with a hybrid white amur. This fish, a type of carp developed by breeding, controls weeds and cannot reproduce. Thus, it does not stifle native species, and efforts are being made to legalize its use.

#### **PARKS**

### Park Service halts use of 2,4-D

The National Park Service is suspending the use of the herbicide 2,4-D in its 325 parks and recreation areas.

A park spokesman said that the action stems from pressure from environmental groups, which claim adverse reaction to the weed killer. Dow Chemical, a major manufacturer of 2,4-D, says that in 30 years of marketing there has been "absolutely no problem associated with the chemical." EPA in its study of the chemical has said the evidence of adverse health effects is inconclusive and they have no plans to ban it.

#### LEGISLATION

#### Congress extends mower deadline

Congress has granted mower manufacturers a six-month extension to comply with the Consumer Product Safety Commission safety standard for walkbehinds. The action delays the effective date to June 30, 1982.

The extension is part of the CPSC appropriations measure, which is part of a larger bill including the Department of Housing & Urban Development. It was proposed by Rep. Lawrence Coughlin (R-Pa.), ranking minority member of the House appropriations subcommittee, and strongly supported by Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wisc.), chairman of the Senate subcommittee.

#### **PUBLICATION**

### Free copies available of restoration news

Free copies of the first issue of Restora-Continues on page 90

Does the condition of your turf make you see red?

Switching to Pennfine Perennial Ryegrass could color your outlook. It's long been the standard of quality against which other varieties are compared. Why not simplify your life? Go with the most widely used fine-leafed perennial ryegrass in the nation. By the way, if you have trouble finding Pennfine, just ask the turf pro with the best-looking turf around. Chances are he's already using it. Pennfine Perennial Ryegrass, P.O. Box 923, Minneapolis, MN 55440

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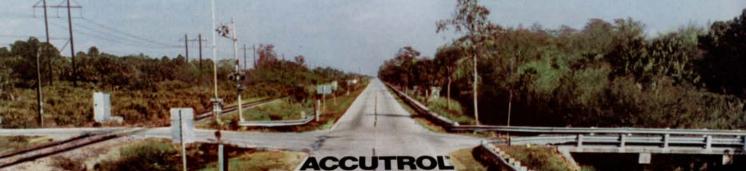
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A 4-lb. dicamba formulation.

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#### Robert J. Gates, chief of field operations, Southwest Florida Water Management District.

Robert Gates and the Water Management District have been using Banvel Industrial Herbicides for over five years: "Alligator weed and pennywort are real problems in navigation work, we control 'em with Banvel 720. We also maintain our recharge areas, and it works beautifully there, too. Banvel 720 works on hardwoods and softwoods, where 2,4-D would only be effective on one species. The favorable ecological impact is another important reason for using Banvel 720. Without the Banvel, we would have some serious problems."



#### John (Jack) Bogle, President of the R. H. Bogle Company, Alexandria, Virginia.

The R. H. Bogle Company has been a pioneer in the control of brush along railroads: "We've been using Banvel products for the last six or seven years. Today, we're using Banvel 720 as a general brush killer. Also to spot treat woody plants, such as pines. Banvel 720 also has an aquatic label in eleven southern states. So it gives us the flexibility to spray along ditches. And it's at least as good, if not a little better on price with other herbicides. For mixed brush control, Banvel 720 is highly efficient."



#### M. L. Bugh, landscape architect, Indiana State Highway Commission. maintenance division.

M. L. Bugh has worked closely with Purdue University to develop a strong, affordable weed control program for Indiana highways. He's been specifying Banvel 720 and Banvel 4-W.S. since 1975: "Economy is a major factor when we consider a weed control program. But we look as much at performance as at cost. Banvel 720 combines the best of both. Two applications of Banvel look like four of 2,4-D. And, applied the right way, Banvel is as safe to the environment as any other chemical we've used."

These industrial vegetation control specialists get all they ask for with the Banvel line of products. Shouldn't you? Contact your Velsicol salesman and see how Banvel industrial herbicides can work for you.

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tion and Management Notes, a new publication from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum, will be available to interested persons on request.

The publication, to be made up mostly of short notices dealing with the techniques and principles of restoring and managing communities of native plants and animals, is intended to encourage communication between resemi-natural areas.

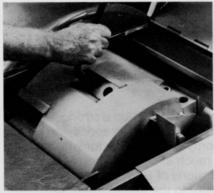
To obtain a copy, contact WR Jordan, III, The University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum, 1207 Seminole Highway, Madison, WI 53711, 608/ 263-7888.

searchers, managers, naturalists, landowners, and others involved in the active conservation of natural and

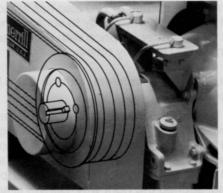


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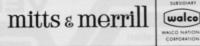


Staggered knife pattern, for years a Mitts & Merrill feature, has always resulted in a lower noise level. First, by segmenting the noise source. Second, through smoother cutting action. Third, by producing smaller chips.



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#### **PLANTS**

#### **Perlite Institute** offers plant guide

The Perlite Institute has announced publication of a two-page plant guide for the use of lime on plants susceptible to fluoride.

The guide, prepared by Dr. Raymond Sheldrake, states that when limestone is added to a soil mix, the amount of fluoride in the plant leaves and soil solution decreases. Copies of Perlite Plant Guide Number 1 may be obtained from Perlite Institute, Inc., 45 West 45 Street, New York, NY 10036.

#### Golf Show from page 8

Kurtz, and plant selection for the golf course by Dow Garden horticulturist Douglas Chapman. The United States Golf Association program on the final day discussed balancing quality with economy on the golf course.

One of the highlights of the research session was Dr. Noel Jackson's tracking of the turf disease Ophiobolus patch in the East. More cases are being reported in that area, especially with Penncross bentgrass. Bluegrass and ryegrass tend to move in where bentgrass has been weakened by the disease. The disease causes patches up to five feet in diameter after a few years of no control. Jackson said pH and moisture control and use of another bentgrass can help curb the spread of the disease. The disease was first noticed in turf in the Pacific Northwest where it is commonly found on cereal crops.

Dr. Houston Couch compared the phytotoxic conditions of the various systemic fungicides for turf. Couch warned that these compounds can accumulate in the soil and reach harmful levels. Common bluegrass and ryegrass are least sensitive to damage by systemic fungicides. Bentgrasses and Merion Kentucky bluegrass have exhibited higher susceptibility to dam-

Dr. Bob Kneebone from the University of Arizona provided a comprehensive study of turf water needs. Although subirrigation reduces evaporative loss it does not provide the necessary leaching out of salts required in many dry areas. Kneebone said evaporation rates can be reduced by changes in cutting height and texture, increasing infiltration rates of the soil, and se-

Continues on page 92