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7659B

Qualifying for Pesticide Applicator Certification

By ROBERT L. MESECHER Staff Assistant, Plant Industry Division Michigan Department of Agriculture

The Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act (FEPCA) of 1972 substantially amends the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) of 1947. FIFRA was administered by the United States Department of Agriculture until authority was transferred to the Environmental Protection Agency in 1970.

The 1972 amendments extend Federal controls to the actual application of pesticides by the user by regulating intrastate as well as interstate marketing of pesticide products. FEPCA provides for pesticides to be classified for general use or restricted use. It further provides that private applicators and commercial applicators who use restricted pesticides be certified. To be certified an applicator must demonstrate practical knowledge of the safe use of chemicals, proper operation of equipment, the effects of his applications of pesticides upon the environment. and applicable Federal and State laws.

A private applicator is defined as a person using or supervising the use of restricted pesticides to produce an agricultural commodity on property owned by him or his employer, or (if applied without compensation other than trading services) on the property of another person. Any applicator not meeting the definition of a private applicator is considered to be a commercial applicator.

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The 1972 law extends to the states the authority to certify applicators, register pesticides, and initiate programs designed to meet their local needs. In order to assure that Michigan's farmers and the pesticide industry of this state will continue to

have access to commonly used pesticides, it was necessary to change our pesticide legislation to conform with FEPCA.

Michigan's pesticide proposed legislation requires any person who uses a restricted use pesticide to be certified as does the Federal law. It further provides that any commerical applicator engaged in the business of applying pesticides must be certified whether that applicator uses restricted pesticides or not. The state law also requires dealers who sell restricted use pesticides to be licensed. Further controls over restricted use pesticides have been enacted which limit the sales of these materials to certified applicators.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture submitted proposed legislation to the Governor for introduction in the 1975 legislative session. The bill was introduced June 3, 1975 by representative Bela Kennedy as HB 5310. The bill passed the House with no dissenting votes and was referred to the Senate Committee of Consumers and Agriculture. Unless there are serious amendments to the bill in the Senate, passage is anticipated early in the 1976 legislative session.

The FEPCA mandates that states desiring to certify applicators submit a State Plan to EPA giving details of how they plan to certify applicators. The state plan must assure that the State has, or will have, enabling legislation, qualified personnel, and devote adequate funds for implementing

Effective people are solution finders. They go after facts, find them, then use their imagination to come up with positive answers.

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certification. The state plan must contain a detailed description of the certification procedure to be used and conform to the standards of competency prescribed by the administrator. The States standards oc competency may equal or exceed, but in no case be less than the standards set forth in the federal regulations.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture has submitted an approvable plan for certifying applicators to the Region V EPA administrator requesting approval contingent upon passage of the enabling legislation. The State Plan submitted has adopted the 10 major categories and corresponding standards of competency set forth in the federal regulations plus three sub-categories under agriculture. The three sub-categories are Field Crop Pest Control, Vegetable Crop Pest Control, and Fruit Crop Pest Control. In addition, the state will require additional standards of competency for applicators engaged in aerial application or space fumigation.

The Department has been working through the present interagency pesticide advisory committee with Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service in developing training materials to assist applicators in becoming certified. The training materials will consist of a core manual for private applicators and a core manual for commercial applicators, plus unit manuals for each of the categories. The manuals will be autotutorial, or self-teaching, and contain a study guide to assist the applicator in studying. This system of preparing for certification is believed to be more practical than attending classroom training sessions. It allows the person

to study at his own pace and eliminates the inconvenience of attending formal training sessions.

The training manuals are in various stages of development but are expected to be ready for distribution between July and September of 1976. Private applicator manuals will be made available at each of the County Extension offices and the six Regional offices of the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Commercial applicator manuals will be available only from the Regional offices of the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Competence in the safe handling and use of pesticides will be determined by written examination. Private applicators will be examined at various locations and dates to be determined at a later time. A certification packet will be distributed with the manuals and contain an application form, fee receipt card, and a sheet of instructions for completing the form. A list of examination sites will be included in the packet. When the applicator feels ready to take the examination he must submit the application form, \$10.00 certification fee and the fee receipt card to the Department of Agriculture. The fee receipt card will be returned and advise him of the examination site and date. The fee receipt card will serve as identification authorizing him to take the examination. Upon successful completion of the examination the applicator will be provided with a certification card authorizing purchase of restricted use the pesticides. Commercial applicators will make application in the same manner, however, examinations will be scheduled by appointment and

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administered in the Regional offices.

Congress recently passed HR 8841 further amending FIFRA in various respects and extending the deadlines for full implementation to October 21. 1977. We don't know at this time what impact these amendments will have on our pending legislation, although it is anticipated that HB 5310 will take immediate effect when it is passed. Language in the bill will allow commercial applicators currently licensed under existing law to continue operating until the expiration of the licensing period. Certification of commercial applicators will be required at the beginning of the 1977 licensing year if the proposed legislation is passed. Certification for private applicators will be available during the winter of 1976 and 1977 and be mandatory by October 1977.

One of the amendments to FIFRA is a self-certification provision for private applicators. The term selfcertification is misleading and entails much more than the farmer signing his name to an affirmation form that he is competent. The language of the amendment provides for the administrator to assure that such form contains adequate information and affirmations to carry out the intent of the act. The reading that we get from EPA is that a self-certification system for private applicators and proposed by a State will require mandatory training. In consort with the Interagency Pesticide Advisory Committee and the Cooperative Extension Service we are planning to continue with the examination system for private applicators.

I have tried to give an overview of the coming applicator certification program resulting from the mandate of congress. I realize my observations have been brief and will entertain any questions at this time.

As empty vessels make the loudest sound, so they that have the least wit are the greatest babblers. – *Plato*



Maples method for measuring greens

By PALMER MAPLES, Jr., C.G.C.S. The Standard Club, Atlanta, Georgia

Greens Superintendents can get into serious difficulties if they do not apply proper and specific amounts of seed, fertilizer and fungicides to their greens. In order to apply proper amounts, however, they must know the exact square footage to which the items will be applied.

My method of calculating the greens area is easy and accurate. Materials required are a two-foot square of plywood, a 100-foot tape, and some graph paper.

A large circle is drawn on the board and marked at 10-degree intervals. A small screw in the center acts as a measuring point. Four small nails through the corners of the board will help hold it in place on the green. The board is placed near the center of the green with 0 degrees pointing to the rear of the green and 180 degrees and pointing toward the fairway.

The tape is placed on the center screw and a measure is made to the edge of the green over the 0 degrees mark and recorded. Next a measure is made over the 10 degrees mark to the edge of the green and recorded. This procedure is repeated at each 10 degrees interval, giving a total of 36 measurements.

If desirable, permanent sprinkler

heads can be located and mapped by measuring to them and estimating the degree of their measuring line.

Measurements for each green are then recorded on graph paper, either 8 or 10 square graph paper does well.

A small circle is drawn in the middle of the graph paper with marks at 10 degree intervals, the same as the large circle on the board. Using the proper scale (1" equal 10 ft. or 1" equal 16 ft.) measure from the center of the circle in a line with each 10 degree mark and make a dot at the recorded distance.

After all measurements are recorded by dots on the graph paper, a line is drawn connecting the dots. This forms a true outline of the green. This outline could be used to record drain lines and cup positions.

To determine the area of the green, add the 36 measurements and divide the total by 36 to get an average of the measurements. This average figure is then multiplied by itself to get its square. This figure is then multiplied by 3.1416 and the answer is the total square feet in the green.

Example: 1. Sum of 36 measurements 1,440 ft. 2. 1,440 divided by 36 equals 40 ft. average. 3. 40 X 40 equals 1600 Sq. Ft.

4. 1600 X 3.1416 equals 5026.56 Sq. Ft.



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A Word of Caution

From the BULL SHEET, August 1976

It will be recalled by some superintendents that when plastic PVC pipe began being used in golf course water distribution systems some 20 vears ago, it gave considerable trouble by joints pulling apart and pin hole leaks appearing in the wall of the pipe. This all happened even when the pipe was "snaked" in the trench to allow for pipe movement due to temperature changes. In some instances the trench was not back filled until the cool of the evening, the idea being to bring the pipe material to a minimum of contraction due to a reduction in temperature. Despite all of these precautions there were some colossal plastic pipe failures and this type of pipe was outlawed for several years on Chicago golf courses; however, numerous investigations eventually proved that the trouble did not lie with the pipe, instead it was traced to the method in which the pipe was installed.

It should be borne in mind that PVC pipe has a thermal expansion, or contraction, of 2" per 100 ft. per 50 degree F change in temperature. This indicates that if a 50 degree F temperature change takes place in 1000 ft. of PVC pipe in the winter time, this length of pipe would be 20 inches shorter. This contraction makes the pipe pull apart or stretch the walls so they become weakened and produce pin hole leaks.

In those early days the PVC pipe was fabricated with solvent welded joints and no provision was made for pipe movement due to temperature changes. Today's method of installation is to fabricate the pipe in 20 ft. lengths with push-on joints, each joint acts as an expansion joint, this has eliminated the troubles we encountered in former years.

In view of all the above. I am apprehensive of some recent construction methods where the plastic pipe is being pulled into the fairways. In order to do this the pipe must be fabricated with solvent weld joints for the modern push-on joint cannot be used. In other words, no provision is being made for movement due to temperature changes. ARE WE HEADING BACK FOR THE SAME TROUBLE WE RAN INTO 20 YEARS AGO BY PERMITTING PIPE TO BE PULLED INTO THE FAIRWAYS?

C. E. (Scotty) Stewart Homewood, Illinois

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SULPHUR The forgotten turf nutrient

By ROGER A. BROWN, Sales Manager The Andersons, Lawn Fertilizer Section Maumee, Ohio

During the years 1957 through 1962 only 10 to 13 states were listed as having a Sulfur deficiency in their soils. Today there are at least 29 states deficient in this amazing life giving element.

Sulfur is essential to the healthy growth of turf as well as all plants. Here are some of Sulfur's benefits to turf.

1. Improves water penetration in soil.

2. Increases availability of iron, manganese, copper, zinc, and boron to the plant.

3. Improves soil structure.

4. Builds healthy protoplasm and plant tissue to help resist drought, disease and winter damage. 5. Enhances color.

6. Promotes turf growth and density.

7. Aids the turf response when used in combination with nitrogen.

in combination with introgen.

Helps keep alkalinity in balance.
Aids nitrogen release from organic matter.

10. Improves recuperation capacity.

WHY IS THERE AN INCREASED NEED FOR SULFUR NOW?

Substantial amounts of sulfur used to be in the air because of coal burning home furnaces. Sulfur would be carried to the soil and plants by rain. During the 50's as much as 200 lbs. of sulfur per acre would be included in the annual rainfall in the Chicago area while the rural areas of Kentucky only

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RHODIA INC. AGRICULTURAL DIVISION Monmouth Junction, New Jersey 08852



received 5 or 6 lbs. of Sulfur per acre annually.

Today, because of very little sulfur coal burning and environmental controls eliminating sulfur emissions the amount of sulfur returned to the soil in rainfall has been practically eliminated.

Before the popularity of today's high analysis plant food, most fertilizer had a high concentration of sulfur contributed by ingredients, such as ammonium sulfate, superphosphate, potassium sulfate, sul-po-mag. But because of lower costs and greater availability, higher analysis sources of nutrients are used containing little or no sulfur. As a consequence, two of the most important sources of sulfur that have been washed out of the air by rain and a normal ingredient in fertilizer have almost been eliminated.

The sulfur present in the soil is eventually used up or leached out. The more nitrogen used the more sulfur is Continued on Page 16

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Potash works to toughen the grass, giving the turf healthy and hardy leaves that can better withstand the cold winter weather. Potash also helps your fairways resist disease problems such as dollar spot and brown spot. A soil test in the late summer or early fall will determine if your fairways lack this vital nutrient. And if they do, USS Vertagreen Fall Fairway Fertilizer is the answer because it's formulated with primary nutrients specifically for your area.

(USS)

Fall Fairway Fertilize:

Vertagreen

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See your Vertagreen distributor

USS

Agri-Chemicals Division of United States Steel P.O. Box 1685, Atlanta, Ga. 30301

Sulphur Cont.

needed for proper turf growth. Depleted sulfur must be replenished or severe turf damage can result. Here is a list of sulfur sources.

Sulfur Carriers	Average fertilizer and sulfur content	
Elemental Sulfur	N-P-K-S 0-0-099	
Sulfur Coated Urea	32-0-0-24	
Ammonium Sulfate	21-0-0-24	
Ferrous Sulfate	18% S, 21% Fe	
Gypsum	20% Ca, 18% S	
Potassium Magnesium Sulfate (Sul-po-mag)	0-0-22-18, 11% Mg	
Ferrous Ammonium Sulfate	16% S, 22% Fe	
Potassium Sulfate	0-0-50 - 17% S	
Superphosphate	0-22-0 18% Ca, 12% S	

HOW MUCH SULFUR DOES TURF REQUIRE?

Normally grass contains as much sulfur as phosphorous. The more nitrogen that is fed the more phosphorous, potash and sulfur needed. For example, if 4 lbs. of nitrogen were fed each thousand sq. ft. of turf it would require 1 lb. of phosphorous; 2 lbs. of potash and 1 lb. of sulfur. Sandy soils would require more sulfur because of leaching tendencies. CAN SULFUR BE TOXIC TO GRASS?

The major sulfur villain is sulfur dioxide usually produced by smelters. This atmospheric contamination can completely kill plants. It is rare that sulfur added to the soil will harm plants. However, in arid or poorly drained soils, high concentrations of sulfates can cause problems by making calcium unavailable.

SULFUR DEFICIENCIES

Plants deficient in sulfur have very similar symptoms to those with a nitrogen deficiency; yellowing of leaves, faint scorching of leaf tip continuously until the whole leaf withers and dies.

SULFUR IS NEEDED TO LOWER pH OR INCREASE SOIL ACIDITY

If your pH is 7, add 2 lbs. of sulfur per 100 sq. ft. for every ½ degree of pH you want to decrease. For example:



if your pH is 7, 2 lbs. of sulfur per 100 sq. ft. will bring your pH down to 6.5 and 4 lbs. of sulfur per 100 sq. ft. will bring the pH down to 6.0. In sand, cut these amounts by one third.

Never add sulfur or lime to correct pH until you have tested your soil and know what pH is.

MIDWEST REGIONAL TURF FOUNDATION MIDWEST REGIONAL TURF CONF. FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 2, 1977 Purdue Memorial Union

I WAS MISTAKEN -YOU ALL LOOK ALIKE By ERMA BOMBECK

I just figured out if my husband paid just half the attention to me as he does the lawn, my 70-year-old mailman would never have started to look like Robert Redford.

If ever there was a valid suit for alienation of affection, it's that lousy lawn.

There is something about the ability of a man to grow a few blades of grass that contributes to his masculinity. He is either a grass grower or not a grass grower. I have seen virile men move into the neighborhood with tattoos on their lips, but if they have fungus on their dwarf tiff, forget it. They're just not one of the boys.

A lawn enthusiast has two moods: terrible and irritable. These are interchangeable depending on whether the grass is growing or whether the grass is not growing.

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When the grass is not growing, my husband goes to the library to see what could be missing, has his soil analyzed, waters, soaks, fertilizes, and has the nurseryman who sold him the seed make a house call.

When the grass is growing, he runs the mower back to the store to make sure the blade is cutting, trims, rakes, rolls and makes an obscene phone call to the dog next door who overfertilized



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341 Lively Blvd., Elk Grove Vill., III. 60007 (312) 640-6660 it in the first place.

There is no pleasing a lawn freak.

Some say it is normal for a man to want a pretty lawn. I don't know what is normal anymore. I sent the kids to Mother's, blew an entire food budget on steaks and wine, put a dab of garlic on the lightbulg and slipped into something that had not been paid for. "What are you thinking?" I teased, turning off the TV set.

"Did you turn the hose off?" he asked.

Is it normal for a man to call the police and report a flock of birds who are eating our grass seed? Is it normal for a grown man to mourn a brown spot for three years?

I was all set to tell the mailman about my infatuation with him when he said, "I see your husband uses a chemical fertilizer of nitrogen, phosperous, and potash. Tell him if he invested in a little sheep dip, he'd do away with that crabgrass. Is there something you wanted?"

"I thought you looked like someone I knew," I said. "But I was mistaken. You all look alike."

Reprinted from Westchester-Rockland Newspaper

No society of nations, no people within a nation, no family can benefit through mutual aid unless good will exceeds ill will; unless the spirit of cooperation surpasses antagonism; unless we all see and act as though the other man's welfare determines our own welfare.

- Henry Ford II

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Engine: 12 HP Tires: 13 x 6/5 x 6 low pressure Frame: 3' 4.1 channel Turbine: Abrasive resistant steel, direct engine drive. Air direction: Blows from either side. Controlled by lever. Height: 36" Length: 51" Width: 42" Shipping Weight: 460 pounds Accessories: Electric start, battery.



A Division of TSI, inc. 1717 Four Mile Road, N.E. Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506 (616) 364-8441 or 364-0719



LAWN EQUIPMENT CORPORATION 520 W. 11 MILE ROAD ROYAL OAK, MICH. 48068 TELEPHONE: (313) 398-3636



MODEL 720 PULL BEHIND SWEEPER

Pick-Up

Eramo

Mechanical, 2 reels-counter-rotating rubber fingers. Rugged angular steel, all welded joints. Hinged to power head, angular steel frame, galvanized steel skin riveted to frame. 5 cu, yds. Self dumping, activated by three point hitch. Sealed and self-aligning. Heavy duty, 45 hp. Heavy duty, 45 hp. Chain (60) runs in lubricant. Chain: connects reels for counter-rotating interlocking feature. Castor type-rear. Pneumatic, 16 x 6.50-8 (2). 3 point, standard tractor hook up. Pre-set at factory, for other than normal conditions skid shoes can be raised or lowerd. For fine adjustment (0-% in.) use adjustable top link on 3 point hitch.

OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT: Thatcher-Thinner Front Rear Roller Attachment. Replaces standard skid shoes Curb Broom

Bag Attachment Replaces hopper, (factory installed) material is collected in burlap bag. Capacity. 1½ cu. yds.

W.F. Miller Garden & Lawn Equipment Company 1593 S. WOODWARD AVE. BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN 48011 TELEPHONE: (313) 647-7700

"A Patch of Green" 31823 UTICA ROAD FRASER, MICHIGAN 48026



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