

● **Clair Zerby**

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ments at Garden Spot High School in New Holland
Zerby attended high school in the Penns Valley area of Centre County. He graduated from Penn State University in 1960 with a B.S. in Animal Husbandry.

Zerby has previously served as herdsman at the Red Rose Research Farm of John W. Eshelman & Sons, Lancaster, and at the Black Watch Farm in New York State where he worked with the Angus blood cow herd.

Mrs. Zerby, the former Carol Kroeck, is a graduate of Warwick High School. They have one child, 20-month old Brian Scott.



Clair Zerby

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Del. Agronomist Urges Use Of Urea, Not Salt, For Sidewalk De-icing

Rock salt and other commonly used de-icers are effective in removing ice and snow, but they can ruin a good lawn.

Home owners who have lost lawns and valuable shrubs as part of the price for safe sidewalks and porches will welcome a new solution to the problem. Dr. William H. Mitchell, extension agronomist at the University of Delaware says that tests with urea, a nitrogen compound used in commercial fertilizer, have shown it to be quite effective as a de-icer. And it has a beneficial effect on lawns and shrubs instead of the toxic effect often resulting from the use of salt. If it's used at the rates and times recommended

the run-off that occurs as the ice melts can actually feed the plants with nitrogen. When spring comes, there will be green grass instead of dead areas and weeds along the edges of walks, drives, steps and flower borders.

Urea costs more than rock salt or calcium chloride but it is worth it considering its plant food value, and that it is non-corrosive to metal, has very little residue to track into the house and won't damage or discolor floors or carpets. Urea can be handled and spread with ordinary home gardening equipment and it's available in most farm supply stores.

The rate of application varies according to conditions. But, Mitchell believes ten pounds of urea per 100 square feet should do the job under most circumstances. Urea is especially effective at the 25-30 degree range.

Some other fertilizer materials are being used as de-icers

with favorable results. Ammonium nitrate and ammonium sulfate are two nitrogen fertilizers that have been used successfully. Muriate of potash and even some mixed fertilizers can be used but they are dirty and cause problems when they are tracked into the home.

● **Insect Control**

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4 Guthion, 3/4 lb actual (3 pints of 25% emulsion). Guthion must be applied at least 21 days before harvest; use only once on the same cutting. Guthion is toxic. Follow precautions as listed for Parathion.

5 Malathion, 1 lb. actual (15 pints of 5#/gal. emulsion). Malathion can be expected to give only 5 to 7 days protection. When used alone it should be considered as an emergency measure

treatment to provide holding action. Malathion has no restrictions on days before harvest.

Spittlebug

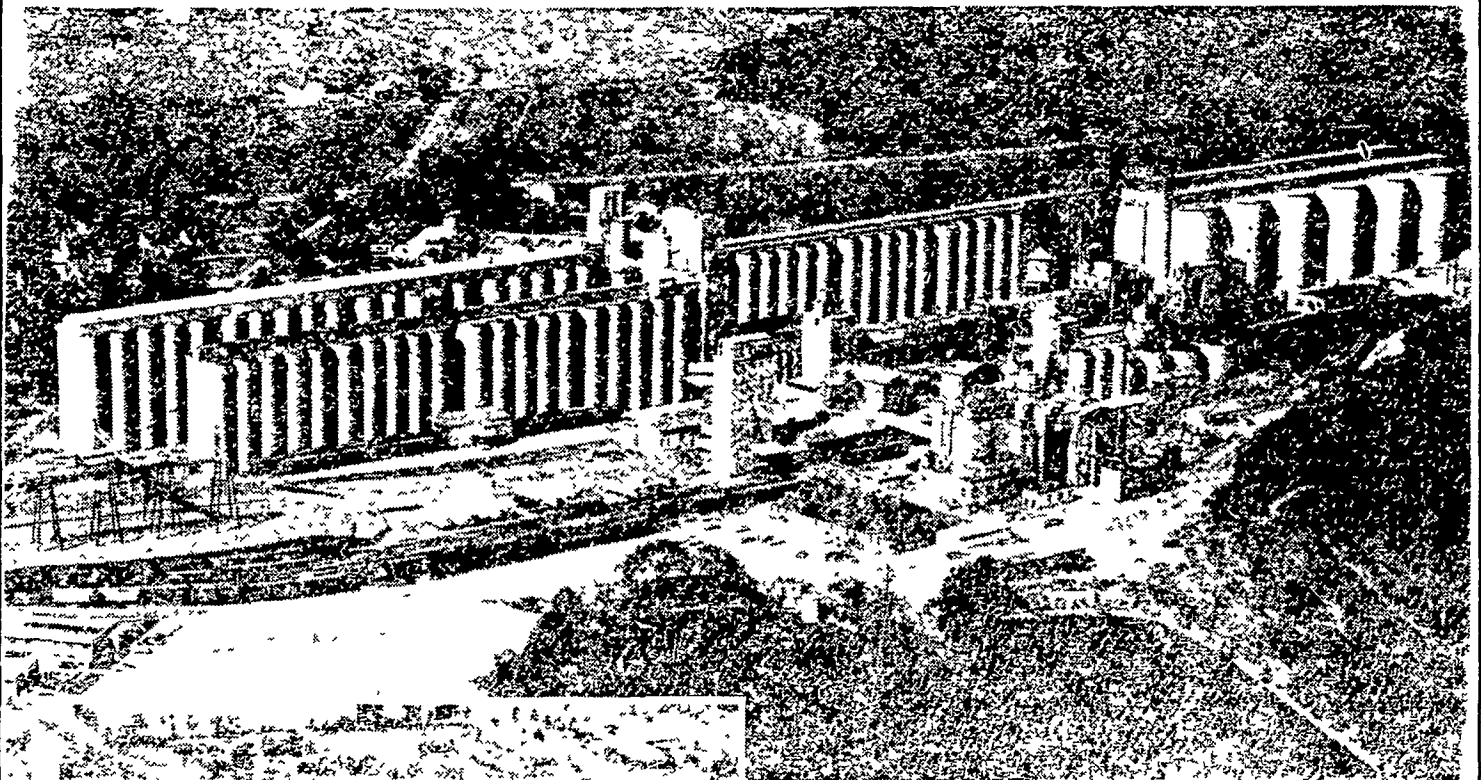
Control of this pest may be needed on some fields of red clover, clover-grass hays, and birdsfoot trefoil. If needed, use 2 quarts of the 25% Methoxychlor emulsion per acre. Apply when the young nymphs first appear or when the growth is 4 to 6 inches high. Do not use closer than 7 days to harvest. Alfalfa weevil treatments can be expected to provide spittlebug control on alfalfa.

Leafhoppers

Use 3 pints of 25% Methoxychlor emulsion per acre. Spray when the new growth on the second and third cutting is about 4 inches tall. Leafhopper control is needed on alfalfa.

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