

Conservation Corner



"Littering is loony!"

Grange Opposes Increased Motor Vehicle Fees

The Pennsylvania State Grange today renewed its opposition to Senate bill 1198 for increasing motor vehicle registration fees, branding the proposal "unfair to motorists and many small truck owners." The bill has passed the Senate and is expected to see House action next week in the State Legislature.

A Wayne Readinger, state master, said the bill conflicts with established Grange policy. He called for its rejection unless it is substantially amended.

The Grange, Readinger stated, takes the position that if added taxes are necessary for replenishing the Motor License Fund they should derive largely from a basis of road use through increased fuel (gasoline and diesel oil) levies.

"Some increase in auto registration fees may be justified," he said, "but surely a more equitable solution than provided in S1198 can be devised."

This bill, he charged, "puts the major burden of costs on the passenger car owners whose registration fees would be doubled. Truck fees would be increased, but a disproportionate share of the increase would be assessed against the small truck owners, including merchants, tradesmen, farmers and others."

These are the people, he added, who can least afford to pay higher fees for their auto and truck tags.

"By contrast," Readinger pointed out, "the bill would reduce registration fees for large semi-trailers from \$125.00 to \$25.00. The largest tractor trailer would pay only 15 percent more. Some of the other monster vehicles that contribute importantly to the cost of building and maintaining highways would get off with an even lower percentage of increase."

"This is not to minimize the



"Anybody who thinks a word to the wise is sufficient isn't doing the talking."

Fall Spraying Gives Better Chickweed Control

Fall application of herbicide controlled chickweed in alfalfa fields better than spring applications in three University of Maryland experiments during 1969.

Dr. James Parochetti reported the findings of the three-year experiments at the Northeast Weed Control Conference in the Commodore Hotel here this week.

Dr. Parochetti used a total of 10 herbicides at the three locations. He found that some of the chemicals injured the alfalfa plants, but none of the treatments affected the total alfalfa-grass yields, only one chemical, terbacil (Simba), completely eliminated the orchard grass in the forage mixture, but did not reduce the total forage yield.

The chemicals were applied both as sprays and impregnated on fertilizer. The herbicides tested include simazine (Princep), diuron (Karmex), chlorpropham (Chlor-IPC), dinoseb (Premerge), dichlobenil (Casoran), atrazine (AAtrex), RH315 (Kreb) and GS14254.

In general, Dr. Parochetti says, fall application of most herbicides tested gave excellent chickweed control — with the exception of dinoseb and dichlobenil.

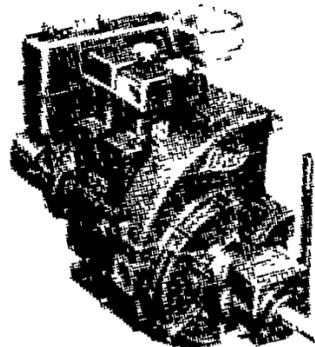
In 1969 late winter applications of the lower rate of sprayed and fertilizer-impregnated simazine and GS14254 were superior to the same rate of diuron, Diuron and chlorpropham applied in

the fall in impregnated fertilizer gave excellent chickweed control.

Dr. Parochetti will continue the experiments to discover the effects of repeated herbicide applications on the same plots for several years.



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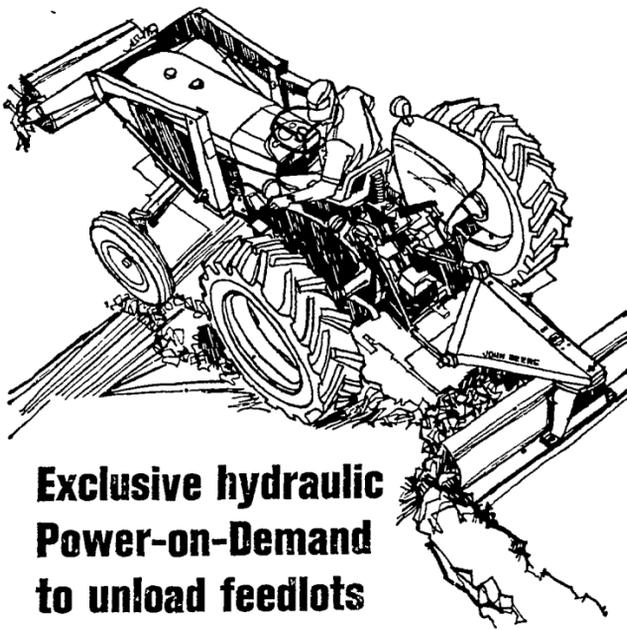
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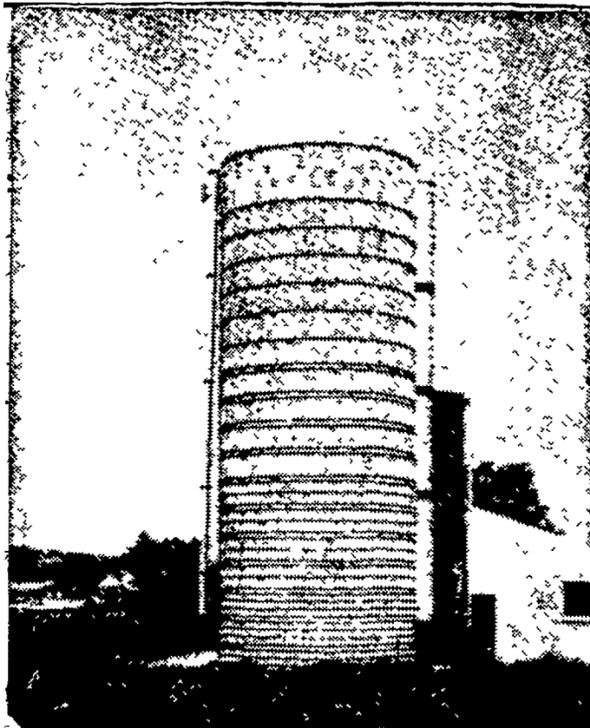
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