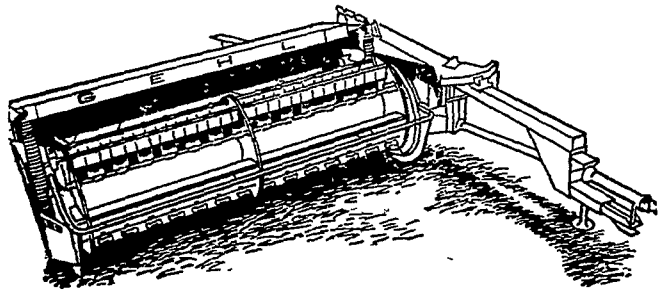


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Fall Herbicide Application Is Feasible for Some Fruit Trees

Findings at Pennsylvania State University indicate the possibility of applying herbicides in the fall to control weeds around certain fruit trees instead of in late winter or early spring as at present, it was suggested recently at the annual meetings of the Northeastern Weed Science Society. Such fall application of herbicides appears safe and effective for apple and peach trees but somewhat hazardous for cherry, pear, and plum trees, according to Dr. Frank N. Hewetson, horticulture scientist at Penn State.

He said fall use of herbicides would decrease somewhat the busy schedule in orchards during the spring. The best seasonal weed control was obtained with all treatments using diuron at 32 pounds of active ingredient per

acre. While apple and peach trees were practically immune to foliage injury from fall applications, cherry and plum tree foliage was injured by almost all of the herbicides used.

The treatments were evaluated in June, July, and October of 1970 at the Fruit Research Laboratory at Allentown, one of several field laboratories operated by the Agricultural Experiment Station at Penn State.

Although simazine gave weed control at the beginning of the season, it lost its effectiveness as the season progressed. Dr. Hewetson reported. By October, simazine was applied only in combination with diuron or smazine.

Three applications of the herbicides were made for each of the five fruits, making a total of 15 applications for each herbicide treatment.

Trees in the experiment represented the five major fruits grown commercially in Pennsylvania. Planted on May 12, 1967 were Red Delicious apple, Bartlett pear, Elberta peach, and Stanley prune. Montmorency red tart cherry trees were planted on November 9 of the same year.

Dr. Hewetson indicated that additional findings are needed before final recommendations can be made for fall application of herbicides around fruit trees.

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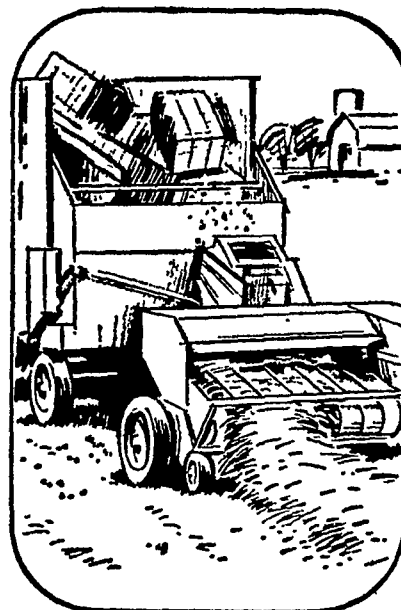
- Effective, season-long control with a single application no matter how early you plant, Bux stays active throughout the hatching and larval stages of rootworm development.
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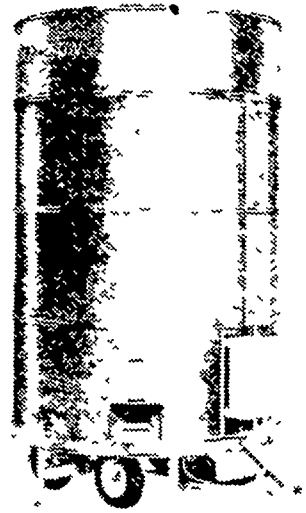
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