

# Pesticide makers complain of overregulation

WESTPORT, Conn. — “Ask any farmer what his biggest problem is today, and he’ll answer in terms of increased costs — and the same is true of our industry,” declared H.L. Straube of Stauffer Chemical Company in an address before the 43rd annual meeting of the National Agricultural Chemicals Association (NACA) earlier this Fall.

Straube, vice president and general manager of Stauffer’s Agricultural Chemical Division, recently concluded his one year term as chairman of the NACA.

“At the very time that the world is clamoring for more food production from the American farmer and the very time that the farmer is clamoring for more and better pesticides that can

assure him of better yields, a climate is being developed in which pesticide research and development could grind to a halt,” he continued.

Overregulation by government agencies is one of the major problems facing the industry, he pointed out. “Excessive regulation has skyrocketed the costs of doing business to a level that we never thought possible,”

Straube stated. NACA studies show that nine years ago a company had to evaluate 5,500 different compounds before one was found marketable and acceptable within environmental standards. In 1970, the screening process was increased to an average of 7,400 compounds; in 1973, the number was 10,200; today it’s probably in excess of 12,000.

“But the greatest impact of regulation on developing new products has been the time required between discovery of a product and the time it receives label clearance.” Straube emphasized. In 1967, according to NACA studies, this was 60 months, in 1970 it was 77 months, and in 1973, 80

months. “Today it is probably close to 100 months, or over eight years”, Straube said. As a result, “excessive cost, mandated by excessive regulation, is a real deterrent to future pesticide development.”

“After screening an average of 12,000 compounds over eight years at an average cost of \$8 million, then facing the threat of rejection by the EPA and attack by lobby groups, it’s no wonder that some companies in our industry have stopped putting dollars into pesticide research,” he declared.

The industry is not against regulation, according to Straube, but “we must have a climate of reasonable regulation.” This has been

difficult to achieve directly because of the system by which the Environmental Protection Agency conducts hearings on pesticides. “These have serious shortcomings,” he said.

“Too often, they are just a series of testimonials read by experts—and the experts are never brought into direct confrontation with each other,” he explained. “Cross-examination is not usually allowed. Instead, the battle of facts is usually later aired as a free-for-all in the mass media. So, instead of clarifying matters; the conflicting statements of experts often add to the confusion of the general public—and all but paralyze the decision-making process among regulators.”

## Eye in sky warns of freezes

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Environmental satellites operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) have the capability of providing fruit and vegetable growers with improved temperature information during periods of crop-killing freezes, two parallel studies have shown.

Both efforts - one in Florida, the other in Texas - utilized infrared pictures from NOAA’s National Environmental Satellite Service, showing surface temperatures in and around fruit and vegetable producing areas. The infrared images are provided

every half hour by the Commerce Department agency’s GOES-1 satellite, positioned 22,250 miles (35,800 kilometers) above the equator over South America.

Infrared sensors on the spacecraft pick up heat radiation from the ground. In much the same way as broadcast television signals are sent from the TV studio to the set in your home, the information is transmitted to a ground receiving station and converted into a visual image, giving scientists an electronic picture from outer space.

In the Florida experimental program, the image was enhanced by a computer, permitting the varying degrees of heat radiation - an indicator of

land surface temperature - to be visually displayed as shades of gray. Temperatures between 31 and 33 degrees Fahrenheit - near the freezing point - were displayed as white, while those between 16 and 31 degrees were shown in eight shades of gray. Temperatures between 33 and 40 degrees were in mid-gray tone, while those above 40 and below 16 were shown as black.

The resulting “picture” of Florida on a typical cold January night, at an hour when frost was spread across the state from Tampa through Orlando, showed a white band in that section, with increasing darkening shades to the north and a solid gray area on the southern edge.

### Play Safe

Even though ground beef is plentiful and economical, homemakers should exercise care in handling the meat as soon as it arrives from the market. Because ground meat is perishable, it should be stored immediately in the coldest part of the refrigerator or meat compartment and should be used within 24 hours after purchase.

TRY A CLASSIFIED AD!

**GLICK'S**  
Distributor for  
**ROOFING & SPOUTING**  
**BAKED ENAMEL TIN ROOFS**

Colors: Turquoise, Red, White (only)

FULL SERVICE DEALER  
SALES & INSTALLATION

**SAMUEL B. GLICK**  
R.D.1, Kinzer, PA Ph. (717) 442-4921  
Please call before 7 A.M.  
or after 6 P.M.  
No Sunday Calls

**BIG TRUCK HAULING WITH YOUR PICKUP AND THE...**

**WINNEBAGO Agri-Trailer™**



Two-speed landing gear provides easy hitching.

Easy hook-up with wide-opening jaws of Pin & Plate.

Hitch this versatile trailer to your truck for road travel, switch it to your tractor for field loading. The Winnebago Agri-Trailer can carry as much as a 3-ton truck. It can haul over 7½ tons. Or 285 bushels of grain.

Winnebago’s 5th wheel design gives unique stability. It turns short, backs up easy, and trails true at highway speeds without fishtailing.

**Kauffman's Agri-Trailer Sales**  
Box 655 RD 1  
Elizabethtown Pennsylvania  
717-367-3550

## ATTENTION: DAIRYMEN

### To save money and improve milk production

**Feed Dairy Special 40XX**  
The key to efficiency in any dairy feeding program is getting maximum performance out of homegrown grains and roughages while keeping out-of-pocket feed costs down. That's why Vigortone developed Dairy Special 40XX for use in legume hay or haylage rations.

This potent pre-mix contains abundant phosphorus to balance off the high calcium content of these roughages and provides proper levels of other major minerals, trace minerals and vitamins.

Legume programs are well balanced with Dairy Special 40XX, and the need for supplemental protein is much less. Best of all, your cows soon respond to their full bred-in potential to produce milk.

**Dairy Special 50XX for the dry cow**  
Proper nutrition for the dry cow is just as important as for the producing cow. It's during this period that the stage is set for the level of production she will have throughout the lactation period. Vigortone's Dairy Special 50XX is properly suited to fortify high roughage rations of dry cows and keep them in excellent condition right up to freshening.

See your Vigortone dealer soon  
Your Vigortone dealer has several products and programs to promote better milk production and help you save money. See him soon.

Learn why more dairymen are feeding Vigortone — especially now.

# VIGORTONE

50 warehouses—over 5400 servicemen  
3 manufacturing plants

## PRE-MIXES

<b>LEON B. HERSHEY</b> Box 166 Paradise PA 717-442-4807	<b>RALPH E. BRUNGART</b> Loganton, PA 717-725-2355	<b>JAMES STUTZMAN SONS</b> R3 Kutztown, PA 215-683-7198
<b>RON L. HERSHEY</b> R2 Gap, PA 717-442-8573	<b>ELAM G. HOOVER</b> R1 New Holland, PA 717-354-0432	<b>ELWIN REAM</b> Hughesville, PA 717-584-4085
<b>JASON E. MILLER</b> R4 Lancaster PA 717-393-7244	<b>PHILIP A. HAYES</b> Oxford RD2 215-932-8736	<b>SHERWOOD A. WITMER</b> Box 138 Berrysburg PA 717-362-8823
<b>WM. J. YODER</b> R1 Conestoga PA 717-872-8047	<b>WAYNE A. SPROUT</b> RD1 Rising Sun, Md 301-658-4463	<b>PAUL L. KREIDER</b> R2 Palmyra, PA 717-964-3791
<b>ELI KING</b> R1 Box 59 Ronks PA 717-768-3608 Berks Co PA	<b>CHRISTIAN L. STOLTZFUS</b> R2 Box 409 Elverson PA 215-286-5995	<b>WILMER J. WEAVER</b> R1 Fredericksburg, PA 717-865-6710
<b>ALVIN ESH</b> Box 72 Intercourse PA 717-768-3128	<b>CHESTER SOLTYS, JR.</b> Spring City, PA 215-948-3647	<b>MARLIN GEESAMAN</b> R2 New Port PA 717-582-4598
<b>H MELVIN CHARLES</b> R1 Washington Boro PA 717-684-5783	<b>PETE CALDWELL</b> R1 Windsor PA 717-246-1046	<b>RUSSELL FRY</b> Duncannon PA
<b>LYNN HARRIS</b> Stillwater PA 717-925-6576	<b>ROMAN YODER</b> R1 Grantsville, MD 301-895-5302	

