

## Aerial spraying, radar tactics

By H. J. Stanley  
The trend of increasing pesticide use will continue in 1969, with herbicides accounting for the largest share of the expansion. Farmers are using more and more chemicals, and they are getting more expensive.

For herbicides, relatively few new products are available in 1969. There is a refinement of present techniques, more exact information, a program rather than a one-shot application, control of specific weeds, combinations of herbicides, and more caution before herbicides are recommended to help eliminate crop damage and residues. New approaches to weed control, such as dalapon in combination with fertilizer on birdfoot trefoil are increasing. These herbicides are discussed in Publication 75 - "Guide to Chemical Weed Control".

New insects are appearing upon the scene such as the alfalfa weevil and the cereal leaf beetle. This greatly magnifies the potential use of insecticides and demands the proper education of the ultimate user of these insecticides.

Cabbage loopers and mites on apples were problems in 1968, despite the fact that chemicals recommended for control are effective if properly applied. Thus the grower must more clearly understand the use of each specific pesticide. Systemic chemicals are gaining in importance. These chemicals working through the plant or animal fluids give control of warbles in cattle, loose smut and mildew in barley or wheat, etc.

Increased interest is being given to integrated control or a combination of biological and chemical control of pests. This is an attempt to save natural predators and keep harmful insects low with lower amounts of insecticide. Less insecticide is needed to control pests if the insecticide is applied at the right time, temperature and humidity. It may also involve the use of viruses, radar, supersonic sound, introduction of predators, etc. This type of control is very complicated, but may have a future for processing fruits where outward appearance is not essential.

Progress is being made in the application of pesticides. Some 60 per cent of a product's performance is dependent upon the accuracy of application - uniformity of coverage, rate of product and time of application. Aerial spraying has become more common for tobacco and field crops, and aerial photography is being used experimentally to

assess crop losses from disease. New pesticides that are less toxic, have safer formulation, less persistent soil residues, can be used at shorter intervals before harvest of the crops, and are more specific.

The pesticide industry operates on a threshold of broad public interest imposing a high level of responsibility on those

## 4-H field crop club sees film on weeds

By Edward Bird  
The first meeting of the Halton 4-H Field Crop Club was held on April 17, at the Agricultural office in Milton. The meeting was opened with the 4-H Pledge. President Ted Brown turned the meeting over to Allan Brownridge, the club leader. He introduced Brian Marshall who showed slides and gave an interesting talk on his trip through Central Ontario last fall on the Soil and Land Use Tour conducted by the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. Brian was thanked by Jim McKay.

Bill Wilson, one of the club leaders, asked the members questions on soil, weed control, and fertility of corn and forage crops. "Weed Control" and

## 'Slave day' Saturday for funds

The Acton Junior Farmers and Junior Institute are sponsoring a "Slave for a Day" Project on Saturday, April 26.

If you have any seasonal chores that require attention, you can take advantage of this special offer. The cost of a "Slave for a Day" will be your donation to Retarded Children.

The local Junior Farmers hope the residents of the community will support this project, which is in keeping with the Junior Farmer Motto of "Self help and Community Betterment".

If you would like to employ a "Slave for a Day" to do any type of job on April 26, contact one of the following committee: Carol Swackhamer, 853-0368; Brian Bessey, 821-3824; Marilyn Kirkwood, 853-0039; Bill Cove, 821-3558; and they will see that you have one.

involved. It cannot afford thoughtless applicators where the potential for destruction through misuse is always present. The actual death rate from pesticides is very low compared to other deaths - 2 vs. 1,072 for drowning and 382 from suffocation due to food in 1964. However, misuse has resulted in losses of livestock. Extreme care must be taken by the user.

## Fire danger

Now is a good time to clean up the rubbish around the home and farmstead and burn it. But make sure your children don't get too close to the fire. It's a natural attraction for them and the young ones just do not realize the danger. Most clothing will burn, and some of the materials quite rapidly. So don't let your children become fire casualties.

## Specialist leaves Agriculture dep't.

By H. J. Stanley  
Charles Warner, Fruit and Vegetable Specialist with the Soils and Crops Branch, located in the Milton office for the past four years, has resigned. He is moving to Englehart to take up farming, with a special emphasis on strawberry growing.

He will also be teaching part-time and doing research work at the experimental station in New Liskeard.

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# Free Press Farm Page



CURIOUS CONTORTION OF KNOTS in a Nassagaweya stump fence would be a puzzle for the most intrepid puzzle solver. Stump fences may be extinct in some areas but many specimens of pioneer handiwork still remain in Nassagaweya. (Staff Photo)

**BLOOD PRESSURE**  
If your blood pressure is high, your doctor can help you bring it down and reduce your risk of heart attack, the Ontario Heart Foundation advises. Coronary risk goes up when blood pressure is elevated.

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## Hens double production

Scientists and farmers have done some dramatic things with poultry in the past 40 years.

Broiler chickens are now 3.5 pounds when they are eight weeks old compared to the 1928 average of 1.1 pounds. They convert 2.2 pounds of feed or less into a pound of meat compared to 4.2 pounds of feed in 1928.

Old-fashioned hens used to lay 142 eggs a year. Now they lay 280 eggs a year.

In 1928 they ate 7.3 pounds of feed to produce a dozen eggs; now they eat 3.5 pounds of feed per dozen.

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