

WEED CONTROL NEWS

On Monday, June 29th, 1964, the Agriculture and Reforestation Committee of County Council visited several areas of Halton to get some first hand information on County Weed Control. They were accompanied by Henry Stanley, the Agriculture Representative, W. D. Taylor, District Weed Inspector, O.A.C. Guelph and the County Inspector, V. E. McArthur.

The group left the County buildings at 9:30 a.m. travelling in two cars and arrived at the first stop, Oakville Works Department around 10 a.m. Here Jack Orr, who is in charge of this department explained how weeds are controlled in Oakville and also gave an excellent demonstration of the machinery used in this work. The Committee showed a great deal of interest in each piece of equipment, from the very large and efficient multipurpose road sprayer to a new hand operated Mott rotary mower. Five tractor mowers, the large truck sprayer, a smaller trailer sprayer with long hose as well as the new hand Mott mower are all pressed into action in Oakville's war on weeds.

The next stop was around 11 a.m. at the Leaver Mushroom farm in Burlington. Here we had a guided tour showing how mushroom rooms are grown in inside beds on a large scale. This type of visit was a diversion from the weed subject and proved very educational. The Leaver Farms have 24 mushroom houses, ten tiers in each house with approximately 2½ acres of growing space per unit. The Committee is grateful to Dave Leaver for his generous hospitality.

The group lunched at Dad's restaurant, Campbellville, then on to a roadside weed control demonstration on the Sixth Line, Nassagaweya Township, W. D. Taylor of O.A.C. gave an interesting talk on the side, regarding the progress in chemicals for roadside weed control.

Esquing Township
The next stop was on the No. 17 sideroad in Esquing Township where the group had an excellent lesson on Common Barberry identification. The specimen being probably the largest common barberry bush in Halton County. After a brief explanation by W. D. Taylor and a few pictures, Warden Gallagher treated the harmful tree with a new chemical supplied by Dove Chemical Co. The material is recommended for the irradiation of common barberry.

The final visit was at the McCarthy farms, No. 10 sideroad, Esquing Township at 3:45 p.m. The subject for discussion here was chemical weed control on the farm. Mr. Stanley, the Ag. Rep. very ably explained the pros and cons of Atiazine in corn. Pete McCarthy also showed the party the results of chemical weed control used in their orchards.

Cubs Pass Tests At Weekend Camp
The group arrived back at the County buildings in Milton about 4:30 p.m. slightly tired after a full day.

NORVAL JUNIOR FARMERS
On Friday, July 10, the Norval Junior Farmers held their annual baseball game and Weiner roast in Hornby Park. There were more than 40 Norval Juniors present. The baseball game was held under the lights, with approximately 17 members on each side. You hardly had a chance even if you did hit the ball. This was followed by a game, girls against boys, with the final score tied. After working so hard, everyone enjoyed a relaxing time around a blazing campfire with refreshments of hot dogs and pop.

Men are peculiar, just as women have suspected. For instance, a fellow who had not kissed his wife for five years, shot a fellow who did.

"OX-EYE DAISY AND THE HAWKWEEDS"

The flowers of Ox-eye Daisy and the Hawkweeds, which include Orange Hawkweed and King devil are perhaps the most noticeable blooms at this time of year. They are perennials that have spread to this country from Europe and the Field Crops Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture states that they are especially troublesome in pastures and hayfields, which cannot be plowed and brought under a short crop rotation.

Ox-eye Daisy, a relative of the chrysanthemum has short, thick root stalks which show great vitality, with many stems growing from one root. The plant grows from six inches to three feet in height and the flowers, which are quite attractive, are one to two inches across with bright yellow centres and white edges.

Transplant Them
In fact, I have known housewives, who had such admiration for daisies, to pull them up by the roots and transplant them in their favorite flower garden. Even weeds can be beautiful! The O.A.C. used to have a "weed flower bed" situated near the Field Husbandry building. It was not maintained for beautification purposes although it was very attractive, but rather for education as it contained nearly all the Common weeds of Ontario, each bearing its name. However, with the new building program at the College the "weed bed" has disappeared.

Orange Hawkweed is often called Devil's Paint Brush because of its bright orange-red flowers borne in clusters on the top of a nearly leafless stem that grows from twelve to eighteen inches high. This weed is a real problem in permanent pastures in Northern Ontario.

Small Flowers
King Devil is troublesome mainly in Eastern Ontario. It is much like Orange Hawkweed but may be distinguished by its small, yellow flowers.

All these weeds are easily killed by cultivation. Infested hay and pasture fields should be plowed if possible, and put under a short rotation of crops. Chemical weed killers should be used on rocky or hilly pastures that cannot be plowed. The current year's growth may be killed by one application of 8-oz. of 2, 4-D acid per acre in late July or early September. To kill the roots, however, several treatments of 16-oz. of 2, 4-D per acre must be applied. It must be remembered that these rates of 2, 4-D will also kill clovers and alfalfa, although the grasses will be unharmed, so it is practical to spray these weeds, therefore, only when they are present in pure or nearly pure grass stands.

Cubs Pass Tests At Weekend Camp

Eighteen members of the 1st Milton Cubs, three leaders and one father, spent the weekend at the Boy Scout Camp in Hwy. 25. During the outing, six swimming, four house orderly and one artist test were passed.

David Harrop, Roger Harrop, Benny Nijholt, Kevin Rusk, Brian Rusk and Mark Riddell each passed swimming tests and Roger Harrop, David Harrop, Mark Riddell and Wade Bekar each passed house orderly tests. Benny Nijholt passed his artist's test.

Leaders Larry Senicar, Don Graham and Jim Gilbert were in charge of the boys and Leo Bekar also helped out. The leaders wish to thank the Dairy Producer's Association for supplying milk and eggs for the camp-out. The boys went to camp Friday evening and returned Sunday afternoon.

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