

Research Newsletter . . .

Zineb As Cure for Citrus Russet

Zineb (zinc ethylene bis-dithiocarbamate) appears to be headed for a big boost in Florida, for **control of russet on citrus fruit**. Francine E. Fisher of University of Florida's Citrus Experiment Station at Lake Alfred discovered in 1955 that the compound, applied as a post-bloom spray, gives virtually complete control of the citrus pest. Although she recommends caution until more detailed tests are run, many growers are plunging into its use on the basis of her limited summer spraying over the past two years. Minute Maid, Florida's largest citrus grower, has just ordered **186,000 pounds** of zineb to treat some 60% of its 21,000 acres in July. Independents are reported to have begun using zineb almost indiscriminately; some even started full-scale spraying as early as February.

Commission Recommends Tripling Uses Research

Interim report of President's Commission on Increased Industrial Use of Agricultural Products, sent to Congress late in April, proposes a program to cost about \$100 million a year. Big item is **recommended tripling of spending for industrial uses research**, now at annual level of about \$16 million. Additional funds would be used to expand basic agricultural research and provide for new crops research, trial commercialization of promising developments, and incentive to industry to speed development of new uses. To finance the program, the commission would divert another **15% of gross customs receipts**, of which 30% are already set aside for use as directed by the Secretary of Agriculture.

Commercial Release Near for New Pesticides

Hercules Powder Co., after more than three years of extensive field testing, is beginning to market its pesticide **Hercules 528**. Compound, described as dithiophosphate of dioxane, is already recommended in some states for use on cotton; test results indicate it will also be useful on deciduous fruits, grapes, vegetables, and ornamentals. Product gives good kill on application and long-lasting residual effectiveness against leafhoppers, thrips, leaf miners, various mites, and mite eggs. . **New acaricide Tetram**, O,O-diethyl-S-(β -diethylamino) ethyl phosphorothiolate hydrogen oxalate, is **nearing full commercial status**. **Plant Protection Ltd.** reports excellent results in experimental control of red spider, rust mite, and scale insects on citrus; spider mites on cotton; and red spider on apples and pears. **Temporary residue tolerance for use on cotton** in the U. S. will permit treatment of 10,000 acres this year. Company expects by the end of 1957 to have permission to market Tetram in all major countries; unrestricted sale is already permitted in Holland.



- Effect of both parathion and Systox on plasma cholinesterase activity in dogs is "at least additive" (**page 346**). Effect on the pesticide industry of potentiation of action when two organic phosphates are administered simultaneously to animals is discussed by Lloyd W. Hazleton (**page 339**)
- Analytical method can determine 0.1 p.p.m. residue of Perthane (Rohm & Haas insecticide) in crops (**page 349**)
- Specially designed furnace offers advantages of combustion methods in the determination of residues of chlorinated pesticides in agricultural materials (**page 351**)