

PRODUCTS AND PROCESSES

Slowly Soluble Trace Elements

A soil mineralizer, actually a source of slowly soluble trace elements, will be distributed in the national retail market this spring by Du Pont. Called Ferro FTE the product was developed by the Ferro Corp. Ferro claims that this is the first slowly soluble substance ever developed which is capable of providing plants and crops with mineral trace elements necessary for full growth.

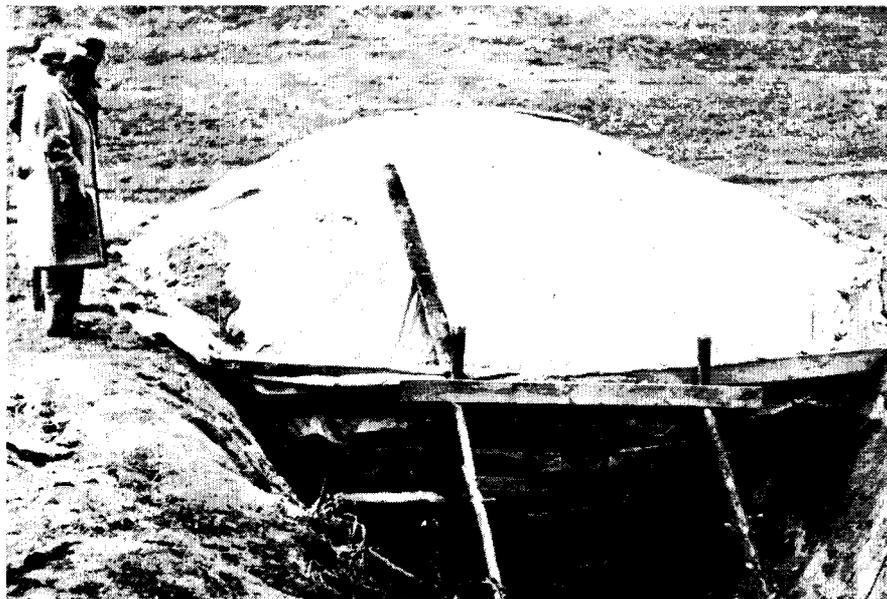
Large quantity shipments of the preparation will be sold directly to major-element fertilizer manufacturers by Ferro. FTE is, actually, a mixture of manganese, iron, zinc, copper, boron, and molybdenum. The relative insolubility of the preparation makes unnecessary repeated applications, frequently the case in soluble salts of trace elements. This property provides a slow constant source of trace elements and also over-concentration of application is not supposed to harm plants as in the case of soluble salts. **P1**

Vinyl Film Used to Cover Outdoor Silage Storage

Monsanto Chemical Co.'s Ultron (low-temperature flexibility) vinyl film makes a good cover for outdoor storage of grass silage, according to the company.

Use of the vinyl film eliminates the necessity of preliminary curing periods

Monsanto's Ultron, a low-temperature flexibility vinyl film, can be used to protect silage in either trench silos or surface stacks. Coarse gravel is used to weigh down the edges of the film cover



and permits the cutting and coverage of forage on the same day.

According to Ralph Donaldson, University of Massachusetts, who tested the vinyl film application with Monsanto and National Dairy Products Corp., the waterproof, airtight vinyl covers eliminate top soilage in outdoor trench silos and surface stacks. Silage cover in mid-summer has retained its nutrient value until late winter, it is said. **P2**

Granular Toxaphene

A new form of a not-so-new product, granular toxaphene, appears promising for control of hard-to-control insect pests, including some which feed below the soil surface, according to the manufacturer of the base, Hercules Powder Co. The grains are approximately the size of a clover seed. When applied to crops the granules do not cling to foliage but fall into depressions in the leaves or onto the soil. The granular material can be worked into the soil and tests conducted at the South Carolina Experiment Station indicate that it is effective in this form as a control for soil infesting insects. **P3**

Pyrenone Seed Protectant Allows Slurry Treatment

A formulation of Pyrenone seed protectant is offered by U. S. Industrial Chemicals Co. for slurry treatment of

seeds against insect infestation. The material can be used alone or in combination with fungicides. The material is said to have no harmful effects on germination and 1 lb. is sufficient to protect 100 bushes against insect pests for an entire season. A further advantage is that seed treated with this material is acceptable for feed or milling purposes. **P4**

Low-Fluorine Calcium Oxide

Calcium oxide with low fluorine content, an analytical reagent, is available from Fisher Scientific Co. The guaranteed analysis of the material is 2 parts per million or less. The reagent is intended as a fluorine fixative for use in the analysis of any material in which there is any danger of fluorine loss during storage, drying, or ashing. It is expected to prove useful in applications to animal tissue, food materials, and spray residues of fruits and vegetables. The material is available in 1-lb. quantities. **P5**

Ethyl Corp. Produces 2,4,5-T Commercially

The herbicide 2,4,5-T is now being produced in commercial quantities by Ethyl Corp. Trichlorophenoxyacetic acid or 2,4,5-T has been found useful in weed control and clearing grazing lands of mesquite and other brush.

Besides 2,4,5-T, Ethyl is a big producer of the insecticide benzene hexachloride. The production of 2,4,5-T is another indication of the company's intent to invade the field of agricultural chemicals. **P6**

Control of Lawn Growth

A chemical to alleviate the chore of grass cutting is being introduced by Loamium Co. Trade named Kem-Kut the material is recommended as a chemical agent for trimming hard-to-cut places. According to the manufacturers, the grass is permitted to grow to a height of about 1.5 in., treated with the chemical and trimmed a week later. Thereafter, the summer's mowing is supposedly completed for that particular strip.

The material is not, as yet, recommended for broad areas of lawn because the average home owner does not have the necessary low pressure spray equipment for even distribution of the chemical. **P7**

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