

NEWSLETTER



ARBORETA & BOTANIC GARDENS

prepared by the public services division

June 8, 1973

PUBLIC SERVICES DIVISION

Department publications are very much in demand. Since last March approximately 4,000 Poisonous Plant brochures have been distributed in response to requests from county school districts, libraries, colleges, medical centers, and the public. The public has accounted for a similar number of our Vegetable Gardening brochures in the same period. As the fire season approaches we are getting an increasing number of requests for our Fire Retardant Plants brochure which is soon to be re-issued in a revised edition.

Note to proponents of women's lib: According to the results of a recent exam for as-needed tour guides, coincidentally scored by men, two women will soon be serving in that capacity at the Arboretum.

The summer school field trip program will be in operation again this year although somewhat curtailed because of a shortage in staff and volunteer field leaders.

ARBORETUM DIVISION

Completion of the Information Center is expected shortly after the end of the month.

The Meadowbrook sprinkler system is approximately one third complete, all bridges are in place and pathways and plantings are the next order of business.

Be sure and set aside July 28 for the department picnic which will be held at Monrovia Nursery this year. This is a family affair and there are going to be innovations guaranteed to please everyone. Your social committee representative has complete details and advanced reservations can be made through them.

ARBORETUM DIVISION (CONTINUED)

Baldwin Avenue is scheduled for improvement which will include the widening and installation of islands between Huntington Drive and Baldwin Avenue. A side walk will be put along the west side of Baldwin Avenue and other safety measures will be included in the project. Construction is to begin about the middle of June.

RESEARCH DIVISION

A new pressure injector has been developed by the Elm Research Institute, Waldwick, New Jersey for effective control of Dutch elm disease. Prompt injection of the new U.S.-approved Benlate fungicide can save our infected elms. So far, the Dutch elm disease has not spread to California.

The Model 102 Pressure Injector provides a fast, easy and effective means of injecting the fungicide into trees. The pressure injector puts up to 10 gallons of fungicide solution into the tree in a matter of minutes. It consists of a pump-operated, 2 gallon pressure tank and harness with ten or more inter-connected injector outlets. The harness encircles the tree trunk while the fungicide solution is pumped into the tree at 30 lbs. pressure for fast absorption and immediate effectiveness. We recently purchased the injector, and are planning to use it for Armillaria root rot control on oaks. Benlate fungicide is very effective against Dutch elm disease and many other diseases such as powdery mildews, rusts and root rots, but unfortunately Benlate is entirely noneffective against Armillaria root rot. As a matter of fact, Benlate is routinely incorporated into culture medium for isolation of Armillaria mellea for preventing contamination of other fast-growing fungi.

The effective fungicide against Armillaria in our



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