

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL SUPPLY FOR 1975

by
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Generally speaking, chemicals will be in greater supply for 1975 than we experienced in 1974. There will be some items in very short supply and will be allocated in 1975. We expect the picture to ease throughout the coming year, but at higher prices.

They point to expanded facilities, the economic down turn and an improvement in the intermediate situation as key factors to this easing. Most everyone in the industry says that demand for their products is excellent and in many cases exceeds their production capabilities.

Planning ahead for supplies with your dealer is good business to avoid delivery problems and to be sure you get the correct product to do the job. In some cases you may not get the exact product you want, but by ordering early you can plan for alternate products that will do the job.

The list being passed out to you covers most of the products or alternate products that you can choose from to cover the problem you want to control on potatoes.

Fumigation materials are expected to be very tight for the spring application period. It may be wise to consider row application if your nematode population is medium to heavy and to supplement the fumigation with an application of Temik to ensure good nematode control. Temik alone may be a possibility where the nematode population is light to medium.

Fungicides are in good supply for 1975.

Herbicides for potatoes will remain on allocation at least through the spring period, but in any case we anticipate having enough chemical to cover the acres needing a herbicide.

Insecticides for potatoes looks much better for 1975. There are some tight spots on certain formulations, but you should find enough product to cover your needs.

Sprout control materials and products for defoliation also look good for this year.

Most companies have some type of allocation program but there should be enough material to go around in 1975. The prices of products will remain high, if not go higher due to increased freight costs, increased container costs, and increased raw material costs. Our industry is very dependent on petroleum derivatives and you know what has happened to products coming from this industry.

In the past few months, there's been an easing of supply due to the recession and lowered demand for raw materials by several industries. This is beginning to help our industry, but our problem is that we need to produce our product for use during a very limited period of time. We should start out of the allocation situation by next year.

Thank you for coming to the 1975 Washington Potato Conference.