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## STATE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING REGULATIONS: A NEW PROGRAM (OHIO)

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*Torco Pest Control, Columbus, Ohio*

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**STATE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING REGULATIONS:  
A NEW PROGRAM  
(OHIO)**

James Steckel  
Torco Pest Control  
Columbus, Ohio

We enacted a bill in Ohio this year, Senate Bill 445, that has to do with the application of pesticides. It is a very wide bill as you would normally look at it with most of the meat going to come from the regulations that are presently being written into it. In other words, the framework was developed and accepted by the two houses in our state legislature and empowered the Director of Agriculture to establish the regulations or the so-called teeth to this bill. The governor signed the bill in June and it became effective in September. The committees as of this time are meeting to develop philosophies and regulations that will be promulgated and brought into hearings and sifted through, and eventually, with a target date of December of this year, (1970), brought to the Director of Agriculture's office for acceptance.

There is a committee established for rodent and bird control which is very well represented by our industry here in Ohio. John Beck (Rose Exterminator Company) is the chairman of the committee, William B. Jackson (Bowling Green State University) and Robert Yaeger (Cincinnati) are also on the committee.

The important feature of this new law, in terms of pest control operators, is the examinations that will be required. We operators and our service people will both be tested and licensed, if sufficient proficiency is demonstrated on the tests.

For your information they use a little different terminology in the bill than we in the industry normally use. We think of an applicator in the industry as service people. In the bill an applicator is defined as an operator. Therefore in reading the law the word operator means the man who does the job, the service man. Just the reverse is true in the industry. We think of the operator as the man who owns or manages the company while these people are referred to in the bill as applicators.

The Bill calls for the development of schools for the training of our people throughout the state. Those of us who are in bird control should begin to prepare ourselves to meet this request, to be available for the schooling, have our people available for the schooling, and give this program all the co-operation that we can.

Now, I have only one personal comment to make, it is something that George (Greenleaf) has heard me say all along. The personal fear that I have is that the requirements of the bill will become the minimum standard, and that we in the industry will just get ourselves licensed and that's it. The learning and training processes will stop at this time because we now have the license. But we must go forward. You have heard the great deal of knowledge that has been developed in the area of bird

management in the past ten years. It is certainly obvious to me, as I am sure it is to you, that in the next ten years the available information is going to double, at least. We just don't dare allow ourselves to get to a minimum level and stop growing. I hope that your interests will bring you back to the Bird Control Seminar at Bowling Green in two years, four years, and six years. And I hope it will take you to all of the other areas of training and education that are going to be made available to you in the industry so that we can represent ourselves well to the public. We want those people such as Mr. Anderson from the Audubon Society and his people to look at us critically. We want them to be able to look at us critically and say to their people "we believe these people (the bird control industry) are acting in your interests as well as the interests of the public." The only way we are going to accomplish this is to continue to learn and train and become better informed in these areas that you are studying today and are working on and the new areas that will come in the future