

Thursday, September 21, 1972

Auto Coating from PPG

PITTSBURGH. — A record 2.5 million vehicles made in the United States during the 1973 model year will feature bodies protected against rust and corrosion by a coating process called electrodeposition, according to PPG Industries.

PPG, a major supplier of electrodeposition primers for the auto industry, said the total is one million more vehicles than in the 1972 model year. PPG has been a leader in developing technology for electrodeposition, which uses an electric current to apply a uniform coating of primer to the vehicle body.

Improved air and water pollution control, as well as better corrosion protection and lower unit priming costs, are reasons for the trend toward electrodeposition of primers in the auto industry, PPG says.

The 1973 total will include 2.2 million autos and 350,000 trucks, PPG said. The first electrodeposition line in the auto industry began operation in 1963. PPG predicts that by 1975, nearly half the vehicles produced in this country will have bodies protected by the process.

The process coats cars in a manner similar to the way metal is electroplated. After immersion in a tank containing primer in a water suspension, the auto body is given a positive electrical charge. This attracts negatively charged paint particles, causing them to deposit smoothly and uniformly on the metal. Coating action stops when the paint film is thick enough to act as an insulator. A complete body can be prime-coated in 120 seconds in an electrodeposition tank.

Electrodeposition is used widely by European and Japanese automakers. Fifty per cent of the autos produced in Europe has electrocoated bodies, and the percentage of electrocoated Japanese autos is somewhat higher.

Among imports with electrocoated bodies are Datsun, Fiat, Honda, Mercedes, Renault, Simca, Toyota, Volkswagen and British Leyland Motors models.

PPG notes that the use of electrodeposition primer on trucks also is increasing.

Horse Owners Are Warned

North Carolina's growing number of horse owners shouldn't become complacent about keeping their animals immunized against the new kind of "sleeping sickness," VEE.

Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis will continue to pose a threat to Tar Heel horses, just as it did in 1971 when the first epidemic hit Texas and again this year when the disease threatened to spread into the U. S. from Mexico.

North Carolina State University horse specialist Jim Heird puts it this way: "VEE is here and it will stay here. Immunizing horses against the disease should become a standard procedure for all horse owners."

Unless the horse population is protected through vaccination, the disease will continue to spread within the U. S., threatening severe losses, the experts believe.

Under emergency procedures in 1971, about 9 out of 10 horses in North Carolina received the vaccine.

Scientists aren't positive at this time just how long this treatment will provide adequate protection. Currently, they are saying the horses are safe for at least a year and a half.

This means the 90 per cent of the Tar Heel horse population that was vaccinated during the 1971 emergency probably will have to be vaccinated again sometime early next year.

Horses that should be vaccinated now are new foals, those that have never been vaccinated and those that were vaccinated last year before they were six months old.

The VEE vaccine is safe and effective, but animal scientists suggest that mares shouldn't be vaccinated during the first 60 days of pregnancy.

VEE can be carried by rodents, birds and other wild animals. The mosquito spreads VEE from horse to horse and from horse to other animals and humans.

Hundreds of horses, mules, donkeys and other equines were killed before the '71 outbreak was brought under control in the southwest. Again this year, VEE took a heavy toll in Mexico and posed a constant threat to the U. S.

VEE strikes swiftly. Signs may appear within two days after a horse has been bitten by infected insects, and death may occur two to six days afterward.

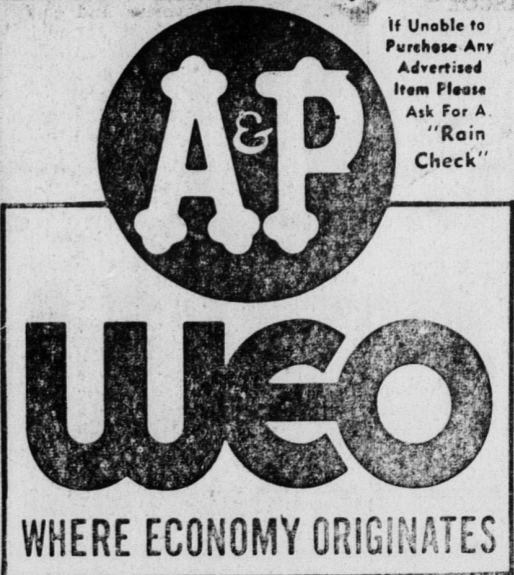
BORDER DRIVE

A neat appearing driveway is one of the ingredients for a successful landscape plan. North Carolina State University specialists suggest that you border grave drives with brick or some other material to hold the gravel in place. This makes a definite line and keeps the sides of the drive from appearing ragged.

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