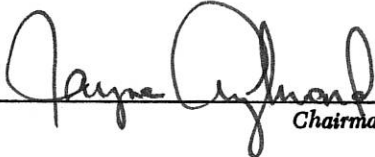


Held in Room 423-S, at the Statehouse at 9:00 a. m. / ~~PM~~, on February 26, 1981.

All members were present except:

The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 9:00 a. m. / ~~PM~~, on March 2, 1981.

These minutes of the meeting held on February 26, 1981 were considered, corrected and approved.


Chairman

The conferees appearing before the Committee were:

Rudy Vopata - Marshall County Grain and Sorghum Division
John Blythe - Kansas Farm Bureau
Freeman Biery - Weed and Pesticide Division, St. Bd. of Ag.

Dean Garwood - Entomology Division, St. Bd. of Ag.
Bob Helgesen - Entomology Division, K.S.U.
Representative Polson
Representative Arbuthnot
John Miller - Committee of Kansas Farm Organizations
Ken Wilke - Attorney, St. Bd. of Ag.
Bill Duitsman - Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture

The meeting of the House Agriculture and Livestock Committee was called to order by Chairman Beezley. The first order of business was HB 2457, An Act declaring kudzu to be a noxious weed. The chairman asked if there was any discussion on the bill. Rep. Smith moved that HB 2457 be passed. Vice Chairperson Aylward gave a second to the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion was begun on HB 2458, concerning the restricted use of endrin. Rudy Vopata, Marshall Co., Ks. Grain and Sorghum Commission, spoke to the Committee. He said that they need help because total fields are being wiped out. Anything the Committee could do to help would have the farmers backing.

John Blythe, Kansas Farm Bureau, read from a statement. He said that there was great concern about the damage done from chinch bugs. The Kansas Farm Bureau supports any positive action the Committee can take to make endrin available. He stated that they had been trying to work with the EPA for positive action in the endrin area.

Freeman Biery, Weed and Pesticide Division, said that it is very difficult to proceed with court procedure because so far the court has been overruled by EPA.

Dean Garwood, Entomology Division, said that there are now three permissible uses for endrin; the army cut worm, pale western cut worm and grasshoppers on wheat in Montana.

Bob Helgesen, Entomology Division, K.S.U. spoke of the toxic effect on fish from endrin. He mentioned the bad publicity and unwarranted stories that had been printed. Mr. Blythe mentioned the press also and mentioned that in six weeks endrin will dissipate in the ponds.

Rep. Polson made his statements in support of endrin. He said that equating a few fish to being thrown out of agriculture wasn't reasonable. There has been a 100 million dollar loss. It is ridiculous to think we are denied the use of this chemical. The only defense we have is to grow something the chinch bugs don't like to eat. There are different chemicals for use but they have bad effects. Endrin cost is \$16 + per gallon which will treat 4 to 6 acres.

Rep. Arbuthnot spoke in favor of the bill. He spoke of the adverse economic impact made by this bug. He had a letter giving statistics on the high density of chinch bugs. He said the 100 million figure does not even take into consideration the cost of replanting or forage lost that the chinch bugs have eaten. The weather doesn't seem to cooperate either.

Asked if endrin can be proven harmful to humans, Dean Garwood replied that during gestation, newborn rats and mice had been found to be deformed by endrin.

Asked if this piece of legislation is going to help realistically, Rep. Arbuthnot replied that we need something to get things started in Kansas. This bill would do it. As far as he was concerned a Resolution could also be adopted if this would give extra impetus to get going. It would be one more added argument.

Mr. John Miller said that at a recent meeting involving 18 different organizations, it was voted to support this bill because of the certainty that we need more control.

Rep. Johnson asked what the penalty was for spraying the chemical. Ken Wilke, an attorney for the Board of Agriculture stated that it would be at least \$2500 dollars and possibly one year in the county jail.

Secretary Duitsman made the statement that the Board of Agriculture is doing everything it can to enhance the use of this chemical. He passed out a Memorandum that respectfully suggests a preamble and amendment to HB 2458. Chairman Beezley appointed a subcommittee to incorporate the preamble and amendment. The subcommittee is composed of Reps. Fuller, Johnson and Dempsey.

Chairman Beezley asked for action on the minutes. Rep. Bussman moved the minutes be approved. Rep. Campbell gave a second to the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.



KANSAS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612

W. W. DUITSMAN
Secretary

February 25, 1981

901 Kansas Avenue
913-296-3556

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Representative William M. Beezley, Chairman
House Agriculture and Livestock Committee

From: W. W. Duitsman, Secretary of Agriculture

SUBJECT: H.B. 2458 "AN ACT RELATING TO PEST CONTROL; CONCERNING
THE RESTRICTED USE OF ENDRIN; AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY
OF AGRICULTURE TO PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS."

We respectfully suggest the following in H.B. 2458 to help clarify the existing situation.

1. A preamble which might include the following:
 - (a) Kansas has experienced very serious loss in grain production during the past three crop years, due to chinch bugs;
 - (b) Kansas faces a continued problem in future years;
 - (c) None of the approved and recommended chemicals are giving satisfactory control;
 - (d) The chemical "Endrin" was used to control chinch bugs;
 - (e) In 1979 the Environmental Protection Agency cancelled the use of endrin for chinch bugs, after 2 to 3 years of hearings;
 - (f) To be allowed to use a chemical once cancelled, EPA would need to reopen hearings on such chemical;
 - (g) Such a procedure is possible but has not yet been used;
 - (h) A request to reopen hearings would require considerable data based on research in Kansas;
 - (i) Kansas State University is the basic source of research data for Kansas.

The Legislature desires to accomplish a rehearing for the expressed purpose to have the use of endrin expanded to include chinch bug control.

2. It is further suggested a wording change in the present bill:

"The rules and regulations shall provide a procedure that will allow the spraying of the total area infested with chinch bugs." to read, "The rules and regulations shall provide a procedure that will allow the use of endrin to control chinch bugs."



**KANSAS
STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Cooperative Extension Service

FEB 25 1981

Nemaha County Extension Office
Post Office Building
Seneca, Kansas 66538
(913) 336-2184

February 24, 1981

Representative Lloyd Polson
171 West Statehouse
Topeka, Kansas 66601

Dear Lloyd:

I'm writing in regards to the past and present problems created by the devastating numbers of chinch bugs in our county.

This fall chinch bug numbers were at their highest. They took over several corn fields in Nemaha County. Yields were as low as 20 to 30 bushels per acre. Their numbers were also very high in grain sorghum in our county and several others. The large number of bugs have several ramifications.

* Harvest stored grains-with the large number of bugs in the head, grain samples were loaded with bugs. They affected test weights, moisture contents and quality of feeds. Storage of grain was threatened by the large number of bugs in the grains.

*Feeding difficulties - Feeding of grain or forage infested with the over-wintering chinch bugs has been very difficult. Livestock have been known to ignore feeds containing a large number of bugs.

* Overwintering habitats- The chinch bugs over-winter in almost any grass. Their favorite spots are prairie grass, bunch grass, broomsedge, and blue stem. Over-wintering mortality is usually very low. They can easily survive freezing and thawing conditions and temperature as low as 20 degrees below zero tend to have little effect on them. In the spring when temperatures reach 70 degrees or more for several hours, they will begin moving into fields of small grains. Eggs are deposited in lower leaves or in soil around the roots. The insects mate repeatedly laying a few eggs each day for three weeks to a month, an average of 200 eggs per female. The bugs require 30 to 40 days to complete development. Mating takes place again and the second generation develops. As a rule, a naturally occurring fungus disease begins to develop to greatly reduce the potential abundance of the second generation. This fungus did not develop this year to any significant extent, because moisture for three weeks is required to get the fungus started.

Page 2
Rep. Lloyd Polson
February 24, 1981

It is a grim situation we face. We have more chinch bugs than ever with very dry conditions. The farmers have done their share by burning ditches, waterways and pastures where the bugs are over-wintering. Unfortunately, this does not kill a significant amount. A lot of farmers are going to plant soybeans instead of milo to reduce crop loss.

Unless mother nature treats us with a wet spring, we can expect insect devastation of corn and milo fields.

Please consider our grim situation in your legislative actions!

Sincerely,

Jody

*Jody R. Garrison,
County Extension Agricultural Agent
Nemaha County*

JRG:llb