

just the ester type during the growing season in Nebraska. Now, as a farmer, I have used 2,4-D ester in the past. It is effective in killing broad leaf plants because of its ability to volatilize or fume. The ester type is somewhat cheaper to buy than the amine types also. But I want to clarify this, the amine type does not take near as much of the ingredient as the ester type so in the long term it is still cheaper to use the ester type and it would be beneficial to the farmer to use this because he is not going to destroy any of his neighbor's crops. It just destroys what it hits as far as weeds are concerned. However, I am promoting alternate crops in Nebraska. Fruit and vegetable farming are major parts of the alternate crops. These crops are very susceptible to damage by 2,4-D ester chemicals. Now there are some states who have passed legislation restricting the use of 2,4-D chemicals. I visited with the people in our state Department of Agriculture about other states and their laws and made several calls to other states to check on existing laws. The State of California, Florida, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Indiana, Mississippi...

PRESIDENT: May we have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.) Quiet down so Senator Sieck can be heard. Excuse me, Senator, go ahead.

SENATOR SIECK: ...thank you, and Iowa, are just three examples, a few examples, of states with some restrictions on 2,4-D. Their individual laws vary greatly from a complete ban statewide to a partial ban in only a few counties. I feel we need to address this issue of 2,4-D ester if we want to promote fruit and vegetable production in Nebraska. Many years ago the area of Beaver Crossing had acres and acres of tomatoes. There was a canning factory right in the town. When 2,4-D chemicals came into use it devastated the tomato fields because of the drifting fumes. The canning factory closed and today there is no commercial tomato production in this area. Another man told me of 40 acres of his cucumbers that were destroyed by drifting 2,4-D from two and one-half miles away. He was compensated for the loss but nearly not enough. Yet another individual related to me about how there used to be a lot of tame and wild grapes in our state. Today it is very rare and I can tell you this by my own experience, we had a lot of wild grapes in my area and they do make very good wine, yet today I don't have any just because of 2,4-D. I checked with both custom ground applicators and aerial applicators recently. They tell me they use 2,4-D ester type early in the spring and late fall for hard to kill weeds such as musk thistle. One applicator told me