

This Rope-Wick applicator for row crops was developed by two Texas farmers. Chemical reservoir is raised and lowered to control flow through ropes.

# "WIPES" WEEDS OUT OF CORN, COTTON, SOYBEANS

#### New Rope Sprayer Nails Tall Weeds

More and more farmers across the U.S. are using direct methods of applying herbicides to tall growing weeds (such as volunteer corn) in low growing crops (such as soybeans). We've told you about carpet-type applicators, such as the Quacker Whacker and the Weed Wiper. Now comes a new sprayer made out of rope.

New rope-wick applicators we've chased down use 1/2 in. nylon rope to draw herbicides from reservoirs and into direct contact with weeds. Ropes are suspended over crops in different ways to brush or wipe chemical on tall growing weeds. The new-style applicators are most effective when weeds are higher than crops, but units are also available for "wiping out" weeds between rows.

Much of the research into rope applicators has been done at the USDA's Southern Weed Science Laboratory, Stoneville, Miss.

Jim E. Dale, plant physiologist at the laboratory who developed a rope-wick applicator, has a set of plans available for interested do-ityourselfers.

He also has an experimental triangular-shaped rope applicator for use between rows. It has ropes down two sides, which are pointed down the row's center.

Dale shared his ideas with several interested companies. At least one company, Sprayrite Manufacturing Co., West Helena, Ark., is now manufacturing an applicator patterned after Dale's. Other manufacturers FARM SHOW talked to have taken a "wait and see" stance on rope-wick applicators.

Sprayrite Manufacturing came out with a commercial Wick Weeder last year and is offering an improved model for 1979. Sprayrite recommends that its Wick Weeder be used with their Spray Sickle, a recirculating type sprayer.

Sprayrite's customers have experimented with both Roundup and 2, 4-D through the Wick Weeders, applying it primarily on Johnsongrass in cotton and in soybeans. Solutions are heavy, with Roundup mixed two parts water to one part chemical.

Another rope-wick applicator, not connected to the Southern Weed Laboratory, has cropped up in Texas. Inventors Bob Boyd and Jim Barton, of Hale Center, string nylon rope over a metal frame to make their new BoBar Rope Applicator. It's a gravity-fed system and reportedly can apply herbicides while traveling at speeds up to 8 mph. They're excited about the simplicity of the machine

To give an idea of the size, the 6-row, 24 in. wide broadcast model weighs 325 lbs. Prices on the applicators range from \$800 for the 4-row, over-the-row applicator, to \$1250 for the 8-row model.

For more information on either of the commercial rope-wick applicators, or for do-it-yourself plans, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Moore, president, Sprayrite Mfg. Co., Box K, West Helena, Ark., 72390 (ph 501 572-6737).

FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Boyd or Jim Barton, BoBar Company, Box 341, Hale Center, Tx 79041 (ph 806 839-2542, or-806 879-2168).

For do-it-yourself plans, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: FARM SHOW Followup, Jim E. Dale, USDA Southern Weed Sciences Laboratory, P.O. Box 225. Stoneville, Miss. 38776 (ph 601 686-2311).

#### **AUTOMATICALLY SHUT OFF IF TIPPED**

## Kerosene Heaters Catching On Fast

"It's the most popular farm stove we've ever sold," says Brian Skillestad, president of Skillestad Engineering, Cannon Falls, Minn. He's the Minnesota distributor for Kero-sun, a Japanese-built kerosene heater that shuts off instantly and automatically if tipped over.

"In fact, just tilting the stove slightly will automatically shut it off. This safety feature is one of its strong selling points among farmers," says Brian, who cites the following additional features of the popular "go anywhere" heater:

- Burns without any odor and requires no venting.
- Low cost operation. "With Kerosene averaging 60 to 70c a gal., average cost of operation is only 3-4c an hour. In most areas of the country, it's far cheaper than supplemental electric heat. Biggest economy is that you enjoy all the heat the Kero-Sun produces. None goes up the flue pipe," explains Skillestad.
- Push-button lighting. Just press a button and a battery powered electric ignitor automatically starts glowing right above the heater's wick. Within seconds, the heater is lighted and cranking out heat.

Skillestad notes that the Kero-Sun line, well known throughout the world but new to the U.S., is available in 3 radiant models, and 3 omni models which are omni-directional. "Big daddy" of the line is the Omni 105



Manufacturer says new kerosene heater gives off no odor, needs no venting. Shuts off automatically if tipped.

with a maximum output of 18,000 btu's per hour. "It's especially popular with farmers for providing portable supplemental heat wherever needed — in farrowing barns, milking parlors, the farm shop or even in the farm home. The "big daddy" Omni 105 sells for \$219.

The long-burning champion of the Kero-Sun line is the radiant-style Model 10. It burns over 30 hours on less than 2 gal. of fuel.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kero-Sun Inc., Box 340 Main Street, Kent, Conn. 06757 (ph 203 927-3585).

### SEPARATES ANYTHING ROUND FROM ANYTHING THAT'S NOT ROUND

# "Spiral" Separates Corn From Soybeans

Got a binfull of soybeans that's laced with a lot of volunteer corn kernels?

Best and probably the only way we know to get corn out, short of custom-cleaning, is with a spiral separator. "It's the only successful separator for separating corn from soybeans," says a spokesman for Cleland International, Rogers, Minn., a leading manufacturer of spiral type separators. "Our unit is designed to separate anything round (such as soybeans) from anything not round (such as corn kernels)," the manufacturer points out. "It will separate corn from soybeans at the rate of 50 bu. per hour and sells for \$525."

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cleland International, 22301 Industrial Boulevard, Box 8, Rogers, Minn. 55375 (ph 612 428-4138).

