Helicopter Device Makes Dry Aerial Spreading Possible

Fast, uniform, and economical applications of granulars by air is possible for the first time with its newly patented spreading device, Evergreen Helicopters Inc., McMinnville, Ore., claims.

Dry chemicals and fertilizers for the first time can be broadcast from the air with uniform material flow at rates ranging from 10 to 1,000 lbs. per acre, according to Delford M. Smith, president of the pioneer commercial helicopter-operating firm.

"Although the need for such a device by helicopter operators has been long standing, because certain conditions demand dry rather than wet chemicals, the only efficient systems marketed to date are for spraying liquids," Smith said.

The new device is said to handle up to 800 lbs. per minute. Helicopters can spread full payloads of fertilizer in 60 seconds covering ground with a maximum 120-foot swath.

Inherent characteristics of the Evergreen spreader include: forward broadcast so the pilot has visual control; immediate response to on-off control; and no caking problems because of a method of chemical transfer to slinger, the firm reports.

For brush control, Evergreen has found the device provides customers with a total service package.

More information about the helicopter spreading system is available at Evergreen Helicopters, Inc., P.O. Box 382, Municipal Airport, McMinnville, Ore.

Use Right Chemical Tool For Weed Control
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emergence treatment for broadleaf weed control would still be required.

Another example: if a lawn or turf area contains mixed stands of dandelion, plantain, sheep sorrel, and common chickweed, the standard 2,4-D treatment would not be satisfactory because of the presence of two 2,4-D-tolerant species. A dicamba-2,4-D combination would be a better choice. Again, if prostrate knotweed were present beyond the seeding stage, the inclusion of dicamba or comparable material would become essential.