Anti-Roll Bars May Make Tractors Safer

More safety for the tractor operator may soon be built into tractors. International Harvester Company is testing a protective frame called an anti-roll bar at its Equipment Research and Engineering Center at Hinsdale, Ill.

Remote controls permit new model tractors to be driven at high speeds along a 42-degree bank and rolled at will. Electronic equipment records location and force of impact on the frame.

Strain gauges are cemented on the protective frame at various locations and connected to a radio transmitter. Sound is transmitted through radio telemetry on impact of the frame with the ground. The tone change occurring is read by a receiver and recorded on tape.

In the laboratory, tape is played back into an analyzer which translates the tone into forces exerted on the frame. The test also checks on design and mounting of the frame itself.

Such tests help researchers design and build a frame to give the operator maximum security should an operating tractor tip.

So-Called Fire Resistant Plants Are Not

Two Californians are warning home owners via a new publication not to rely on “fire-resistant plants” for protection during the brushfire season.

Such so-called fire resistant plants do not exist according to Joe R. Goodin, University of California agronomist at Riverside, and Richard Maire, Los Angeles County farm adviser. Any plant, they say, will burn if subjected to enough heat.

The larger a plant grows, the more potential fuel it produces, and the greater the fire hazard. As soil becomes dry, a plant takes up less water and has a lower moisture content. Irrigation can make the difference between an extremely flammable plant and one which will not burn as readily. Thus, the main protection is management.

Goodin and Maire pointed out that well-pruned, cleanly maintained, and irrigated areas did not carry fire during the California Bel Air conflagration of 1961. Sprinkler systems offered further protection.

Name of the new publication, soon to be released, is “Landscape for Fire Protection.”

Sprayer Accessories Catalog Available

John Bean Division has published a 4-page, illustrated catalog describing the Division's line of “Agricultural Spray Accessories.”

Shown are high-pressure guns, couplers, hoses, gauges, valves, filters, boom accessories and nozzles. Write L-1903, John Bean Division, FMC Corp., 1305 S. Cedar St., Lansing, Mich. 48910.

Non-Slip Floor Coating Resists Chemicals

A new non-slip floor coating that is impervious to most industrial chemicals is now being marketed. The new coating is called “Epoxo”, produced by Falcon Alarm Company.

Tests show Falcon Epoxo resistant to most acids, chemicals, oil, grease, corrosives, and even salt water. Epoxo is so corrosive-resistant, Falcon reports, that it is used on the flight and weather decks of virtually every U. S. Aircraft Carrier in the first-line fleet.

Epoxo reduces accidents and helps prevent slips, skids and falls. It is designed for application around machinery, marine decks, oil rigs, loading ramps,
work areas, driveways, or any area that presents a slip hazard. The new coating applies like butter with roller, trowel, brush or spray and adheres to any base. The maker reports a life of up to 5 years.

Colors include tile-red, grey, green, black, white and "safety orange". Five gallons of Falcon Epoxo cover up to 225 square feet. Cost is $17.50 per gallon for one to four gallons, and $15.95 per gallon for five gallons. Contact Falcon Alarm Co., Inc., 127 Stern Ave., Springfield, N. J. 07081.

Substitutes For Elms Recommended in Minnesota

Trees to replace diseased elms are being sought in many states.

In Minnesota, scientists at the University Agricultural Experiment Station have listed a number comparable in size to the American elm. All can be grown from seed.

Suggested are the American linden (Tilia americana), red maple (Acer rubrum), sugar maple (Acer saccharum), green ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica), oak (Quercus spp.), hackberry (Celtis occidentalis), and Kentucky coffee tree (Gymnocladus dioicus).

Smaller trees include ironwood (Ostrya virginiana), pagger dogwood (Cornus alternifolia), river birch (Betula nigra), showy mountain ash (Sorbus decora), juneberry (Amelanchier laevis), and blue beech (Carpinus caroliniana).

Seven Times As Many Weeds At Low Mowing Heights

Weed counts on 2-year old turf showed 7 times as many weeds when cut at 1½" heights compared to 2½ inches in a University of Maryland study.

Dr. Elwyn E. Deal, Extension turf specialist, says that grass may not look greener and more attractive at the taller height. But it will be healthier, will survive summer heat and drought better, will have more resistance to disease attacks, and will have fewer weeds. Further, Dr. Deal reports that greater mowing heights do not require more frequent mowings. Regardless of mowing heights, the rule is to remove 1/3 or less of the height with each mowing. By following the rule, the low-cut turf needs to be cut more often.

The Maryland turf-weed study for 2-year old turf showed the following number of weeds per 100 square feet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mowing Height</th>
<th>Crabgrass</th>
<th>Broadleafed Weeds</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2½ inches</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1½ inches</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>53.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weed counts on 1-year-old turf were much greater in favor of the higher mowing height. At the 2½" height, only 0.4 weeds per 100 square feet were spotted, compared to 15.3 weeds for the same sized area at the 1½” mowing height.

Coming in November
Eurasian Watermilfoil
Underwater Menace

Faster emerging, faster establishing 0217® sod-lift in only 6 months

Plant 0217® Fylking Kentucky Bluegrass in the early fall. If correct management procedures are followed, you can lift it by spring or plant early spring, lift late fall. A vigorous rhizome producer, the fast root propagation and establishment creates tightly-knit sod rolls and strips which retain soil. Its aggressiveness crowds out weeds. Turf quality is rated “best obtainable” by noted authorities.

Fylking is a beautiful, deep green from spring through late fall, maintaining color much longer than any other bluegrass.

0217® Fylking is resistant to stripe smut, leaf spot, stem rust, leaf rust and more resistant to Fusarium roseum than most other varieties. Five year tests have proven the superiority of Fylking.

For additional information and names of authorized distributors, write Jacklin Seed Co., Inc., Dishman, Wash. 99213.