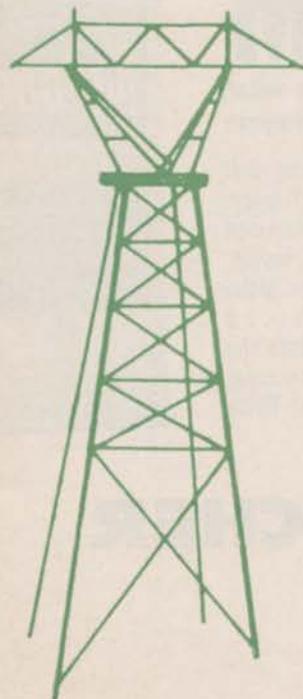




Equipped for pastureland spraying, helicopter tanks are loaded with herbicide from companion service truck.

Aerial Services of Roanoke Prefers Invert Herbicides

for *Whirlybird* Applications



HAROLD F. BROWN, president of Aerial Services Corp., Roanoke, Va., says his personnel were engaged in the aerial application of herbicides when they were still applied in straight oil, or oil-in-water emulsions, long before the advent of the invert, water-in-oil emulsions. It was found that oil was very subject to drift, and in late 1956 and '57, water-borne herbicides were applied.

During application in mid- and late-summer, his men found that straight water and herbicide did not do so well. Water-borne herbicides worked early in the summer, but during dry weather they were subject to drift and caused damage off the rights-of-way.

In 1958, Brown's men began working with Amchem Products on the development of the invert (water-in-oil) emulsion and Spra-disk. Many of Amchem's improvements and refinements made the invert and Spra-disk a workable combination. Today, Brown says, it is one of the most sophisticated systems for aerial application available for



use with helicopters. Since that time, 90% of Aerial Service's applications have been with invert material, and it has applied invert material extensively to utility rights-of-way. Seven valuable years of experience have been completed with this type of application.

ASC sprays over 210-foot power line towers for brush and weed control, virtually eliminating rights-of-way damage and claims by 80%. Sprink application of invert droplets gets more chemical where it is supposed to be, killing brush. Aerial Services works over the entire Mid-Atlantic, Northeastern, and Midwestern United States.

This aerial applicator operates Bell helicopters having a minimum VO435 (vertically opposed, 435 cu. in.) engine with 260 h.p., and also has a STC (Supplemental Type Certificate) for switching to a VO540 engine. These ships carry a payload of 1,100 lbs, and a maximum useful load of 900 lbs.

In the past year Aerial Services has built new hangars and offices and hired personnel that can service up to 10 helicopters. It now owns enough property to build a 2,200-foot, fixed-wing strip. This strip and heliport is located just three miles from the corporation limit of Roanoke, off Route 220, south.

The staff of Aerial Services has been engaged in flying helicopters for 52 years with an accumulation of over 25,000 hours of flying time, and has completed a total of over 6,200 hours of aerial, chemical application since 1956. Besides aerial application to utility rights-of-way, this active applicator is engaged in many other fields of helicopter work, such as: power and pipeline patrol, carrying cargo, aerial photography, forest spraying (both herbicides and insecticides), pastureland fertilizing, fire patrol, fire fighting, aerial surveying, and private charter or lease for corporations.

It is clear to see the applicator was on the right track when his 'copter left a trail of invert spray along this right-of-way.

