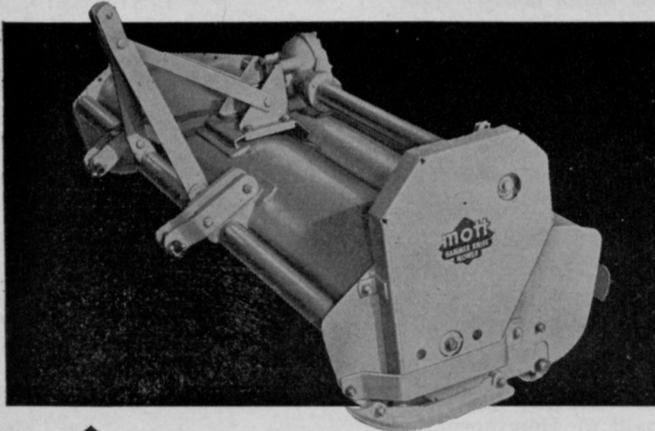


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Dreaming?

A release from the U. S. Department of Agriculture the other day says development of equipment, and techniques for applying a pesticide, should parallel development of the chemical itself. Reasoning is that evolving specialized equipment and techniques to deposit a chemical will increase the material's effectiveness and "probably reduce substantially the amount of the pesticide needed for optimum control of pests." This in turn, the story went on, would lower costs and reduce drift and residue hazards to man, animals, beneficial insects, and crops.

Because of the increasingly cumbersome Washington maze pesticide manufacturers go through to obtain label approval, applicators might have to wait another year or two to be able to use a new pesticide if equipment had to be specially tailored for it. As it is, chemical manufacturers must sit on their hands for from six to nine months awaiting a verdict on their candidate, only to hear, in some cases, that revisions must be made and the new label resubmitted to once more go through the interdepartmental system which must now okay every statement that goes on a pesticide.

Quite naturally chemical manufacturers are anxious to have their products put through equipment that will give the best results. Equipment makers, too, have a very real interest. We have a letter from a sprayer manufacturer who says he has very little liaison with pesticide formulators. He wishes for closer cooperation so tank linings, hoses, nozzles, and other fittings will better withstand the unanticipated deterioration that might result with a newly introduced chemical.

It makes good sense that these two sources of supply to the vegetation maintenance and control field should effect a closer relationship. But to withhold a chemical until tailor-made equipment has been designed is an unrealistic approach which could have devastating effects on both the public and vegetation controllers.

The USDA says more basic research is needed to determine how the movement of chemical particles is affected physically once they leave the applicator. Additional research is needed, they say, on such forces as inertia, aerodynamics, gravitation, electrical charges and temperature differences as they affect the safe efficient use of chemicals to control pests. Agreed. But will the bugs stop multiplying until we get a completely harmonious marriage between the chemicals used to control them and the equipment used to apply the chemicals?

Before you buy
any sprayer, see the
**BIG
PERFORMER**



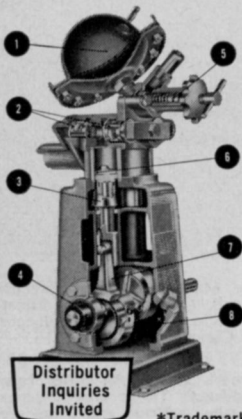
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