

A Near Kill

Experienced treemen know equipment safety guards are built onto machinery for sound safety reasons. Here's an account of a near-fatal accident that resulted from failure to use a safety guard.

A Public Utility District arborist in Kennewick, Wash., reports that the mishap occurred while he was nearly 40 ft. up in the air inside the bucket of an aerial hoist. A safety shield over the controls had been removed for "better access" to the levers.

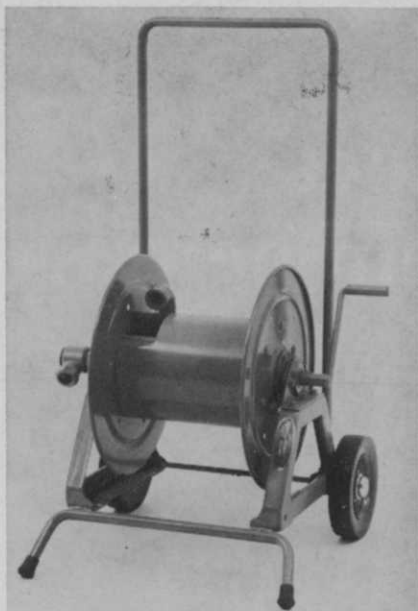
Minus the shield over controls, the treeman slowly brought the bucket up under a cable attached to a building and stretched across the street to another anchoring. As the bucket continued to rise, the wire came directly across the operator's hand which was pressing on the "Up" control. Before the unusual pressure was noticed, the serviceman's hand was trapped and the hoist surged upward.

When the cable snapped from its moorings, the bounce nearly popped the serviceman out of the bucket, and to the ground close to 40 ft. below.

Banvel D Label Approved

Approval of a new USDA label registration for granular Banvel D + 2,4-D was recently revealed by the Velsicol Chemical Corp. One application a year, in spring or fall, is recommended by the maker for control of dandelion, clover, knotweed, chickweed, and other broadleaf weeds in established lawns and golf course areas. The granular form may also be applied to newly seeded lawns after the second spring cutting, Velsicol says. For best results the herbicide should be applied to moist grass, which should not be watered or mowed for 24 hours afterwards.

For more information on the granular Banvel D + 2,4-D combination, write Velsicol Chemical Corp., 341 East Ohio St., Chicago, Ill. 60611.



New Hannay portable hose reel handles 60 to 250 ft. of $\frac{3}{8}$ to 1-in. I.D. hose for liquids or gases up to 300 psi, and temperatures from -20 to +180 degrees Fahrenheit. Rewind is by direct hand crank with an adjustable drag device to brake or lock the reel. The new models are permanently mounted on tubular steel frames. They feature self-aligning front and back bearings. Complete information is available from Clifford B. Hannay & Son, Inc., Westerlo, N. Y. 12193.

Tractor Exhaust Blows Dry Insecticide Fog

Estate Deluxe BlitzFogger "400" is a new lawn and garden tractor attachment that uses heated exhaust gases to dispense insecticide fog.

Manufactured by Northern Industries, Inc., the device incorporates a metering valve which allows heated exhaust gases to thermalize insecticide in an attached tank. The resulting dry fog covers an acre of ground in less than 10 minutes, the firm claims. The unit comes equipped with an easy-to-read gauge that registers the amount of insecticide left in the tank.

Fog generated by the attachment is said to be safe for use on and around trees, flowers, and shrubs.

BlitzFogger "400" has a half-gallon tank, metering valve, pipe fittings, and a nozzle. Included with new units is a quart of BlitzFog insecticide, made especially for the foggers.

To obtain more details on the exhaust attachment write to Northern Industries, Inc., 407 E. Michigan St., Milwaukee, Wis. 53202.

Trimmings

High and Dry. Talking to a sod producer the other day, we heard of a hapless New York State landscaper caught with his sod down. Barely had he placed the last piece of sod around a new high-rise apartment when the local authorities imposed a watertight sprinkling ban. Within a few days, his fresh, green sod turned to a straw mat, and the apartment owner staunchly refused to part with a nickel on the grounds that the ground he ordered was to be of grass, not hay. We don't know how the matter was resolved, if it has been resolved, but we wonder about the sod grower and the unfortunate landscaper, and just how far their responsibility for fresh turf goes. What about the grower or landscaper who delivers his sod in good order to the occasional customer who's convinced garden hoses are for washing cars, not watering lawns?

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Weed rather not enter. We're still listening to radio, and recently tuned in a station promoting a weed contest. Listeners are invited to send in weeds which will be judged in three categories: biggest, most unusual, and prettiest. And free crabgrass plants for the winners. Weed rather give up radio.

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Seeing is believing. When in New Jersey for the Rutgers sod field day, we talked to Wiley Miner, head of Princeton Turf Farms, whose Croshaw Farm hosted the June 22 product demonstrations. "Field days are important because we have to see the new equipment in action to appreciate the growth of sod industry techniques," Wiley said with a smile. We weren't puzzled by his comment, but we wonder how he could smile after seeing his turf leveled, rotavated, fumigated, seeded, fertilized, irrigated, mowed, thinned, and harvested—all in one afternoon! We noticed, though, that as soon as the show equipment was off the turf, Princeton's crew went to work to smooth out their prize New Jersey Certified Sod.

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Shotgun fails. "Shotgun" spraying of lawns with drug and grocery store weedkillers is more convenient than effective, says Eugene Heikes, Colorado State University extension weed specialist. He traces the frequent failures of home weed remedies to weak formulations and wrong identification of weeds by lawn-owners, who sometimes assume that if a plant doesn't belong it must be "crabgrass." There's just no substitute for the weed or turf specialist and the well-calibrated sprayer. Now, if CAs could only get homeowners to believe this...

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Our congratulations to the Weed Society of America for its new "Weed Science Newsletter," being edited by that well-known Floridian, Jack Rogers. Since the publication meets a real need, we hope members will soon vote on how frequently it will be issued.