



Stanley Clarke puts his new sand trap machine into action before the South Florida Golf Course Superintendent's Association.



William J. Brennan demonstrates the chemical spraying of golf courses by helicopter. Photos courtesy of Miami-Metro Department of Publicity and Tourism.

Sand Trap Rig, 'Copter Seen as Labor Savers

Two Miami men are pioneering in South Florida golf course maintenance with imaginative labor-saving techniques, according to Paul Turcotte, president of the South Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association.

The two new approaches to solving ever-increasing labor costs are a riding-type, sand trap machine and chemical spraying by helicopter.

The sand trap machine was developed by Stanley Clarke, of Miami Springs, Fla. Former Vietnam helicopter pilot William J. Brennan has launched the aerial spraying of golf courses.

"Either golf course superintend-

ents have to mechanize or we go under, largely due to the present cost of hand labor," explained Turcotte, manager of the City of Miami LeJeune golf course.

"For example, it would take five men to rake the sand traps, but with this new machine one man can do the job in the same amount of time.

"Whereas it used to take a week to spray a golf course, you can now do

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it by helicopter in two or three hours and very accurately," Turcotte added.

The device Clarke designed looks a lot like the common power lawn mower which can be ridden. But the Trapmaster model can maintain 100 sand traps in an eight-hour day.

Powered by a seven horsepower, four-cycle gasoline engine, the Trapmaster can handle all types of contours, turning almost on a dime, and can also be used for dragging in top soil after top dressing, as well as raking.

The chemical spraying of golf courses by helicopter, though a fairly new concept in South Florida, has been applied in the northern United States and is similar to the accepted practice of crop-dusting.

Clarke, property manager at the LaGorce Country Club on Miami Beach, operates the Stanley Clarke Equipment Co., Inc., at 665 Mokena Dr. in Miami Springs. Brennan, a graduate of North Miami High, is with Crescent Airways at the West Perry Airport in Hollywood, Fla.

BOOK REVIEWS

TURFGRASS PESTS. Manual 41. \$2.00. Agricultural Publications, Office, University of California, Berkeley, Calif. 94720, or from Extension offices throughout the state.

A new University of California publication uses 72 color photographs and simple diagrams to explain turfgrass weeds and pests and how to control them.

The 50-page booklet has a particularly useful chapter for small turfgrass growers which tells how to measure your property and convert "gallons per acre" formulas to your use. Other chapter headings cover pesticide handling, weeds, insects, diseases, nematodes and rodents, and there is a glossary of terms.

Along with it comes a pamphlet describing up-to-date information on chemicals and recommended dosages for controlling pests and diseases. The larger manual makes no attempt to keep up with changing regulations or technology in the pesticide industry.

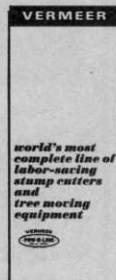
Noting that "a healthy grass is the best means of pest control," the publication warns growers to consider improving management practices as a first step in reducing pest problems before applying chemical controls.

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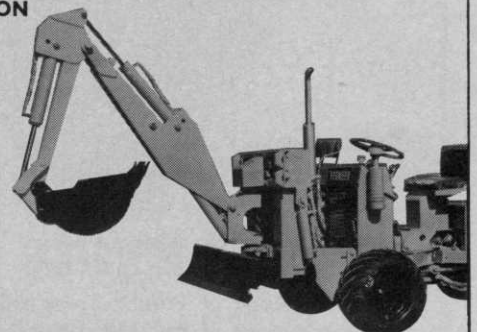
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