

New girl on the block

Meet Gail Hogan, your new editor for WEEDS TREES & TURF.

A native of Marblehead, Massachusetts, Gail was graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a BA in journalism and has done graduate work at Cleveland State University.

She has held numerous positions in advertising and public relations and has worked as a reporter for three Cleveland area newspapers. Most recently she was editor for Chessie System, Inc., Cleveland.

New to the green industries, Gail believes her biggest asset will be you, the readers. "I want to know what interests our readers, what they want covered and what they need to know to keep abreast of their exciting and innovative industries. With their help, WEEDS TREES & TURF will continue to be a viable and necessary information source."

Gail also plans more features about people. "People are the industry," she says. "They are what it's all about." She hopes to meet many readers as she travels throughout the country gathering material for WEEDS TREES & TURF.

Gail lives in North Ridgeville, Ohio, with her husband, Mike, and two children, Sean, 18 months, and Jennifer, nine.



INVENTIVE IDEA speeds application

Special spraying jobs call for special equipment, and that in a nutshell is the reason Ted Weidenfeller designed a new spray boom that's simple, yet effective. It's one of those, "Gee, I wish I'd thought of that" ideas.

Weidenfeller, who's sales manager of Agricultural Services, Inc., in Minneapolis, points out that for spraying open areas such as parking lots, storage areas, sub-stations and the like, a different type of boom is needed. A hand or orchard-type sprayer is great for spot treatment. In areas filled with obstructions, OC or flood tips fill the bill.

However, Weidenfeller discovered that a boom for open areas, one that would treat large areas accurately and efficiently without leaving untreated strips and misses, and one man could handle with ease day after day, just wasn't available.

So, he set about designing his own. He came up with what he calls the "T type boom", a rig that applies a 6-foot wide spray strip at a rate of about 50 gallons per acre.

His T type boom is equipped with a quick-coupler, a good shut-off (a 31 gun jet), and is fabricated from 3/4-inch aluminum piping.

Overall length is 42 inches, including the coupler and gun jet. The horizontal boom, made of 1/4-inch aluminum pipe, is 60 inches long. A pressure gauge is mounted at the junction of the vertical and horizontal boom pipes, and is easily read by the operator.

Completely equipped, including four nozzles, the boom weighs only 5 pounds.

There are other advantages besides being lightweight.

By using four nozzles equipped with 50 mesh ball check strainers and 8005 tips, and spraying at 40 psi, a person walking at a normal gait applies a spray strip 6 feet wide at a rate of almost 50 gallons per acre.

"Thus, a 200-300 gallon spray will treat 4 to 6 acres of bare ground chemical in one filling, and this is about all a two-man crew can treat in a day when the sites are scattered," inventor Weidenfeller says.

If you have an Inventive Idea, send it to the Editor, WEEDS TREES & TURF, 9800 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44102. We will pay \$25 for each idea printed.

