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Attachment is simple. Just put the two interlocking weight bins on your 3- or 4-wheel Turf Truckster chassis (equipped with hydraulic system), slide in three quick-release pull pins, add sand for weight, and you're ready to go.

You drive between work areas quickly, saving time. When you reach a green, just use the hydraulic lever at your side to lower the Greensaver into the turf. You keep moving, aerating at speeds up to 6 mph.

The inexpensive and easily-changed tines leave a neat 3-1/4" x 4" pattern of holes. The unique tine shape eliminates any pivoting action, allowing them to go deeper without damage to the green surface. So you

can remove up to three times more soil than with other drum-type aerators.

But the Greensaver also makes the aerating operation faster by automatically picking up the soil cores. As the tines enter the ground, the cores are forced through the tines into the drum. When it's full, just open the large door to empty it. Or you can leave the sides of the drum open, to deposit the cores on the green.

And the Greensaver features a special turf guard and roller which smooth the turf and prevent the sod from rolling up on the drum.

The new Greensaver is just one more way to put your 18-hp Turf Truckster to work.

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Snowpack little help to Western drought

Latest surveys of mountain snowpack offer little encouragement to western states facing the worst summer water shortage in years, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service (SCS).

Snow surveys conducted earlier this month by SCS show the lightest snowpack ever recorded on most watersheds in the West. Spring and summer streamflow from the snowbelt may be the region's lowest since the late 1800's.

Some parts of the West had rain and snow last week, but it was too little to help.

The situation is most critical in California, where this year's record light snowpack will bring no relief to prolonged drought.

The outlook by states follows:

Arizona: Snowpack is half to two-thirds of normal. Streamflow is expected to be 20 to 65 percent of normal, but reservoir storage is good.

California: The California Department of Water Resources reports that snowpack is 20 to 40 percent of normal. Reservoir supplies are down to 60 percent of normal.

Colorado: Snowpack is 30 to 40 percent of normal. Most streams will yield 50 to 60 percent of their normal flow.

Idaho: Snowpack ranges from 5 percent of normal in the south to 30 percent in the north. Some south-central rivers will yield only 25 percent of their normal streamflow.

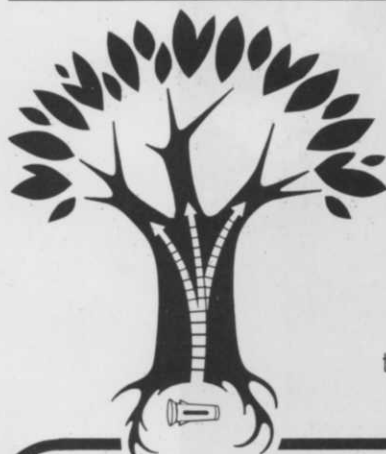
Montana: Snowpack is one-third of normal on the Columbia Basin drainage area and half of normal on the Missouri River drainage. Streamflow in most of the state will be 50 to 60 percent of normal, but the Milk River will yield 90 percent of its normal flow.

Nevada: Snowpack is 5 to 25 percent of normal, and streamflow is expected to be 20 to 30 percent of normal.

Utah: Snowpack is 15 to 40 percent of normal, and some rivers are expected to yield only 15 percent of their normal streamflow.

The streamflow forecasts assume that storms will follow their normal spring patterns. However, if this winter's dry weather continues through March, virtually all western rivers will have record low flows, the conservation agency said.

Snowpack accumulated in winter and spring provides about 70 percent of the western water supply during the year.



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	Check Location You'll Attend	No. of People Attending
LANSING, MICH., Tues., Jan. 11 Holiday Inn South	_____	_____
CLEVELAND, OHIO, Wed., Jan. 12 Holiday Inn—Cleveland/Independence	_____	_____
ROCHESTER, N.Y., Thurs., Jan. 13 Hilton Inn on the Campus	_____	_____
FREMONT, NEBR., Tues., Feb. 8 Holiday Lodge	_____	_____
ST. LOUIS, MO., Thurs., Feb. 10 Holiday Inn—Riverfront	_____	_____
MILWAUKEE, WISC., Fri., Feb. 25 Hoffman House, 251 N. Mayfair Rd.	_____	_____
ELMHURST, ILL., Tues., March 8 Holiday Inn, 624 N. York Rd.	_____	_____
CHAMPAIGN, ILL., Fri., Feb. 11 Ramada Inn—University	_____	_____
MOLINE, ILL., Thurs., Feb. 24 Holiday Inn—Airport	_____	_____
INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Wed., March 9 Sheraton Inn, Pendeton Pike Exit off I-465	_____	_____

NOTE!!! DEALER ATTENDING, PLEASE COMPLETE BELOW!!!

Name _____

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Phone _____


Meetings scheduled from 10 A.M. until 2:30 P.M. Lunch will be provided (no charge) for one key employee per firm, additional are welcome. Indicate above, location and number attending from your firm.

Clip above schedule and return at least 10 days prior to meeting as confirmation of your attendance.

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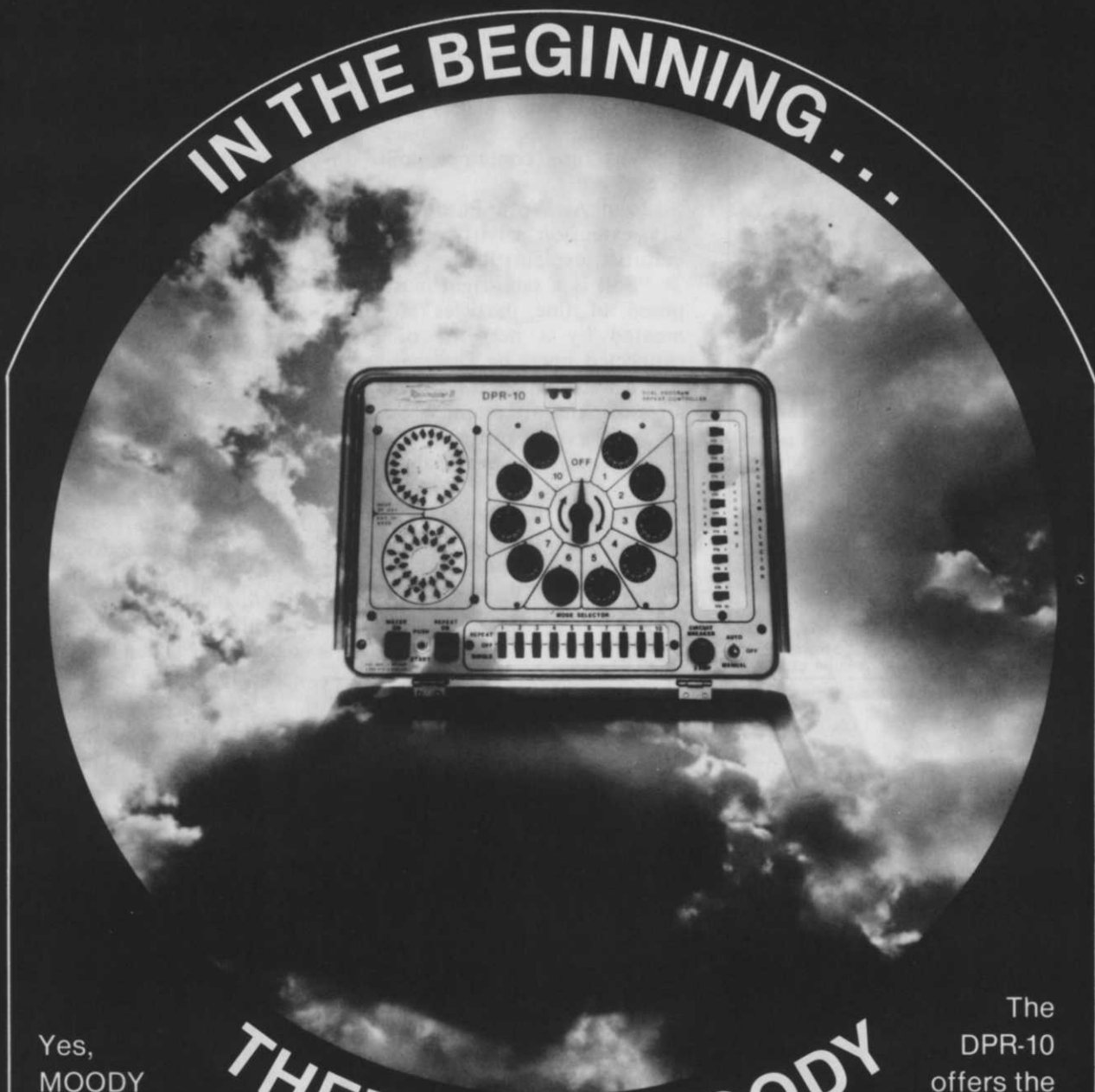


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Container soils need variety

Americans by the millions grow plants in containers these days. Yet many do not realize that excellent garden soil rarely makes good container soil.

Why are container soils different?

John A. Wott, Purdue University extension environment horticulturist, explains it this way:

"Soil is a semi-rigid mass composed of fine particles and permeated by a network of interconnected pores or passageways in which water, mineral nutrients, and air move and are retained. Soil acts as a reservoir, storing water and mineral nutrients essential to plant growth and survival."

The mass of soil in a container is distinguished from regular ground bed soils by two important characteristics, he adds. Container soil masses are small, and they are shallow.

The effect of smallness is obvious. The water and mineral reservoir available to container plants is much less than to those growing in ground beds. This reservoir, therefore must be frequently replenished by irrigation and fertilization to maintain equivalent growth in containers.

The effect of container shallowness is less obvious, says Wott. For instance, a sponge, like the soil, is permeated by pores which become full when the sponge is saturated with water. If the sponge is placed flat on a level and filled, water will drip from its bottom side. If, after water ceases to drip from the sponge, it is stood on edge, more water will drip from it. Likewise, after water ceases dripping from it in this position, you turn the sponge on end, more water will drip from it. Both the water content and depth of the sponge change from side to edge to end.

In other words, the deeper the sponge the lesser its water content, points out Wott. This same principle holds true for container soils, he says. The more shallow the container, the wetter its soil following irrigation.

"Actually a 'perched' water table forms at the container bottom even though it has a drainage hole. And like any water table, the deeper it is, the drier the soil above it. Because of this effect of shallowness, an excellent garden soil placed into a container will probably be too wet for good plant growth.

While smallness and shallowness create a dilemma for the soil in a container (inadequate supply of water and minerals), this same soil may be too wet for a plant to absorb even this inadequate supply.

"Smallness can be remedied by frequent irrigation and fertilization," says Wott, "but shallowness must be corrected by the addition of coarse-textured materials, such as sand, sawdust, peat, perlite, bark, vermiculite, etc., to the soil. These create large pores which drain following irrigation." □



News Flash

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Meeting Dates

U. of Cal. Short Course, "Greenhouse and Shadehouse Management for the Hobbyist," Riverside, CA, Apr. 7-May 12.

Annual Southern Cal. Turf & Landscape Institute, Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, CA, Apr. 20-21

U. of Cal. Short Course, "Drip Irrigation for Home Garden and Landscape," Riverside, CA, Apr. 23.

1977 Arizona Turfgrass Conference, Sunburst Hotel, Scottsdale, AZ, May 4.

Urban Forestry Workshop, Long's Convention Center, Lansing, MI, May 6.

International Society of Arboriculture Conference, San Diego, CA, May 20-23.

Pacific Seedsmen's Association Annual Convention, Del Monte Hyatt House, Monterey, CA, May 20-24.

American Seed Trade Association 94th Annual Convention, Galt House, Louisville, KY, June 25-30.

American Association of Nurserymen 102nd Annual Convention/5th Annual Farwest Nursery, Garden & Supply Show, Seattle Center, WA, Jul. 17-20.

5th Annual Transworld Home Horticulture Lawn, Garden, and Patio Exhibit, ExpoCenter, Chicago, IL. Oct. 14-17.

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Product liability insurance skyrocketing

The National Federation of Independent Business recently conducted a Product Liability survey of small businesses. The results, reprinted from the NFIB Speaks Out Newsletter, follow.

1. Approximately three of five small manufacturers surveyed carry product liability insurance. Propensity to carry such coverage is directly related to firm size.

2. One in 12, about nine percent, of all firms surveyed, cannot afford product liability insurance and another 17 percent cannot afford desired limits. However, less than one percent cannot find anyone to insure them for any price. Almost three percent have "gone bare", once having had insurance and now not being able to afford it.

3. Product liability insurance

rates are escalating at an alarming rate.

4. By the end of 1976, product liability claims against surveyed small manufacturers will have doubled over the past five years. Insurance payments to claimants will have risen significantly over the same period as well.

Most claims settled that included some payment to a claimant are relatively small. However, a substantial difference exists between mean payments and median payments due to a few very large financial settlements.

5. Estimated premium payments of surveyed firms for the coming year will be approximately six times larger than payments made by insurers to claimants over the last 4 3/4 years.

6. The most significant finding of this survey is that one in eight surveyed small manufacturers have failed to develop a new (new for the firm) product and one in 20 is dropping a product due to the inability to obtain product liability insurance, the cost of product liability insurance premiums, or the threat of product liability suits. This type of impact is predominant in the "Chemicals, Petroleum, Rubber and Plastics" sectors.

7. Prior increases in product liability insurance premiums caused 25 percent of the surveyed firms paying premiums to raise the price of their goods, and another 21 percent have raised or will raise their prices due to expected premium increases. □



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