

Keilen's airblast sprayer made an appearance at a recent Midwest farm show.

## "SUPER PENETRATION WITH LESS CHEMICAL"

# Aerial Applicator Used For Ground Spraying

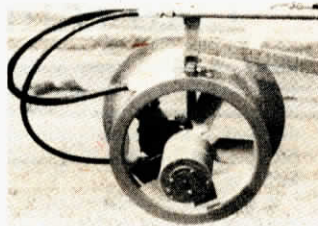
A new "airblast" sprayer that's in use on airplane sprayers around the world is ready to be introduced to U.S. and Canadian farmers as a boom-mounted ground sprayer.

Imported from Britain, the Micronair airblast sprayer has been used aerially for more than 30 years in Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Central America, Europe, the United States and many other areas of the world on everything from row crops to bananas. With the increased interest in lower chemical application rates, the sprayer has been adapted to ground use. Testing is being conducted in the U.S., Australia, New Zealand and Europe.

"It's a tough, solid unit that's precision built," says Bruce Keilen, a Lansing, Mich., farmer who has operated a Micronair equipped sprayer for the past two years. "It gives us super penetration on vegetable crops such as potatoes and carrots. We also own a sprayer equipped with Micromax spinner heads and the difference is that the Micronair gives you much more driving force that coats the entire plant. The Micronair spray heads are also adjustable so you can adapt to various crops and chemicals."

"With the Micronair we are now using 8 to 9 gal. of chemical per acre compared to 50 gal. with conventional sprayers. This represents a tremendous time saving for us and we're getting as good or better coverage than before," says Keilen, adding that his Micromax sprayer uses about the same amount of chemical as the Micronair, although rates are still being tested.

Micronair spray heads have a nozzle mounted at the center of a hydraulically driven fan (on airplanes, the fan is driven by the air stream). The angles on the fan blades are adjustable to vary the droplet size according to the chemical and the condition of the crop being treated. And they're fitted with nozzles that, the company says, "don't plug up, even when handling heavy mineral sup-



Adjustable propeller blades blast spray onto all sides of even dense, heavy foliage.

plements".

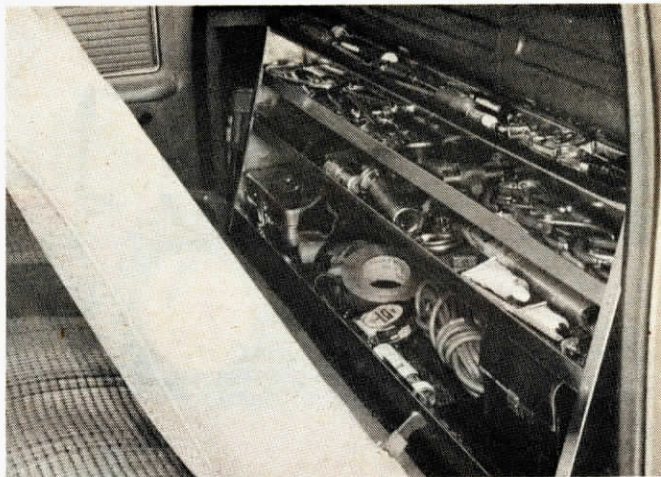
Micronair spray heads aren't cheap at \$1,200 each but Eric Ehlinger, of Micronair Sales and Service Inc., the Miami-based importer of the product, says the ruggedness and performance of the units justify the cost.

"Our spray heads are high-precision equipment designed to last for years and meet the high standards set by the aviation industry. We feel they'll last years longer than any other spray head currently on the market," says Ehlinger.

Bruce Keilen says that his next sprayer will definitely be fitted with Micronair spray heads. "We like the ruggedness and control the sprayer gives us," he says.

A factor in comparing the price of Micronair spray heads to the Micromax spinner heads is that the Micronair heads cover more ground, says Bruce Keilen. He has two 42-ft. sprayers, one outfitted with Micromax spray heads and the other equipped with Micronair air blast heads. The Micromax boom has ten heads and the Micronair has just seven. The company also has a smaller version of the Micronair that sells for \$998. Testing is also currently being conducted on that model.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Eric Ehlinger, Micronair Sales & Service, Inc., 7792 N.W. 54th St., Miami, Fla. 33166 (ph 305 592-9250).



Tool bin fits behind seat and fastens to the back of the cab with two screws.

## Driver's Seat "Tool-Bin"

Slick new way to keep tools handy and organized is the "Tool-Bin" storage organizer that sits behind the truck seat, keeping tools and equipment organized and off the floor and dash.

Just introduced by Crafco Manufacturing, Phoenix, Ariz., the Tool-Bin is made of 26 ga. steel. It fits behind the truck seat, against the back of the cab, fastening with 2 screws.

The four recessed shelves are covered with indoor/outdoor carpeting to reduce noise. The shelves are welded to the bin frame in the back, and riveted in the front.

Carol DiGiacomo, marketing repre-

sentative, explains that each of 3 models is 5½ in. wide, 15 in. high and tapered up to match the taper of the truck seat.

Sizes available include a standard size 54 in. long for full-size trucks; a mid-size model 45 in. long, and a mini-size which is in two sections each 15 in. long. The latter is designed for small trucks and trucks with bucket seats.

Each model sells for \$79.95.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Crafco Manufacturing, P.O. Box 20133, Phoenix, Ariz. 85036 (ph toll free 800 528-8242; in Ariz. and Canada, ph 602 961-1645).



Mini backhoe has a 360° turning radius.

## Mini-Backhoe For Youngsters

Latest new farm toy for youngsters is the Schweiss Mini-Backhoe built by Schweiss Repair Shop, Fairfax, Minn.

The miniature backhoe sits on a 30 in. post that you drive into the ground. Its frame slides over the post.

For junior construction workers, it provides a 360° turning radius, and a reach of up to about 30 in. to load sand or dirt into piles, coaster wa-

gons, toy trucks or whatever. The scoop has two controls — one to control scoop movement, the other to raise and lower the scoop.

Sells for \$69.50 plus tax and shipping costs.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Schweiss Repair Shop, Hwy. 19, Fairfax, Minn. 55332 (ph 507 426-7828).