

WHAT'S NEW

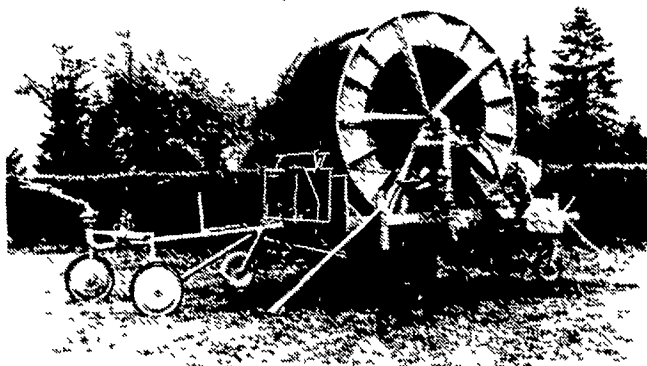
IRRIGATION GUN

A new German traveling gun irrigation system that does not use a cable pull or collapsible flat hose is being introduced to the U.S. market by Complete Wellpoint and Equipment Service, here, Port Orange, Fla.

The unique system was developed by Hudig International, the 75-year-old West German irrigation equipment manufacturer whose products are well known in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. The Florida firm, now part of the Hudig International group, is handling U.S. distribution and plans to manufacture Hudig components in this country in the near future.

The Hudig "Iromat" traveling gun system includes three basic components: a rotating drum take-up reel powered by a water piston, a three-wheeled sprinkler "skid" or carrier, and a new heavy wall semi-flexible polyethylene pipe.

While conventional guns utilize a cable pull and have a flat collapsible hose, the Iromat uses a semi-rigid polyethylene pipe that carries the water and actually pulls the gun upward toward the take-up reel, thereby eliminating the danger of hose kinking or fouling. Since no cable pull



or earth anchor is required, the trailing loop of hose is eliminated and there is no buildup of earth or clay on the pulling pipe.

Similarly, since the high clearance sprinkler carriage and pipe travel only in the furrows, there is no damage to tender crops and travel lanes are eliminated. As a result, there is no loss of acreage for travel lane allowance, except in high crops, says the manufacturer.

Hudig's semi-rigid pipe, backed by a three-year unconditional guarantee, is virtually immune to damage and can be repaired right in the field with an inexpensive heat fusion process, if necessary. The manufacturer guarantees the weld to be stronger than the original pipe.

The Iromat system can be set up in the field by one person in about half an hour with the aid of a tractor. When the sprinkler skid is pulled into the desired position with the tractor, the operation also lays out the pulling pipe. Only the length of pipe needed is unrolled from the drum, which remains outside or adjacent to the crop growing area. Because no anchor is required, the common

practice of using a tractor for anchoring is eliminated, freeing this equipment for other uses.

The Iromat is available in two models. The model 90 has a 3 1/2-inch pipe and the model 110 has a 4 5/16-inch pipe. Both are available with pipe lengths up to 1,247 feet for irrigating areas one-fourth mile long. Depending on wind conditions, type of

sprinkler head and pump efficiency, the Iromat can effectively cover a work strip from 200 to 400 feet wide.

The pipe does not have to remain in a straight line and the sprinkler carriage will follow the pipe layout around any curve or over terraced or rolling terrain. Irregularly shaped fields requiring short or long runs can be easily irrigated with the Iromat, according to the manufacturer.

Both Iromat models require a pump with a 150-pound pressure rating and a delivery capacity of about 450 gallons per minute. Any pump with that head and volume characteristic can be used.

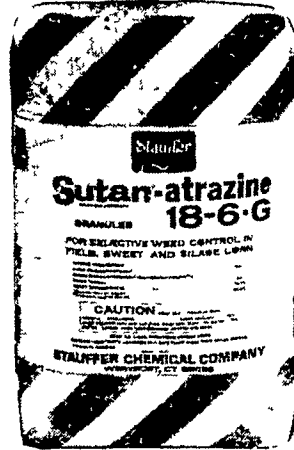
The reciprocating water piston unit with a high energy reserve evenly rotates the drum. The piston, designed to minimize loss of water pressure, is controlled by a wear resistant plastic

valve. Two cotter pins secure the water piston to the drum unit, thereby simplifying removal for service.

For additional information and prices on the Hudig Iromat system and related hardware — including a special system for land spreading of sewage effluent — readers may contact Complete Wellpoint and Equipment Service, Post Office Box 67, Port Orange, Florida 32019.

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