

Now - \$20 deposit on returnable pesticide containers

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — The first returnable herbicide drum program in U.S. pesticide industry history has been launched.

According to G. David Malsbary, Lasso Product Director at Monsanto, this innovative recycling program will allow volume herbicide users to reap the convenience benefits of 55-gallon drums while also reducing container disposal problems.

"By eliminating heavy lifting and frequent pouring, 55-gallon drums can assist farmers by cutting their herbicide handling time in half as compared with smaller containers, not to mention significant safety and labor-saving benefits," Malsbary states.

"We also believe this unique program represents a major step forward in answering increasing grower concerns about the disposal problems associated with conventional

containers."

With farmers' time worth upwards of \$700 an hour at planting, the elimination of unproductive down-time inherent in handling a large number of small containers can assist larger growers in getting their crop in the ground sooner.

Farm suppliers can forklift a palletized unit of 55-gallon drums onto the farmer's pickup or water trailer. Then when the farmer has finished spraying, he can return them to a participating retailer.

During usage, the grower can employ a 12-volt electric pump with numerical readout meter, available from a variety of manufacturers, to achieve faster, more accurate measuring. This can be a one-man operation since there's no lifting or pouring involved.

In addition to the recycling program, which is being

organized and coordinated by Monsanto through their current distribution system, growers will receive a \$20 rebate from the company for each drum of Lasso purchased.

The rebate is intended to assist the grower in setting up his handling system in a safe and accurate manner, company spokesmen contend. To receive this rebate, a certificate accompanying each drum must be completed and mailed, along with a copy of the purchase invoice, to Monsanto's redemption center.

In explaining the procedure for the return of used drums by growers, Malsbary notes that participating dealers will accept only empty Lasso herbicide drums which are in good condition.

Bungs must be replaced and tightened after the drums have been triple rinsed with water and then emptied.

After acceptance by participating dealers, drums will be shipped to a designated reclaimer by Monsanto distributors.

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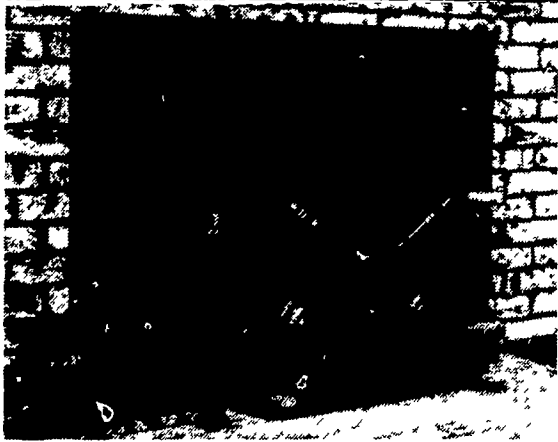
That will soon change says Marcel Seckman, home economist, with the new United States Department of Agriculture rule that restricts the sale of any food that has minimum nutritional value. Soda pop, water ices, chewing gum and some candies will be banned from the start of the school day until after the lunch period. USDA is authorized to regulate the sale of foods

where they compete with federally subsidized meal programs in the schools.

The action is being taken because of widespread concern for the quality of school children's diets. Sales of competitive foods—especially soda pop—are growing in the schools. Soda provides calories, but no nutrients.

The new rule takes effect July 1, 1980, but USDA expects many schools to begin limiting sale of foods with minimum nutritional value immediately.

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