

# U.S. ag secretary puts conservation efforts in local laps

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — The need to increase soil and water conservation efforts will have to be offset by the need to balance the federal budget.

That was the message Richard D. Siegel, deputy assistant secretary of agriculture for natural resources and the environment, left with members of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts at their summer meeting held recently in Ocean City.

The keynote speaker at Thursday's banquet, Siegel said state and local governments will have to increase their contributions to conservation programs if more attention is to be given resource problems.

"We will have to accept the fact that there will not be enough money and enough Soil Conservation Service people to get every job done," he said.

The Administration plans to hold the line on conservation budgets, says Siegel, until the Agriculture Department releases new program strategy proposals developed after a comprehensive study of the nation's resources as well as existing conservation programs. The study, to be repeated every 5 years, was mandated by the 1977

Resources Conservation Act.

Details of the new proposals will be released in September and October and will contain "a new kit of tools," according to Siegel.

Although the country has serious resource problems that require immediate attention, Siegel cautioned against enacting any new legislation too quickly. A number of new conservation approaches are contained in Senate and House farm bills which, he said, the Administration expects to pass.

"If this happens, where is the money going to come from to fund these programs? With the current economic situation, it's not likely to come from the federal govern-

ment. It's going to be up to you to find the necessary resources," he told MASCD members.

Siegel reassured them, however, that Secretary Block has placed

soil and water conservation among the major objectives of his administration.

"The Secretary realizes that soil and water conservation is more a

matter of economics than it is of ethics. That's why he's trying to make farming more profitable — so that farmers will have the funds to protect their land," he said.

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## BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT...

### SPRINKLER COOLING SYSTEM

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### FOR HOGS

#### THE PROBLEM

When the temperature goes up one of the first ways your body reacts is by breaking out in perspiration. That's nature's way of cooling off.

It's different with hogs. High temperatures cause them a great deal of stress because they can't sweat. When under this stress due to heat hogs will lose their appetite, weight gains drop, there is poor feed conversion, conception rate is reduced and pens become a mess. All of this adds up to lost profits.

#### THE SYSTEM

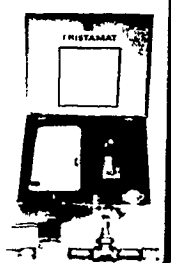
The sprinkle cycle is turned on automatically whenever the barn temperature rises above a preset level 72° F. Throughout this "on" period the control functions to permit sprinkling to occur for a preset time period each hour (2 minutes/hour is recommended for best results). When the barn temperature drops below 72° F the cycle is automatically interrupted.

The nozzles are clamped to a plastic pipe strung over the gutter of slatted area at the rear of the pen. Each nozzle covers a 5 1/2 foot diameter area which usually means one nozzle per pen. The nozzle assures a coarse droplet spray pattern which is important for maximum cooling. A fine mist of fog is not desirable in geographical areas of generally high summer relative humidity.

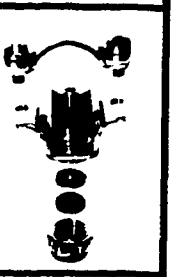
#### THE SOLUTION

When the temperature is above 72° F even ventilation can't cure the stress that results. But a sprinkler cooling system can help your hogs where nature fell short giving them a chance to cool off. It sprays them with coarse water droplets to reduce their body temperature. The idea is simple but extremely effective.

Control Panel



Nozzle



#### THE PROOF:

	Control Hogs not sprayed	Hogs Sprayed 1 min per hr above 85°F	Hogs Sprayed 1 min per hr above 70°F	Hogs Sprayed 1 min per hr above 70°F
Average daily gain per hog	1.37	1.62	1.62	1.72
Average daily feed consumption per hog	5.84	6.77	6.72	6.67
Lbs feed per lb grain per day	4.38	4.18	4.16	3.89
Lbs feed save/hog	0	22	22	49
Days earlier to market	0	1	11	15

Research done at Ridgetown College of Agricultural Technology in Ontario and at the University of California have shown these results. These figures are calculated on hogs from 100 lbs. up to 200 lbs.

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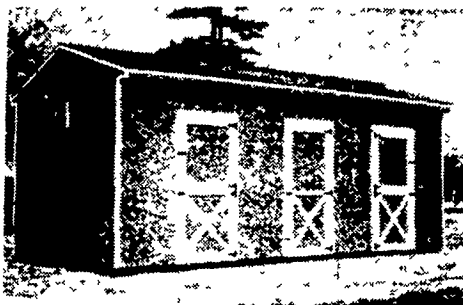
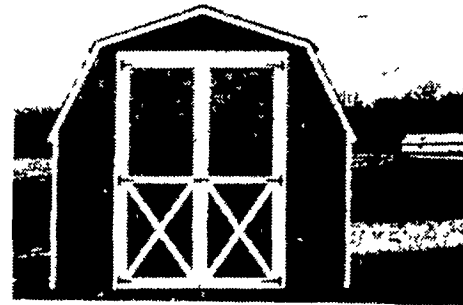
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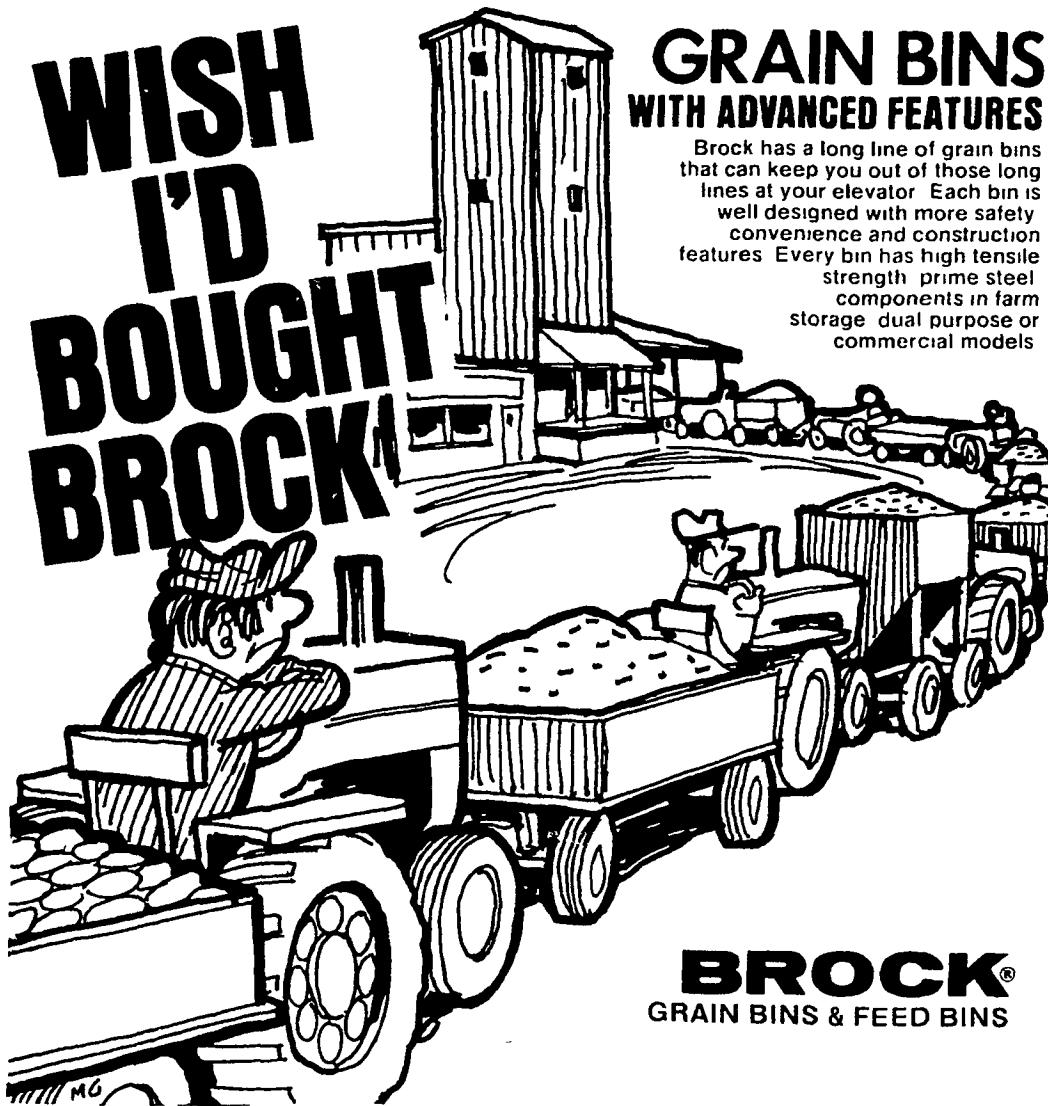
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