

Boom Kit Converts Floaters For Herbicide Application

CARROLL, Iowa — Monsanto has developed a spray boom kit that allows custom applicators to adapt large liquid fertilizer floaters for application of Roundup® herbicide. The Roundup® Boom II Kit offers several advantages to applicators. Utilizing large floater tank capacities for herbicide application means less downtime is spent mixing and loading.

More acres can be sprayed per load with fewer interruptions.

"Having floaters set up for herbicide application will enable applicators to cover a lot of acres in a short amount of time," said Walter Armstrong, Monsanto marketing specialist in Carroll,

Iowa.

Applying Roundup with a floater also provides a smoother ride for applicators on rough fields. "Bumpy field conditions can increase applicator fatigue and affect concentration and application accuracy," Armstrong said. "Retailers will also get improved floater utilization by widening application options to include burndown herbicides, as well as fertilizer and residual herbicides."

The Roundup Boom II Kit includes everything you need to completely modify a floater for herbicide spraying. Components included in the kit are stainless

steel tubing, wet boom nozzle bodies with diaphragm check val-

ves (caps & nozzles included), spray tips, strainers, adjustable

midsection and spray boom mount, and flood nozzle plugs.

Food Groups Oppose Ag Cuts To Finance GATT

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A coalition of 21 food and agricultural interests said their support for legislation implementing a proposed international trade agreement will not fall unfairly on U.S. agriculture.

In a letter to President Clinton, the group said some estimates

show that by reducing tariffs on imports, the new General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) could reduce U.S. government revenues by \$14-\$18 billion. Such estimates, the group noted, are highly subjective and fail to consider the potential for increased revenues due to expanding trade and increased

economic activity, which help create jobs and an expanded tax base.

"It is our understanding the administration has under consideration various proposals, including requiring significant reductions in current farm and related programs, to help offset a major proportion of such revenue losses,"

the letter said. "This is despite the fact that tariff revenue losses from agricultural imports account for only about five percent or less of the estimated total."

The group indicated that the Administration has assured farm organizations that the new GATT agreement would not require any further reduction in domestic income and price-support programs. The coalition is concerned that payment for the GATT agreement will fall disproportionately on the agricultural sector, which already has seen significant spending cuts in recent years.

Under the negotiated GATT agreement, tariffs in signatory countries would be reduced on a wide range of products. But while the agreement requires countries to reduce their use of export subsidies, it allows them to maintain — or even increase — their support for certain non-trade-distorting ("green box") programs. In its letter, the coalition urged President Clinton to shift current funding from reduced or disallowed programs to the green box programs.

Agricultural support programs considered in the green box category include market development and promotion, export credit, food aid, and other related programs. The budget currently under consideration would significantly reduce many of these programs, even though they are permitted by GATT.

"Unless these concerns are addressed, it is hard to envision how U.S. agriculture stands to gain as a result of the new GATT agreement," the letter said.

The GATT agreement was negotiated during a seven-year period. Before it can take effect, most signatory countries must bring their own domestic laws into compliance with the GATT agreement. The U.S. Congress may take up this implementing legislation later this year.

The letter to President Clinton stated that the coalition would find it very difficult to support any funding proposal which recommends that U.S. agriculture pay a disproportionate share of the cost of GATT.

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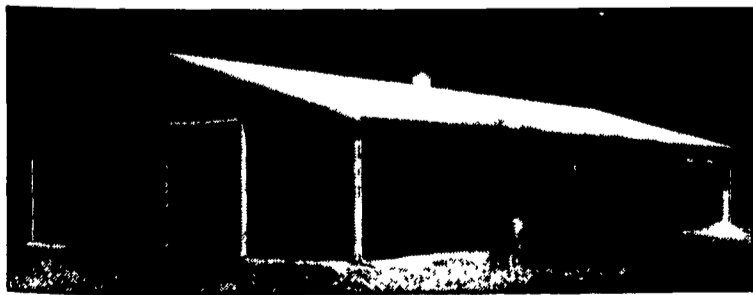
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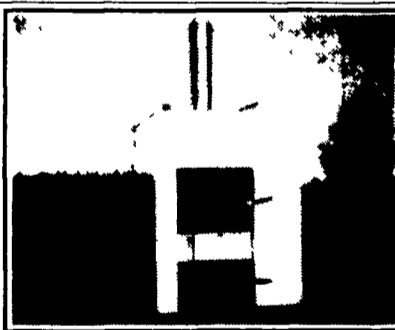
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