

REDBALL® HOODED BROADCAST SPRAYERS

Steve Claussen
President
Custom Ag Products, Inc.
Benson, MN

Abstract

The application of herbicides in cotton and also in crops that are adjacent to cotton in adverse wind conditions. Spray drift occurring with these applications of certain herbicides may cause damage when it moves onto crops for which it was not intended. If growers have to wait for calm conditions before spraying it can limit the effectiveness of some herbicides when they are not able to be applied during the application time frame that a herbicide's label recommends.

Introduction

There is the availability of spraying equipment that allows growers to make their broadcast spraying applications in adverse wind conditions. Redball Hooded Broadcast Sprayers have proven to be excellent at limiting spray drift while enabling growers to make timely, on target applications of various herbicides. Though caution must still be exercised, the use of such spraying equipment extends growers a much greater opportunity to accomplish their spraying in a consistent, positive manner

Discussion

- A. Why be concerned about spray drift or being able to apply herbicides in a timely manner?
- 1) Environmental concerns.
 - a. Every year the public is becoming more aware of off target herbicide spray drift. Negative publicity surrounding mis-applications can magnify these situations.
 - 2) Costs connected to spray drift.
 - a. If the drift causes damage to a neighbors crop the ramifications can become very expensive if it becomes a legal issue.
 - b. If the drift moves into one of your own adjacent crops and causes damage, the cost to you can be lost production.
 - 3) Reduced effectiveness of the herbicide applications.
 - a. When you have to wait to make your herbicide applications, weeds gain a stronger foothold and in some instances you may miss the proper window for making an application.
 - b. In certain situations, when you have to wait to spray, you risk damage to the crop being sprayed, if the application window has passed for a particular herbicide.
- B. Redball Hooded Broadcast Sprayers.
- 1) Fully hooded spray boom on all models.
 - a. Redball broadcast spray-hood prevents wind from moving the spray pattern off target.

- b. Each spray-hood is molded of high impact poly which is durable and non-corrosive.
 - c. The additional wind curtains on the bottom of each hood allows the boom to be run at the top of the crop.
 - d. The 20" wide hoods are mounted end to end along the booms entire width.
 - e. Spray nozzle is positioned in center of spray-hood providing 20" nozzle spacing.
2. 650 Three Point Hitch Models.
- a. Skid mount units in sizes 20' - 27' - 30' - 40'.
 - b. Toolbar units with gauge wheels in 30' and 40' sizes.
 - c. All 3 pt. models are available with a 150 or 300 gallon tank.
 - d. Optional pump kits include roller or hydraulic centrifugal.
 - e. Safety water tank.

680 High Clearance Trailer Models

- a. Boom widths of 54'-57'-60'-66'-80'-88'-90'.
- b. Spray boom assembly is very durable and incorporates self leveling feature to maintain even application across entire width of boom.
- c. Rubber torsion suspension (Henschen Suspension) designed into the trailer bracket assembly, to which the parallelogram linkage and cylinders attach, helps to cushion the transfer of any bouncing action from the trailer to the spray boom.
- d. Seven function hydraulic valve bank provides for all hydraulic functions off one tractor remote for the spray boom.
- e. Each spray boom has outer wing breakaways.
- f. Trailer is available with 750, 1000 or 1250 gallon solution tank.
- g. 15 gallon safety water tank and 100 gallon rinse tanks are standard.
- h. Adjustable axles widths.
- i. Valve control panel.
- j. Roll-out ladder and large safety platform.
- k. Folds up to narrow transport width for safe, easy transport.
- l. Hydraulic centrifugal or diaphragm pumps.
- m. Chemical educator tank.
- n. Foam marker system.
- o. Sprayer controller with 3 valve or 5 valve banks.

Summary

Hooded Broadcast Sprayers from Redball will help to limit spray drift in adverse wind conditions. Since this widens the application window for applying your herbicides it will enhance the potential for better weed control. While being environmentally responsive you also will gain the peace of mind that you are curtailing your risk of spray drift. Though common sense and caution always needs to be exercised, use of the hooded broadcast sprayer is a major step toward better application with limited spray drift in adverse conditions.