

REDBALL® LAY-BY HOODED SPRAYER

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Abstract

Post direct and lay-by applications of herbicides have been synonymous with proper weed control in cotton. As herbicides have evolved and today as technology brings us new genetics in seed, the manner in which we make these directed spray applications is very important.

Introduction

Over the past five years Redball® Conservation Hooded Sprayers have been widely used for between the row application of Roundup herbicide under the hood. Many growers also post direct a second herbicide into the row to try and control those weeds at the same time. This continues to be a very effective practice in traditional cotton.

The introduction of Roundup® Ready cotton created a need for directed spray equipment that would be accurate and consistent when growers needed to make post direct and lay-by applications in this cotton.

Redball's development of the **420 Lay-By Spray-Hood** will enable growers to do their directed spraying in a positive, effective manner and take the guess work out of these applications.

Discussion

A. How does the 420 Spray-Hood make these directed spraying applications, easier and consistent?

- 1) Spray-Hood Design
 - a. We have enclosed the front of the hood since the initial broadcast application in Roundup® Ready cotton will have limited weed growth so you will be controlling smaller weeds with this application.
 - b. The streamlined design of the hood will allow it to glide gently between the rows. This will allow for faster traveling speeds.
 - c. Torsion springs on each of the parallel linkage swing arms provides down pressure to the spray-hood.
 - d. The spring loaded chain can be utilized to adjust the spray-hood height in some instances.
 - e. In most cases the hood height will be controlled by setting the height adjustable wear skid under the nose of each spray-hood.

- f. Under the hood a single center spray nozzle provides spray coverage to row middle weeds.
- g. The outside nozzles in the sides of the spray-hood are in a fixed position.
- h. Depending on the height of your plants you are able to set the hood wear skid so that the spray pattern will be at a specific height into the row.
- i. The spray-hood limits the potential for spray drift from the center nozzle moving onto the growing points of the plant.

A. Compare the advantages of the 420 Spray-Hood to open nozzle directed sprayers.

- 1) Open nozzle units require manual adjustments to the nozzles making it difficult to get a consistent spray pattern and spray angle from one row to the next.
- 2) As indicated earlier the nozzles in the 420 Spray-Hood are fixed and when you set your wear skid the spray pattern will be consistent into each row at the same height.
- 3) The bracket to which the nozzles are attached on open directed sprayers can catch on the plant.
- 4) The streamlined spray-hood might brush the plant but will tend to glide on through without catching plant growth.
- 5) The use of open nozzle directed sprayers, particularly on windy days, means you risk spray drift onto the growing points of the plant at a time when this may cause damage.
- 6) The 420 spray-hood limits drift potential and allows you to get your spraying done when you need to.

B. Redball 420 Lay-By Hooded Sprayer Model Sizes and Options.

- 1) Spray-Hood Kits are available in 20" and 28" hood sizes to accommodate 30", 36", 38" and 40" row spacings.
- 2) Complete 420 sprayers are available in 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 row models for 30", 36", 38", and 40" rows.
- 3) Gauge Wheels are standard on the center section of all models as well as the wings on larger models.
- 4) Hydraulic wings are standard on 8 row or larger models.
- 5) 150 or 300 gallon tank options are available.
- 6) Choose either roller or hydraulic centrifugal pump kit options.

Summary

Post direct and lay-by applications, in Roundup® Ready cotton, can be made in a consistent and accurate manner. Redball 420 Lay-By Hooded Sprayers will enable growers to do so while limiting the potential for spray drift onto the plants growing points. The 420 sprayer simply helps you

take a lot of the guess work out of these applications and provides the opportunity to achieve better results with less risk.

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