

introduced in the early 50's by the Finn Corporation, hydro-seeding of roadsides, lawns, construction areas and reclamation sites is a multi-million dollar business which is still expanding. What is new? A breakthrough in hydro-seeding technology from Amchem; a ground hydro-seeding system featuring the *HYDRO-SPINNER*. A twin nozzle spinning device used in place of the fire hose nozzle, the *HYDRO-SPINNER* is mounted on a conventional hydraulic seeder to distribute liquid slurries of seed, fertilizer, fiber and *HYPETROL*.

The *HYDRO-SPINNER* provides for substantially faster, easier, more uniform seed application and in as little as 1/3 the time. Uniquely, the swirling spray pattern of the *HYDRO-SPINNER* produces the same swath width on both horizontal and vertical planes, thereby making accurate application to both steep slopes and level terrain while the sprayer and vehicle are moving. The swath width can also be rapidly varied from 15 to 50 feet.

The *HYDRO-SPINNER* system also enables uniform and accurate placement of various types and sizes of seed, even by a newly trained nozzle operator. Because of accurate seed placement and the addition of *HYPETROL* polymer, the *HYDRO-SPINNER* evenly distributes seed slurries with 400 gallons per acre; 1/3 to 1/6 the total spray volume of conventional hydro-seeding. The economics are real; lower spray volume and speedier application with the *HYDRO-SPINNER* system can increase the tra-

ditional capability of a hydro-seeding unit from 500 to as much as 1,500 acres per year. This allows an opportunity for substantial savings per acre as well as increase revenue from each hydraulic seeding unit.

Application of seed, fertilizer, mulch and *HYPETROL* slurries at the optimum ground volume of 400 gallons per acre develops a web-like pattern stabilizing the soil while providing an environment conducive to germination. Seeds are no longer trapped to germinate and die in the large quantities of mulch normally necessary to retard erosion. In addition, it is now possible to eliminate the two-step operation on hydraulically applying seed followed by a separate application of hay or fiber mulching. Although not as meaningful, it is possible to use the *HYDRO-SPINNER* with conventional large volume slurries of up to 3,000 gallons per acre with 1,000 to 1,500 pounds of mulch and increase normal output in terms of gallons per minute applied.

We feel that the *HYDRO-SPINNER* and *HYDRO-SPYDER* seeding systems are dynamic new approaches to revegetation of rights-of-way and other land reclamation areas. Consider these systems for speedy, economic application combined with uniform, accurate placement of various seeds to produce the desired stabilizing vegetative cover.

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ABSTRACT

Shurtleff, M.C. 1975. **The unsightly sooty molds.** *Grounds Maintenance* 10(11):36.

Sooty molds are fungi that form a blackish, often velvety, crustlike coating on the surface of leaves, stems and fruits. Their food is 'honeydew' secreted by sucking insects such as aphids, scales, mealybugs and whiteflies. Sooty molds do not obtain food from the plant itself; hence are not parasites. The superficial, often thick mold commonly grows in blotches and is easily removed by rubbing to reveal healthy plant tissue. If the insect secretion is abundant, the entire leaf, shoot or fruit surface may be covered with a dark membranous coating. Although unsightly, the only damage done by sooty mold fungi is indirect — shutting off light, thus interfering somewhat with photosynthesis and food manufacture.