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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Soil Conservation Service

Rm. 400, Midtown Plaza, 700 East Water Street, Syracuse, N. Y. 13210

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AGRONOMY #42

SEEDING CRITICAL EROSION SITES WITH
GASOLINE-OPERATED KNAPSACK SEEDER

This technical note, which was prepared by Harold Hansen, Conservation Agronomist, provides guidance in using the "Gasoline-Operated Knapsack Seeder" when seeding critical erosion sites.

Jack L. Barrick

Jack L. Barrick,
State Resource Conservationist

Attach.

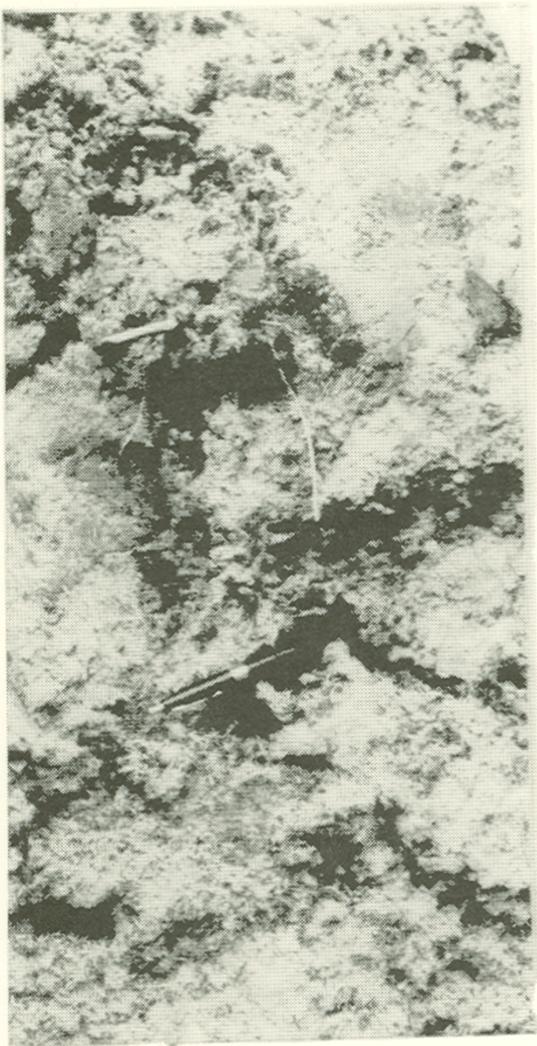
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SEEDING CRITICAL EROSION SITES WITH
GASOLINE-OPERATED KNAPSACK SEEDER

The knapsack seeder has been used to make broadcast field evaluation plantings on ditchbanks and on ditch spoil in the Caroline Soil Conservation District, Denton, Maryland. Hand seeded comparison plots were also planted.

The machine blows the seed at a force sufficient to stick much of the seed into the soil. This seemed to be the major benefit. Observable differences were noted within a month of seeding.



Enlarged picture of ditch-bank showing seed stuck to moist surface.



Charles Harrington, Jr.,
Civil Engineering Technician
demonstrates use of knapsack
seeder.

Generally the machine blown seeding was more uniform and a better seedling stand was attained. Fertilization is an important factor in this seeding method.