

Semi-Automatic Harvester Introduced

A new machine, designed for the semiautomated harvesting of citrus and other tree fruits has been developed by Gerber Harvester Co., of Tampa, Florida.

The basic system provides a continuously moving vehicle with one or two aerial booms with two aerial baskets each for hand pickers. A telescoping tube conveyor system is used for handling the picked fruit without bruising.

Each basket has controls for driving the vehicle and operating booms and baskets,

eliminating the need for a separate driver. It will accommodate up to four pickers.

Both sides of hedged rows of citrus can be picked simultaneously. Lighted for night picking, it is possible to pick four to five miles of hedged rows per day.

The system consists of:

Four wheel drive diesel with dual power steering system. One system is "hands off" type not affected by terrain.

14 gear speeds provide ground speed of one tenth MPH to 12 MPH.

Rear lift deck, to accommodate large size field tub or field box.

Booms fold down without disconnecting hydraulics or controls for transport by trailer.

Booms and conveyor system easily removed, so tractor can be used for other purposes off season.

Further information on the harvester may be received by calling 813-839-6177, in Tampa.



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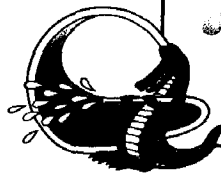


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