

“Experimental investigation of problems of Drift in Aerial spraying”

Abstract

Agricultural and forestry requirements for agricultural aviation are related to spread of fertilizers, crop protection and protection against pests in forestry. Main topic presented on this paper is the result of experimental investigations in the field of “*the drift in aerial spraying*”. The results of those investigations are formulas for estimating protection zones depending on the type of used pesticides.

Keywords: *agricultural aviation, aerial spraying, drift*

1. List of major symbols:

a	[ha/m ²]	- coefficient
d	[μm]	- average droplet diameter
d _s	[μm]	- trace droplet diameter
d _{VM}	[μm]	- volume meridian diameter
h	[m]	- aircraft altitude
g	[number/cm ²]	- spray density
l	[m]	- wingspan
m	[kg]	- mass
m _s	[dcm ³ /s]	- sedimentation flow rate
p	[N/m ²]	- wing loading
A	[m ²]	- area
B	[m]	- working swath
D _p	[dcm ³ /ha]	- field dose
D _T	[dcm ³ /ha]	- technical dose
F		- agent
I		- turbulence intensity
W	[dcm ³ /s]	- flow rate
V _r	[m/s]	- operating speed
V _s	[m/s]	- sedimentation velocity
V _w	[m/s]	- average wind velocity
T	[K]	- temperature
U _K		- constructional design
Z		- drift
α, β, φ		- inclination, rolling, yawing
ψ		- relative humidity
λ		- aspect ratio

1.The Bio-aeronautics

The name was given by Southwell (1975), and the definition is „*application of different types of aviation to the development of useful living organisms on the Earth*”. As the origin of this field of aviation is considered a patent received by Alfred Zimmermann, a forester from Detershagen (D) on 21th of March 1911. The patent belongs to the problem of *Lymantria Monacha* L control in Germany forests.

In spite of its small actual operating range on the world scale, bio-aeronautics can play a very important role to the improvement of the nutritional world situation especially for countries in Asia, Africa and South and Central America.[3]. In those regions feeble infrastructure, very poor agricultural mechanization and shortage of specialists cause that in some fields of activities the only practical alternative is bio-aeronautics.

The main problems of aerial treatment and wises by agricultural and forestry specialist are the following: Treatments have to be done in time (agricultural time); The risk of environmental pollution and problem of drift has to be minimalized; The distribution quality of the sprayed /spread products; Economic effect (B – max for given coefficient of variation). Below there are short definitions of those terms.

Agricultural time - It is a time period during which protection, fertilization or other treatment should be applied, ensuring the highest effectiveness of an agent used. For protection purposes it will be biological effectiveness.

Quality of distribution - applying treatment at an agrotechnical date and specific meteorological conditions, with a set dosage and agent formulation. The dosage applied should be dispersed on a crop (soil) with specific evenness - a determined coefficient of variation. The quality of distribution, as well as the elements induced drift are connected with: disturbances of the flow field around the flying aircraft, especially the vortex sheets travelling from the wings and the disturbances given by the propeller. This effects is mainly join with the construction design of airplanes. The influence of the earth proximity and the type of covering are also taken into account.

The working width (B) adopted in the treatment depends on the constructional design of the agricultural aviation, the type of apparatus and the spreading medium. Its value is assumed in spraying operations: atomizers 35 m – 40 m, jet nozzles 20 m – 30 m. For spreading: 20 m – 30 m depending on materials. With an assumption that the coefficient of variation is the order 20% for receiving magnification of (B), in those experimental investigations, incl. wing tips. [11, 17]

Problem of drift is “*unintentional effect of treatment caused by movement of chemicals outside of the target. For liquids the movement has direct and indirect form. Direct one belongs to drift of spray in all form of state (particles as a result of evaporation of droplets, liquids, and vapour),Indirect – movement caused by wind of vapour, settled droplets and particles after evaporation of liquids*”. [2, 16, 20, 25, 26, 27, 29].

Induced drift is a term describing meteorological conditions in terrain of treatment, disturbances of velocity field caused by flaying aircraft, physical characteristics of dispersed agent, terrain of treatment, flight parameters and quality of a pilot.

Negative effects of spray drift are as following: loss of chemicals, decrease of efficiency of pesticides on the target area, other losses related to the damage or pollution of adjacent crops, water, urban area, gardens, contamination of environment with a possibility of unpredictable secondary effects (residues, interaction, etc.) and a sociological factor, understood as non-scientific media trend of criticizing chemical plant protection treatments leading to baseless social dislike for those, mainly for aerial spray treatments. The above-mentioned have resulted in the European Union issuing a peculiar document called Directive 2009/128/WE of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009. Official

98 Journal of the European Union L 309 of 24 November 2009. In the document in Chapter IV, Article 9,
99 Paragraph 1 reads:

- 100 1.Member States shall ensure that aerial spraying is prohibited.
101 2.By way of derogation from paragraph 1 aerial spraying may only by allowed in special cases provided
102 the following conditions are met (points *a* through *f* of the aforementioned document).
103

104 2.Theoretical analysis

105
106 Generally, from **the** mathematical point of view, the four factors have been researched for over 60
107 years both theoretically and experimentally. The subject bibliography is over 500 titles long, although it is
108 often contributory literature [6].

109 **There are two types of methods that illustrate the motion and distribution of droplets. Methods**
110 **that do not account for the influence of disturbances in the velocity field behind the aircraft on droplet**
111 **motion and distribution are called free models. Referred free models were presented in:**
112 **[1, 4, 7, 8, 13, 16, 18, 21, 23].**

113 **Bound models are methods that do account for above factor as well as other parameters. Referred bound**
114 **models are presented by the first Reed W.H. in NACA Report 1954 [14] and**
115 **[9, 10, 12, 13, 21, 22, 26, 27].**

116 **There are many papers presented this model, but Pietruszka [12] and AGDISP models [2, 19, 24, 25]**
117 **look the most interesting.**

118 **The Agriculture Dispersal (AGDISP). [2, 19, 24, 25], is popular and is the current North American**
119 **Standard. But in this model are some simplifications.**

120 **Interesting is also last Seredyn [21] analysis.**
121

122

122 3.Experimental investigation

123

124 3.1. The method

125 The method is **described in “The Methods of Testing Agricultural Aircrafts and their Apparatus”**
126 **[14], presented in Russian. Methods are used for certification of Agricultural Aircrafts for treatments**
127 **in agriculture, forestry and other branches of national economy. This methods were “Acceptance for**
128 **use” in: , Bulgaria, Cech-Slovakia, DDR, Hungarian, Poland, USSR.**

129 **3.1.1 The trials were made to agree with [15] on a former airfield in Gryźliny near Olsztyn, and in**
130 **lower experimental range in Mielec.**
131

132

Its surface is about 150 hectares and covered with 0.1 ± 0.15 m tall grass.

133

3.1.2 Objects: The airplane An -2R, produced in Polish Aviation Factory - Mielec.

134

The helicopter Mi -2R, produced in Polish Aviation Factory - Świdnik.
135

136

136 Table. 1. Apparatus and technical parameters of tests

137

Airplanes	Apparatus	Nozzles	Nr.	Dose [l/ha]	d_{VM} [μ m]	V_T [m/s]	h [m]
An – 2R	atomisers	Au-3000	6	9.65	109.9	44.4	4.5
An - 2R	jet-nozzles	W 7-2	56	48.35	186.1	44.4	4.5
An - R2	Jet-nozzles	W 17-4	52	106.16	223.2	44.4	4.5
Helicopter	atomiser	electrical	1	8.08	93.6	22.2	4.5
Helicopter	atomiser	electrical	1	20.50	125.6	22.2	4.5

138

139 3.2.Model liquids

140

To protect workers and the environment, the following model liquids were used:

141 2% water solution of nigrosine — N;
 142 30% water solution of urea with an addition of 2% nigrosine — M.
 143 The physical parameters of liquids are presented in Table 2.

144
 145 Table.2. Physical properties of model liquids
 146

Solution	Density [kg/m^3] * 10^3	Surface tension [N/m] * 10^3	Viscosity [Pas] * 10^3
N	1.001	64.14	1.100
M	1.073	63.80	1.292

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 148
 149
 150
 151
- There are 3 to 5 repetitions of the test
 - The test took place from 5am to 8am and from 5pm to 8pm, for better meteorological conditions.

152 **3.3. Measure line and samplers**

153 Thirty metres from the zero point of the measure line, a direction line perpendicular to it was
 154 determined for the agricultural aircraft flight. It was marked with markers which informed the pilot where
 155 to switch the apparatus on and off. This distance was equivalent to 5s of agricultural aircraft flight before
 156 and 5s of the flight after the measure line. Each flight was conducted at a speed and altitude accepted in
 157 research programmes, and was rectilinear without rolls or yaws. The correctness and height of each flight
 158 were controlled by the pilot. Moreover, they were registered by two coupled cameras, perpendicular to
 159 each other and close to the measure line, at a height of two metres. (Assmann's method), wind velocity

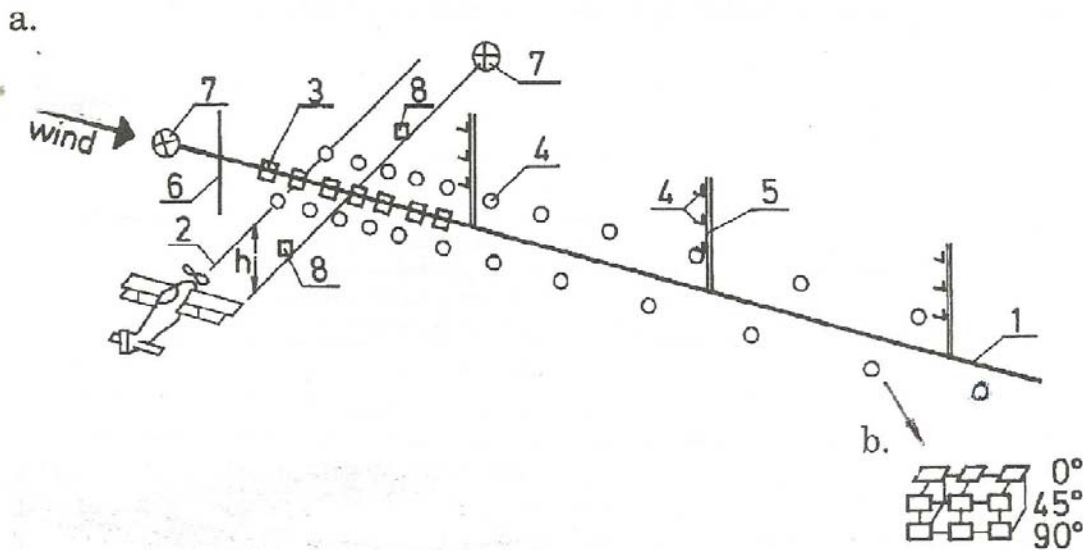


Fig. 1. Scheme of measure line (1-measure line, 2- flight path, 3- mass samplers, 4- droplet samplers, 5- masts, 6- measurements of meteorological parameters, 7- camera, 8- markers).

160 (gust velocity included) and direction of the wind. Figure 1 shows the scheme of the measure line.
 161 Meteorological conditions during the test were registered. The following data was measured and
 162 registered: temperature, ΔT - the difference of temperatures on dry-bulb and wet-bulb thermometers
 163 After the flight and subsidence of the spray cloud (after 8-10 minutes), samples were collected
 164 and replaced by new ones. Following the direction of the wind, an 800 m long measure line was
 165 established.
 166
 167 The line was composed form the following samplers:

168 1. to measure mass distribution:
 169 cellophane samplers (0.01 m^2 each) were distributed horizontally at grass level (0.20 m), every
 170 two metres over a distance of 200 metres for the plane and 140 metres for the helicopter;
 171 2. to measure liquid dispersion:
 172 dispersion in this case is understood as the number of droplets and the structure of their spectrum
 173 obtained from the surface of samplers. Samplers were microfilm negative tapes marked and
 174 plasticized with $6 \mu\text{m}$ of thick mineral oil. This tape was then cut and framed for slides. The
 175 surface of the samplers at $4.05 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$ (4.05 cm^2) and $7.03 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2$ (7.03 cm^2). This method was
 176 patented.
 177 The samplers mentioned above were placed on stands (0.20 m tall) and distributed horizontally, at an
 178 angle of 45° and vertically.

179
 180 The stands were distributed:
 181 every 5 m from 0 to 100 m,
 182 every 10 m from 100 to 200 m,
 183 every 20 m from 200 to 300 m,
 184 every 50 m from 300 to 500 m,
 185 every 100 m from 500 to 800 m.

186 They were placed in two rows. One row had 9 samplers (three in each exposure) which were
 187 replaced after every test flight. The other row had 3 samplers (one in each exposure) which were
 188 replaced after each series of three or five test flights agricultural aircraft.
 189 8m tall masts, distributed 100 m, 300 m and 500 m from the beginning of the measure line. The
 190 samplers on the masts were distributed every one meter, one vertically and one horizontally along
 191 whole mast's length. In opinion of specialists mast's height has to be at least 11 m – 13 m., but
 192 they were too difficult to make.

193
 194 **3.4. Analysis of results**

195 In this paper are presented results of experimental investigation only of An-2R. Results of the test
 196 of Mi-2R are in [20].

197 Mass distribution was analysed using the colorimetric method on a spectral colorimeter with
 198 a length range of 580 nm. After recalculations, the distribution was presented in the form of dose
 199 distribution as a distance function, $D_p = f(y)$, for each performed flight, meaning value and distribution
 200 uniformity analysis. The tests of droplets were conducted using indirect methods, by measuring
 201 fixed, coloured traces. The size, surface density (i.e. spray density) and the structure of the droplet
 202 spectrum were determined on a computer image analyser, based on fixed coloured droplet traces. The
 203 traces were grouped into ranges, according to trace sizes. The collection of droplet traces, arranged
 204 according to droplet diameters, was converted into a collection of droplets based on equations presented
 205 in Table 3.

206
 207 Table. 3. Scalling equations.
 208

No.	Solution	Functional relations $d = f(ds)$	Diameter
1	N	$d = -0.0087 + 0.54155ds - 0.13643ds^2 + 0.01459ds^3$	> 0-1.7 mm
2	M	$d = 100.707 + 0.56334ds$	> 0- 600 mm

209
 210 The results were recorded in the form of a distributive ordered series from each measuring point,
 211 and sum of the number of droplets in classes from the measure line or a part of it, e.g. the masts. These
 212 results are presented as size, surface density (i.e. spray density), average diameters (arithmetic and
 213 volumetric), and medians (quantitative and volumetric). Cumulative quantitative and volumetric
 214 distributions of liquids, which is the basic information about the spectrum structure, are presented
 215 graphically.

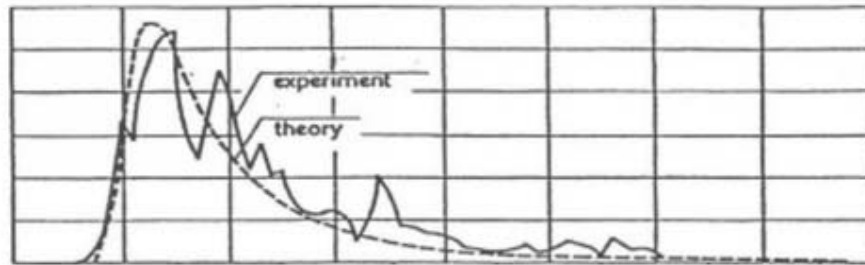
216 Analysis determined:

- 217 1. the change of dose in relation to drift distance – y direction, and average doses for airborne crop
- 218 protection treatment working breadth (**B = 30 m**),
- 219 2. the distribution of surface spray density along an 800 m strip,
- 220 3. the structure of the droplet spectrum along the 800 m strip (i.e. the change of average droplet
- 221 diameter in relation to drift distance),
- 222 4. droplets evaporation and sedimentation in drift distance
- 223 5. airborne movements of droplets clout received on masts

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225 3.4.1. The distribution of mas

226 The mass distribution of a spray in case of a cross-wind is characterized by asymmetry, shift of the
227 centre of mass with the wind in relation to aircraft's flight direction, and a large spray area with a low
228 dose. The average mass distribution from three flights for the technical dose of $D=48.35\text{dm}^3/\text{ha}$ is
229 presented on Figure 2.



230

231 Fig. 2. Example of mass distribution (— experiment, - - theory) [18].

232

232 Parameters: $D = 48.35 \text{ dm}^3/\text{ha}$; $V_r = 44.4 \text{ m/s}$; $V_w = 4.5 \text{ m/s}$; $h = 4.5 \text{ m}$; $d_v = 187 \mu\text{m}$, $I = 0.1$

233

234 To present drift, mass distribution can be quantized by relating it to a generally accepted working
235 breadth **B = 30 m**, used in plant protection treatments performed by aircrafts.

236

236 Average values for sprays by atomizers and pressure nozzles are presented in Figure 3.

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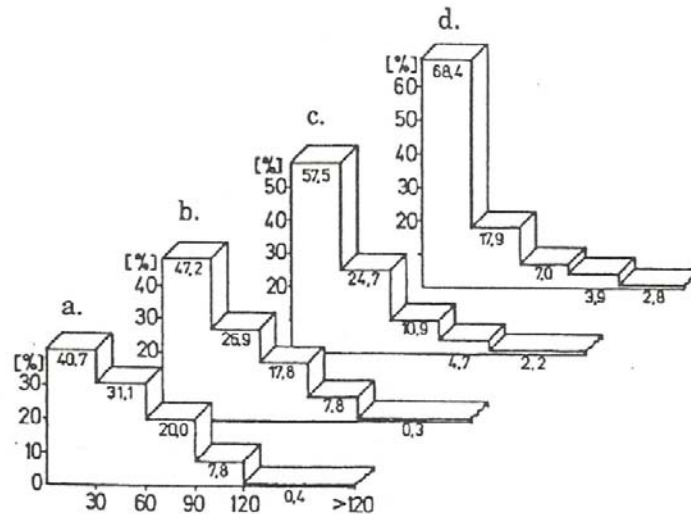
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245 Fig.3. Percentage mass distribution at 30 m intervals (a - atomizers, 2% water solution of
246 nigrosine; b-atomizers, 30% urea solution in 2% water solution of nigrosine; c- pressure nozzles,
247 2% water solution of nigrosine; d- pressure nozzles, 30% urea solution in 2% water
248 solution of nigrosine)

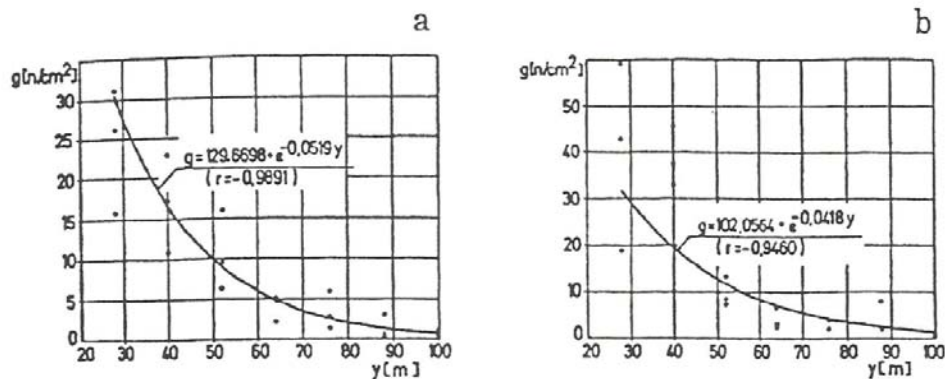
249 A higher settlement in a working breadth of 30m occurs when droplet diameters are larger and
 250 when urea is applied as a weighting agent in liquids.
 251 Because of threats to neighbouring crops, fauna, water regions and urban areas, it is important to
 252 define a share of drifted dose in relation to the applied dose (i.e. to define a technical dose in the
 253 function of drift distance).

254
 255 For atomizers, these relationships is: $\check{D} = 0.1045 - 0.0211 \times \ln y$ (5)
 256 with correlation coefficient: $r = -0.9511$. for $15 \text{ m} \leq y \leq 140 \text{ m}$.

257
 258 For pressure nozzles, these relationships is: $\check{D} = 0.4633e^{-0.0246y}$ (6)
 259 with correlation coefficient: $r = 0.9792$ for $15 \text{ m} \leq y \leq 210 \text{ m}$.

261 **3.4.2. Settlement of droplets**

262 Examination of settled droplets was based on the analysis of samplers placed along the
 263 800 m measure line. The distribution of samplers (discussed in methodology), made analysis
 264 possible not only for horizontal samplers, but also for skew and vertical ones. The breadth of the
 265 droplet settlement strip was defined as $y \leq 500 \text{ m}$. The droplets of urea solution achieved a
 266 wider breadth than the nigrosine solution droplets. This phenomenon is connected with lower
 267 degree of evaporation and a higher rate of sedimentation for the urea solution droplets. In the
 268 experiment there was a discrepancy in breadth of settlement in relation to atomizers and
 269 pressure nozzles. This discrepancy can be explained by disturbances of velocity field behind
 270 the flying aircraft and by turbulence. The settlement of droplets sprayed by atomizers on
 271 horizontal samplers is characterized by a very low density and shift of spray over significant
 272 distances. A higher surface density of spray was obtained for the urea solution than for the
 273 nigrosine solution, due to the above-mentioned factors.
 274 The distribution of spray surface density for pressure nozzles has the character of mass distribution. The
 275 spray density and the regression function for pressure nozzles are presented in figures 4a and 4b.



276 Fig. 4a. Variations of droplet density with drift distance. W7-2 pressure nozzles (a - 2%
 277 water solution of nigrosine, b- 30% urea solution in 2% water solution of
 nigrosine)

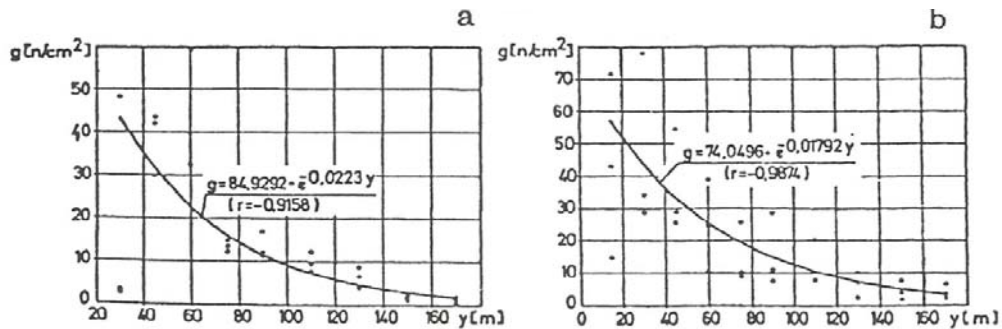


Fig. 4b. Variations of droplet density with drift distance. W17-4 pressure nozzles (a - water

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279 **3.4.3. Droplets evaporation and sedimentation**

280 The droplets, drifting with the wind, undergo a segregation and a process of evaporation. This is
281 why the average diameter of settled droplets in the function of drift distance was examined.

282 The analysis included all examined spraying sets and both model liquids. The parameters were the
283 relative volumetric diameter¹, and the time after which a droplet settled. The results of the analysis can
284 be presented as the general relationship: The values of coefficients are presented in table 4.

285
$$\bar{d}_v = A \cdot t^{A1} \quad (t = y/V_w) \quad (7)$$

286 Table. 4 Coefficients

Apparatus	Liquids	Coefficient equation 3(A)	Coefficient equation 3(A1)	Correlation coefficient	Diameter range [µm]
Atomizers	N	1.3555	- 0.2126	- 0.9330	90 - 150
	M	1.4227	- 0.2050	- 0.8358	150 - 300
Press. nozz.	N	1.8101	- 0.3365	- 0.9550	170 - 300
	M	1.8608	- 0.2897	-0.9897	250- 400

287 From the data in table 4 we can see that better compatibility of the function occurred for
288 pressure nozzles producing larger droplets. Smaller droplets are significantly influenced by the
289 field of velocity disturbances behind a flying aircraft. This is confirmed by better repeatability
290 for small droplets calculated for distances 3-4 times longer than the wingspan. In this area the
291 field of velocity disturbances are already disappearing.

292 **3.4.4. Airborne droplets**

293 The shift of spray in an 8m layer of air was defined by analysing droplets settled on samplers
294 which were placed vertically on the masts. Sediment of droplets on these samplers, of the small angle of
295 elevation, best characterizes drifted droplets. The densities of spray for all sets and model liquids are
296 presented in figure 5a.

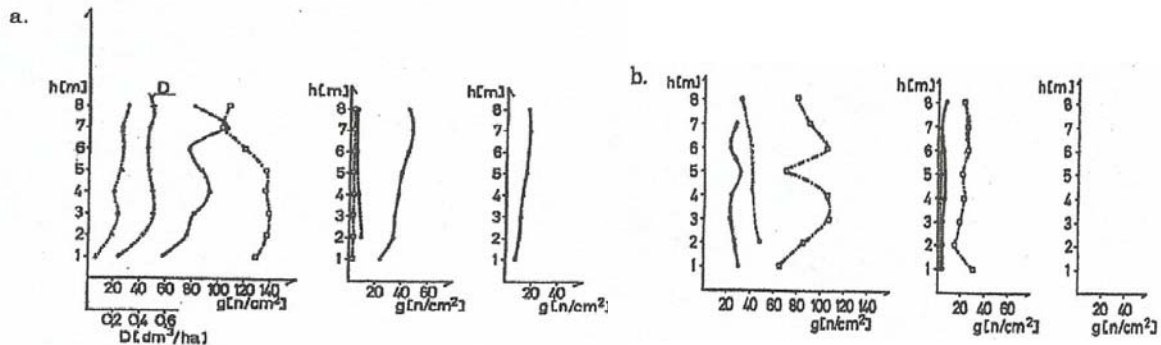


Fig. 5a. Distribution of droplets density on masts
a – 2% water solution of nigrosine (N)

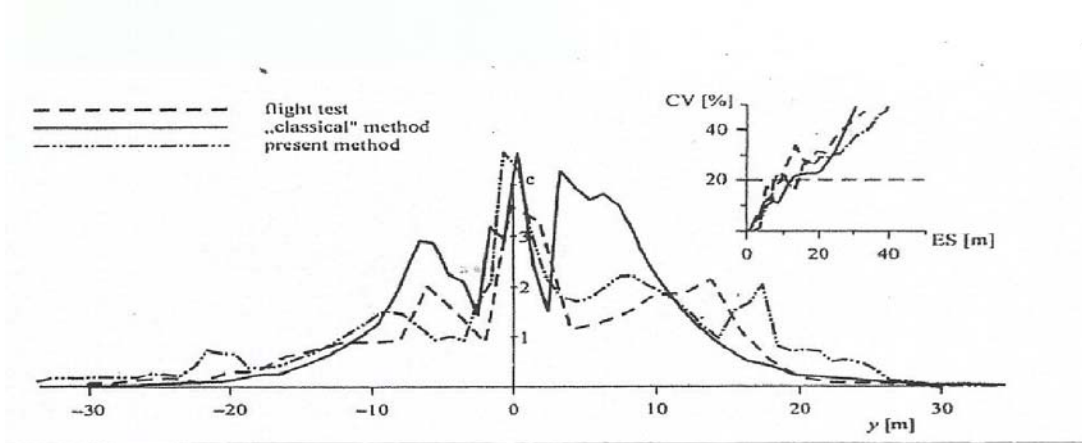
Fig. 5b. Distribution of droplet density on masts,
b.- 30% urea solution in 2% water solution of nigrosine (M)

¹ Average volumetric diameter in relation to average volumetric diameter of first settled droplets

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In Mielec

The second experiment took place in Polish Aircraft Plant (PZL) in Mielec. They carried out a crop dusting experiment with the involvement of M18 "Dromader" airplane equipped with jet type nozzles. Flying height was 4m and flight speed was 46.4 m·s⁻¹ along the wind axis and against the wind. Liquid flow rate was 7.1 dm³·s⁻¹ and the volume-median droplet diameter was d_{MV} = 215 μm. The modelled liquid was 1% aqueous solution of nigrosine. Every test was repeated 3 times. Droplet evaporation rates were very low due to high relative humidity of 98%. Crosswind speed was 0.2 m·s⁻¹. Results are in Fig.6.



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Fig.6. Lateral distribution of 1% nigrosine aqueous solution determined theoretically and experimentally [12], compare with proposed by [26].

3.5. Estimation of measuring error

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Here is a short analysis of errors. In the above-mentioned experiments treble averaging of samples was applied. To define if this multiplication factor is enough, it was assumed that the averages from 3 groups of measurements and variations of these groups are equal to each other. The alternative hypothesis, that not all of them are equal to each other, was also assumed. To verify these two hypotheses, test F (Snedecor and Bartlett's (f)) was applied, with critical value on significance level $\alpha = 0.01$. The values of test statistics were defined. The equality of group variations was also tested.

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319

For tests performed with W 17-4 and W7-2 sprayers for both model liquids, there is no basis to reject the hypothesis of average equalities and group variations.

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322

For atomizers, the testing showed that the averages vary significantly, relative values do not differ significantly and they were used in this form for further analyses. Errors of other measurements were also estimated (dosage, rate-of-flow and droplet size included).

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3.6. Drift

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The amount of drifted liquid is the difference between a technical dose and the field dose². This difference can be presented as the following relative relationship:

327

$$Z = \frac{D_T - D_P}{D_T} = 1 - \frac{D_P}{D_T} \tag{8}$$

328

where: $D_T = a \cdot W/B \cdot V_r$ a – coefficient 10^4 [ha/m²] (9)

329
330

After the analysis of many parameters (technical dose and average volumetric diameter of droplets included), a relative amount of drift was related to a volume diameter d_{VM} median which is an

² Field dose is the mass or amount of liquid which settled on samplers in relation to samplers sizes, with in the working breadth and with the assumption that a marker in model liquid does not evaporate.

331 essential measure of spray structure. On the basis of research these relationships (for 2% water solution of
 332 nigrosine and 30% urea solution in 2% water solution of nigrosine) are as follows:

333
 334
$$Z = 134.9377 d_{VM}^{-1.0757} \quad (10)$$

335 with correlation coefficient: $r = 0.8690$ for diameter range $100\mu\text{m} \leq d_{VM} \leq 250\mu\text{m}$

336
 337
$$Z = 2.3269 e^{-0.0047 d_{VM}}$$

338 With correlation coefficient: $r = -0.8470$ for diameter range $250\mu\text{m} \leq d_{VM} \leq 400\mu\text{m}$

339
 340 In the case of a global analysis of air drift, the following equation can be used:

341
 342
$$Z = 13.5324 d_{VM}^{-0.5955} \quad (11)$$

343 with correlation coefficient: $r = -0.6481$ for diameter range $100\mu\text{m} \leq d_{VM} \leq 400\mu\text{m}$

344
 345 Is possible to compare this results with Zemp [29] equations :

346
 347 for airborne spraying: $Z = 1.48 \cdot 0.01 d_{VM}$

348 (12)

349 for sprays with ground equipment $Z = 1.86 \cdot 0.01 d_{VM}$

350 (13)

351
 352 The results of analyses are presented in figure 7. From tests carried
 353 out here it follows that smaller droplets drift more than Zemp's
 354 equations state.

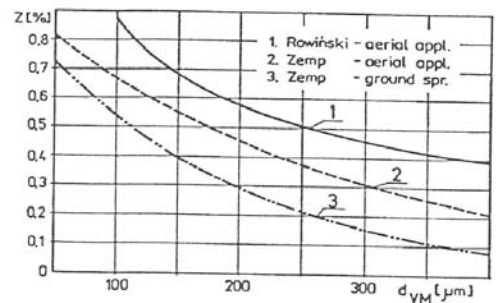


Fig. 7. Drift analysis

355 Environmental protection, it essential to define the lateral
 356 distribution of drifted liquid. The drift may be divided into two processes:

- 357 1.in relation to the movement of droplets which settle on crop within the
 358 tested area,
 359 and
 360 2.in relation to a spray cloud which moves with the wind in the near-ground air layer (the spray cloud
 361 may be measured by the structure of spray which settles on the masts)

362
 363 **3.7. Protection Zones**

364 The results of the above experiments confirm the necessity of using protection zones for airborne
 365 plant protection treatments. These zones, according to the character of drift process, may be divided into
 366 two categories:

- 367 • the insulation zone (also called insulation strip), on the lee side of the treated area, where most of
 368 the droplets settle, and
 369 • the buffer zone, which provides protection from the negative effects of shift and settlement of a
 370 spray cloud in the near-ground air layer.

371 The sum of these two zones constitutes to the protection zone (see fig.8).

372 From the mass distribution analysis for both liquids applied it is possible to define the relative dose \check{D} (i.e.
 373 the ratio of field dose to technical dose). Unlike equations 7 and 8, a real treatment was considered, where
 374 distributions overlap with a shift equal to the applied working swath $B = 30$ m. The following results were
 375 obtained:

376 for atomizers:

$$\check{D} = 0.03032 - 0.0613 \ln y \quad (r = -0.9932) \quad (14)$$

for pressure nozzles:

$$\check{D} = 0.9136 e^{-0.0273y} \quad (r = -0.9987) \quad (15)$$

377 Differentiating these equations, we obtain a measure of drop for a relative dose. These values are
 378 the following:

379

380 for atomisers:

$$(d\check{D}/dy)_a = -0.0613 * \ln y \quad (16)$$

382

383 for pressure nozzles:

$$(d\check{D}/dy)_p = -0.025 e^{-0.0273y} \quad (17)$$

385

386 This means that during airborne treatment, in which pyrethroids are sprayed with atomizers, with
 387 an acceptable level of dosage on a field's periphery,
 388 e.g. $\check{D} = 4\%$, the area of drift will be $y \leq 73$ m, and
 389 insulation zone 43 m (with a working breadth of 30
 390 metres). Analogically, when herbicides are used in
 391 airborne treatments, with an allowed dose on the
 392 periphery of e.g. $\check{D} = 0.5\%$ the drift area is $y \leq 190$ m,
 393 and the insulation zone is 160 m. These are also the
 394 areas where droplets settle (see figures 5 and 6). The
 395 area of a buffer zone can be estimated only on the
 396 basis of dose which settles on vertical samplers on the
 397 masts. This will depend on toxic and dynamic
 398 properties of the applied pesticide, as well as on the
 399 threat it poses to neighbouring areas.

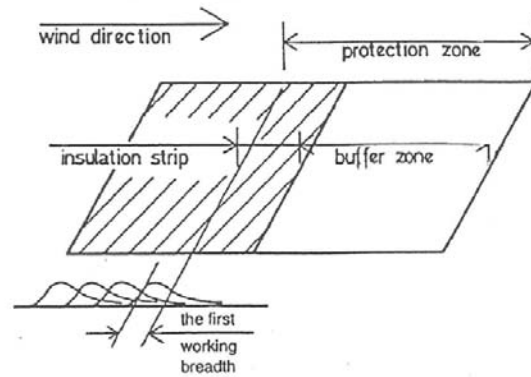


Fig. 8. The Protection zone

400 As mentioned above, a spraying conducted with
 401 atomizers settles at a distance of 300 m in a dose in
 402 relation to a technical dose $\check{D} = 0.047$, and at a
 403 distance of 500 m for dose $\check{D} = 0.015$. Assuming a linear distribution of a dose between the masts with the
 404 above-mentioned assumption that an allowed dose of pyrethroid $\check{D} = 0.04$, it is possible to evaluate a drift
 405 distance $y = 350$ m. For pressure nozzles and the above assumption $\check{D} = 0.005$, a drift distance is $y \leq 360$
 406 m. Buffer zones can be evaluated as 320 m and 330m respectively, for working breadth $B = 30$ m. The
 407 above sizes of protection zones are extreme. They were calculated for the application of herbicides and
 408 the threats related to them for the most sensitive cultivated crops (i.e. lettuce and cucumbers). In the case
 409 of these plants, a relative dose of 0.1% to 0.5% can make it impossible for the crop to be sold [6].

410 Data on what doses responsible for crop losses are allowed or what pesticide residues are
 411 acceptable make it possible to calculate protection zones (based on equations presented in this paper).
 412 These zones will be much narrower for most insecticides and fungicides applied

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3.8. Mass balance

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The process of drift is an element of a broader problem concerning the mass of an expanded factor. Like in Thermodynamics Sankey's figure for engines, the mass balance can be presented in figure 9. In this balance (although it does not have any direct influence on the mass), degradation of chemicals due to solar radiation was also marked (evaporation). So far, broader research of the whole process has not been available, and the aviation practice has been basically restricted to biological effects. The balance presented here, although it is extremely difficult in experiments, will enable a complex analysis of plant protection treatment efficiency, as well as the negative effects of treatment on the environment. It is interesting from agriculture engineers to receive the total efficiency of our treatments. (D_T /biological effect)

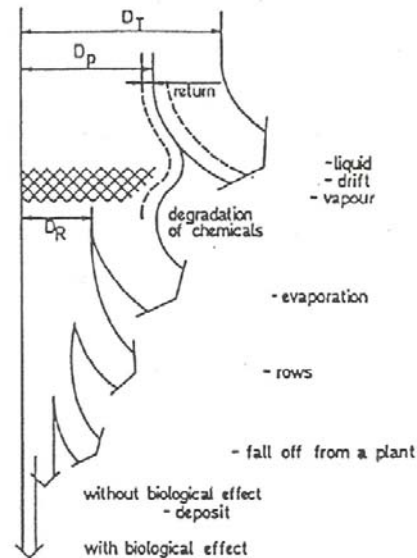


Fig. 9. Mass balance

3. Conclusion

Because of the Document of EU from 2009 year, forbidding use of airplanes in crop protection treatments, agreement is possible only in a particular situation. Because of that there is no reason to continue very labour consuming and expensive experimental investigation in this field of knowledge. But if continued it should be based on a generally accepted, standard method which would make it possible to compare results. Still more attention should be drawn to model research, mathematical model of drift included, to recognize physics of occurring processes. So far there have been too many segment tests.

What is more, application of pesticides requires establishing protection zones (insulation and buffer zones included) on the lee side. The breadth of these zones ranges from 50 m up to 330 m, depending on threats certain pesticides imply and the type of equipment.

Lastly, inference. The method was acknowledged by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, The Institute of Environmental Protection, The Forest Research Institute, as a better than EU Directive to use airplanes in crop protection treatment and formally agree after analyse presented the method to use treatments "Mospilan 20 SP" in insecticide control in forest.

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