at 10 to 15 miles per hour (dependent on the wind speed). The tires were slightly deflated.

It also has the added advantage that a smaller and rougher field for a given height can be used than with the standard pulley tow, and of course a very much smaller field than can be used with the auto-tow method. Approximately one-third more rope is laid out on the ground than in the standard pulley tow method.

Technique

The technique of making a launch is as follows: the rope is stretched out across the field from the glider to the car, leaving approximately 10% to 15% of the total length of the field in front of the car, dependent on the wind speed. A stake is then driven into the ground approximately 10 feet behind the car and the pulley laid down horizontally and attached to this stake. The free end of the rope is anchored to the righthand side of the car, carried back over the ground anchored pulley to the underside of the open sheave pulley on the car, thence back to the glider.

It is essential that the line back to the glider come over the top side of this pulley.

The slack is then very carefully taken out due to the 3:1 speed ratio and the signal is given for the launch. The car in low gear can be very rapidly accelerated to 10 to 12 miles per hour, when the glider will be picked up very easily. At the top of the launch the pilot releases in the ordinary way. Then the car is stopped. The driver immediately trips the release on the right-hand side of the car, which has been holding this end of the rope. The rope is dropped from the open sheave pulley on the car and from there the car is driven back to the starting position, or alternatively to the launching end of the rope, if the car is to be used for retrieving also.

Because both pulleys are of the open sheave type, the rope straightens out very rapidly and no special precautions need be observed in towing the rope back to the launching position.

Some Observations

There is less wear and tear on the car; there is no noticeable increase in rope wear; due to the fact that open sheave pulleys are used for both the ground-anchored and the car pulleys, the rope is readily thrown over or removed from either pulley, thus saving much time. No fouling of the rope has been experienced in the many times this method has been used.

This method would be very useful where a small farm tractor was available for launching purposes, especially on a rougher field than that on which a car could normally be driven.

With the more widespread acceptance of the standard pulley tow and the development of the double pulley method, the use of a winch for small groups particularly is quite unnecessary.