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"Shredder Blades" Chop, Pull Stalks

"Corn farmers in our part of the country really like the way it pulls shredded corn stalks out by the roots so they can plant without retilling and we hope farmers in the Corn Belt will give it a try too," says Floydada, Texas, farmer Drew Lloyd who developed the Row Stalker, a popular tillage tool in cotton that promises to catch on in conservation tilled corn and soybeans as well.

The Row Stalker consists of a set of round steel blades in a V-shaped configuration like disc openers. Each blade is fitted with 12 steel cleats. Developed to pull plants out by the roots and throw them out of the row without disturbing soil, the Row Stalker allows replanting on beds or ridges without retilling the row. It removes shredded corn stalks at up to 10 mph, self-aligns on stalks and works well in wet or dry conditions.

Plus, the Row Stalker can assist in pest management by destroying favorable overwintering conditions. In cotton, it has been effective in helping to control boll weevil, Lloyd says. In corn, it should



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be just as effective in helping to control European corn borer by destroying root crowns where the insects overwinter, he adds.

The Row Stalker bolts onto any tool bar and spacings can be quickly and easily adjusted.

Sells for \$850 per row.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Becknell Wholesale, P.O. Box 2008, Lubbock, Texas 79408 (ph 806-747-3201).



Lepp welded two 38-in. tractor wheel rims together with a spacer between, then welded the combined rims onto the backing plate of a truck spindle.

Cement Mixer Made Out Of Tractor Wheel Rims

Old tractor wheel rims can be used to make a low-cost 3-pt. cement mixer, says Dave Lepp, Niagara On The Lake, Ontario.

He welded a truck spindle from an old International truck onto a 3-pt. hitch frame that he made from scrap steel. He welded two dual 38-in. tractor wheel rims together with a spacer between, then welded the combined rims onto the backing plate of the truck spindle. He bought a 24-in. dia. no. 50 sprocket and built an adjustable mounting bracket for a slow

moving hydraulic motor. The motor's powered by the tractor's remote outlets and is used to chain-drive the truck spindle.

Inside the rims, he installed spiral flighting 4 in. high and spaced about 10 in. apart from one end to the other out of 3/16-in. sheet metal.

"The mixer holds two bags of cement, four bags of sand, and six bags of gravel. Because it's a fairly heavy load I use a 70 hp tractor to take the weight. The mixer rotates clockwise until the concrete is ready, then I reverse the hydraulic motor and un-



New subsoiler's shanks are 28 degrees off the vertical plane instead of at a 45 degree angle like other "bent-legged" or "L-shaped" subsoilers.

SUBSOILER FEATURES 28 DEGREE ANGLED SHANKS

Subsoiler Cuts Drag, Surface Disturbance

"It fractures the soil with minimum disturbance to the surface like other parabolic subsoilers, but soil doesn't clod up as it will with a regular parabolic shank thanks to the new design," says Mississippi ag engineer Gordon Tupper about his new parabolic subsoiler.

"This design reduces draft requirements by about 20 percent over that required by other subsoilers," adds Tupper, who designed the low-disturbance, low-drag tillage tool at Mississippi State University's Delta Research and Extension Center at Stoneville, Miss.

The key to success of Tupper's subsoiler, which is now being manufactured by five southeastern U.S. companies, is the changed angle at which the shanks run through the earth. They're 28 degrees off the vertical plane instead of at a 45 degree angle like other "bent legged" or "L-shaped" subsoilers such as the Paratill.

The upshot is that shanks run within the soil fracture line under all conditions, not just under ideal conditions as has been the case with the Paratill, Tupper says. As a result, it pulls much easier, he says.

For example, Tupper says in tests the subsoiler can always be pulled one gear faster - sometimes two - than the Paratill machine. "In one test, we covered 11.4 percent more acreage per day than the



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The shank itself, which is made out of 1 1/4-in., T-1 steel, is about 6 in. longer than a conventional parabolic shank to permit better trash clearance and to make up for the depth lost by turning the shank at an angle.

Tupper's subsoiler, which is available in 4 and 6-row units, is set up for 40-in. rows but can easily be adjusted to 38-in. rows. For narrower rows, a smaller foot and shank may be necessary, he says.

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Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gordon Tupper, Agricultural Engineering, Delta Research and Extension Center, Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 197, Soneville, Miss. 38776 (ph 601-686-9311).



Inside the rims, he installed 4-in. spiral flighting made out of 3/16-in. sheet metal.

load it either completely or a pailful at a time. It's especially useful for remote areas such as along fence lines or wherever there's no electricity for a conventional mixer."

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