"Double Stroke" Sickle Drive

You can combine, mow or swath up to twice as fast with the new "Double Stroke" sickle drive for cutters and introduced by SI Distributing, St. Marys, Ohio.

"It essentially doubles the length of each stroke of the sickle," explains Joe Whitney, president. "A conventional sickle knife travels about 3 in. forward and 3 in. back on each full stroke. With our new double drive, it travels 5.2 in. forward and 5.2 in. back.

"When operated at regular speed, our new drive has twice the cutting action of a conventional sickle. If a section is missing, that portion of the sickle will still cut because the new drive's longer stroke passes two sections across each guard on each forward and return stroke," says Whitney.

"By putting our new-style drive on a combine platform, for example, farmers can 'down size' to cut machinery costs without sacrificing capacity," Whitney points out. "For instance, a 10 ft. soybean header, equipped with our new drive and operated at 4 miles per hour, can cover just as much ground as a more expensive 20 ft. conventional header operated at 2 miles per hour."

Whitney notes that the new drive also helps reduce shatter loss because of its faster cutting action which slices off plants with virtually no jurying or jarring. FARM SHOW's Vol. 10, No. 1, 1986 issue. Called the Easy Cut system it includes special guards with cutting edges on both the top and bottom edges. The new "Double Drive" sells for right at $1,000. The Easy Cut system ranges in price from $377 (7 ft. sickle) to $818 (22 ft.). For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, SI Distributing, Rt. 3, Box 104, St. Marys, Ohio 45885 (ph 419 669-2442).

In Canada, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Argis Ltd., Franz Greibich, president, Box 154, Listowel, Ont. N4W3G8 (ph 519 291-4205).

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"DO-IT-YOURSELF" CONVERSION

Add-On Power Steering For Older Model Tractors

"This conversion works perfect and it was so easy to do I'll never again hesitate to buy a used tractor just because it doesn't have power steering," says Ken Craven, Byars, Okla., about the "do-it-yourself" conversion he figured out for his hard-steering 1972 Ford 4000 diesel tractor. Before tackling the job himself, Craven first contacted his local Ford dealer. "I was quoted a price of $1,900 for parts alone so I got in touch with a tractor salvage outfit. They wanted $950 for used parts. That's when I decided to do it myself."

He rounded up a power steering pump and transmission cooler from a 1978 Ford pickup and the cylinder and sending unit from a 1971 Ford Torino. To drive the pump he fashioned a "double groove" pulley by welding spacer bushings to a 7-in. pulley and bolting it to the original damper pulley.

"Then I cut the steering rod on the tractor and fitted it with the sending unit from the car. There was a problem in that when you moved the steering wheel, the unit would start to roll over. To solve the problem I mounted a righthand spline and slip yoke on the steering arm to get the back and forth action needed. The last step was to mount the cylinder and transmission cooler. The cooler keeps the power steering fluid cool even on the hottest days," says Craven.

"Now the tractor is extremely easy to steer. There's no steering wheel whip in rough ground and, if you ever have to tow the tractor without running the engine, the original mechanical steering still works."

"Total cost of the project was $170 including $60 for the pump, cylinder and sending unit, $73 for hoses, belts and fittings, and $20 for the transmission cooler."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Craven, Rt. 1, Box 43, Rosedale, Okla. 74361 (ph 405 469-4326).

"HATS OFF TO HISTORY"

"Farm Printer" Puts Old Tractors On Caps

"They help bring back the past," says Larry Fredrickson, a "farm printer" who specializes in caps, T-shirts, suspenders and scarves that sport tractor models and company insignias dating back to the 20's, 30's, 40's and 50's.

Fredrickson says he uses authentic logos that the companies used originally for promotional purposes. Some examples of models available include the Oliver 60 or 70, Farmall H or M, Case International, and Ford-Raider.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry Fredrickson's Screen Printing, 11th Kenwood Terrace, Mora, Minn. 55051 (ph 612 679-3604).