

BOOSTS CAPACITY OF  
CONVENTIONAL, ROTARY COMBINES

## Added Air Flow Improves Threshing Efficiency

You can "turbocharge" the grain-threshing components on any combine with the new Grain Turbo add-on unit from Australia that delivers a high velocity, low volume air blast through a manifold mounted under the concave.

The new combine attachment has been on the market in Australia for the past three years, with a couple hundred units already in use on many different makes and models of combines. A Canadian company has just started importing the system for the North American market.

"It's almost unbelievable how well it works. I've seen combines boost capacity by 50 percent or more and it greatly reduces the amount of grain damaged by the rotors because it keeps the concave clean," says Brent Senger, who's importing the Grain Turbo into Canada.

"The increased flow of air through the concave and sieves increases separating efficiency by eliminating sieve overloading. It keeps straw and chaff in suspension, allowing the grain kernels to fall through. What's more, it reduces combine wear by moving crop material through the concave better," says Senger. "It boosts combine capacity with less grain lost out the back of the machine."

The Grain Turbo was invented by two Australian farmers in the early 1990's. The concept is similar to the functioning of precleaners installed on many combines, but it carries the concept even further by increasing the flow of air through the new design of the manifold. Senger says the system will improve performance of any combine, conventional or rotary, regardless of whether it is already equipped with a precleaner.

Key to success of the new unit is that it applies a blast of air to material which falls from the concave, separating heavy grain from light material before it reaches the sieves, allowing the sieves to clean a more pure grain sample so less grain is likely to make its way to the back of the machine. It keeps lighter material suspended so you can use larger sieves or wider openings. Air foil sieves work particularly well with the system, according to Senger.

"You get the best results in situations where the combine is sieve-limited, such as when you are straight-cutting grain and leaving most of the straw in the field. In situations where you're moving a lot of straw through the combine, results are not quite as good. However, nearly all farmers experience a 20 to 50 percent boost in capacity," notes Senger.

The Grain Turbo consists of a high-capacity fan that mounts on the side of the machine. A 9-in. dia. hose carries air to a manifold under the feederhouse that distributes the air evenly across the width of the concave. A butterfly valve at the fan outlet is used to control the quantity of air, depending on crop conditions.

When used on sloping ground, the Grain Turbo keeps crop material from moving to the lower side of the machine, allowing an increase in ground speed and reducing waste.

According to a report in an Australian publication that tested the Grain Turbo, most farmers reported 20 to 50 percent increases in capacity, with the most benefits experienced on the least efficient combines.

In 1997, Senger will offer the Grain Turbo only for Deere 7720 and 8820 com-



"Grain Turbo" boosts combine capacity up to 50 percent and reduces grain damage.



Kit consists of a high capacity fan, 9-in. dia. hose, manifold, and butterfly valve at fan outlet. Installation takes about a day.

bines. Sells for \$7,500 (Canadian). Takes about a day to install. On Deere combines, the fan is belt-driven off the cylinder driveshaft. Hydraulic drive is optional.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Grain Turbo, P.O. Box 61, Bradwell, Sask. S0K 0P0 Canada (ph 306 257-3776).



Photo by Beth Buglione, Capital Press

Perry Davis repositions a coyote archery target he uses to scare off geese.

### Fake Coyote Scares Geese Away

Life-size "fake" coyotes can be used to scare away pest birds, according to Perry Davis whose grass and small grains fields have been decimated by hungry hordes of overwintering Canadian geese.

"We've tried white flags, a propane cannon, and a .22 rifle," says Davis, Ankeny, Ore. "As for the fake coyote, you have to move it every day or the geese get used to it. We set it right out in the middle of the field they land in. I'm considering getting two more and placing them in line to simulate packs like coyotes travel in. That might keep geese guessing more than

one does.

"The coyotes, which are actually sold in sportsmen's magazines as archery targets, measure 36 in. long and stand 23 in. high at the shoulder. They sell for \$89.99.

"One method that also works well it to tether a big, barking dog in the middle of the field on a 100-ft. cable and set out a dog house for it so you can keep it in the field around the clock," Davis adds.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cabella's, 812 - 13th Ave., Sidney, Neb. 69160-8888 (ph 800 237-8888).



Fence post kit consists of auger fighting anchor, 48 to 60-in. post and hinge.

### "Drive-Over" Electric Fence Post

"Our new drive-over fence post eliminates the need to open gates or slide the wire down before driving over an electric fence, making it much easier to cross the fence," says Kenneth King, Hutchinson, Kan.

The fiberglass post is hinged at ground level. It connects to an auger fighting "anchor" that screws into the ground. You install the post in the fence wherever you want to cross it. When the vehicle strikes the post the top part "breaks over", dropping the fence to the ground and holding the wire low enough so that the vehicle can't snag it. After the vehicle passes by, the tension on the fence causes the post to spring back up.

"The post is made from fiberglass so

the wire won't short out," says King. "We sell it in a kit that includes the auger fighting anchor, post, and hinge. The post can be used with one, two, or three wires and is available in 48 to 60-in. lengths. A similar but shorter version is available for crossing fences under center pivot irrigation systems. The post is positioned 3 to 4 ft. away from the wheel track so that when the wheel hits the wire the post is pushed over."

Sells for \$20 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kenneth King, 6003 E. Eales Rd., Hutchinson, Kan. 67501 (ph 316 663-1470) or Willy Kilmer (ph 913 262-1118).