

SOYBEANS, SMALL GRAINS, AND EVEN CORN

Row Crop Air Seeders Catching On Fast

A new generation of air seeders is designed specifically for row crop planting. The units offer the depth control of a conventional planter with the narrow-row capability of a grain drill. What's more, the air seeder carts carry a big payload of fertilizer and seed. And, they're easy to fill. Following is a report on three new row crop air seeders for row crops that were on display at the recent Farm Fest show near Redwood Falls, Minn.



Hiniker's new 4836 "row crop" air seeder cart has a 30-ft. toolbar and 130-bu. tank.

Hiniker

The company's new 4836 air seeder cart is equipped with a 130-bu. seed tank with a rear-mount 3-pt. hitch that carries the drill toolbar. It has 36 seed outlets with soybean metering wheels and is designed to plant soybeans and small grains in rows spaced 10 to 30 in. apart. The individual tool-bar mounted row units each have their own gauge wheel and parallel linkage. An optional electronic monitor and bin level sensor warns the operator of

any blockage in individual seed lines or low seed level.

"It has enough outlets to plant 10-in. rows on a 30-ft. toolbar," says Larry Hansen of Hiniker. "Total cost of our 30-ft. model on 10-in. row spacings is \$35,000 to \$37,000.

Contact: Hiniker Co., Box 3407, Mankato, Minn. 56002 (ph 507 625-6621; fax 5883).

Flexi-Coil

The company's 8000 planter/drill has a 3-pt. hitch on back of the tank, allowing you to mount conventional toolbar row units and plant both corn and soybeans with the same rig. The tank is divided, allowing you to use two different types of fertilizer as you plant. For example, you can plant corn in 30-in. rows while placing phosphorus and potash 2 1/2 in. from the row and nitrogen 10 in. away. To switch to soybeans, the planter boxes are removed and the fertilizer openers adjusted to operate together with the row openers, allowing you to plant in 10-in. rows. The air cart can also be used with a field cultivator to plant beans.

The air delivery system is used to blow soybean seed into the ground. Corn seed is delivered conventionally by the planter's row units.

The system can also be used as a no-till air drill by fitting it with Barton openers for ultra-low disturbance seeding of wheat or beans.

"It lets you plant corn and narrow row beans with the accuracy of the best row crop planters on the market, and apply fertilizer in a cost-efficient manner," says Terry Bogden. "The air cart is available in three configurations - as a tow-between model, a tow-between with 3-pt. hitch, or as a pull-type cart. The tank is available in 130, 170, and 230-bu. sizes. We plan to have a 340-bu. model at the Farm Progress Show that has three compartments."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Flexi-Coil Inc., Box 3159, Minot, N. Dak. 58702 (ph 701 858-5500).

Self-Propelled Small Square Baler

"It works like a dream," says Don Steckley, Douglas, Wyo., about the self-propelled small square baler he built by mounting a Deere 216 wire tie baler on the chassis of a New Holland 1282 self-propelled small square baler.

He paid \$500 for the New Holland string tie baler which no longer worked. The bale chamber, plunger, and knotters were worn out. He replaced them with the baling mechanisms off the Deere 216 baler, lengthening the frame 6 in. to make everything fit. The Deere pickup was too high and steep to bring hay into the repositioned

bale chamber so he used the original New Holland pickup. The baler has two flywheels - the original New Holland one and the Deere flywheel - which was originally pto-driven. Steckley had a steel shaft made to connect both flywheels.

He painted the rebuilt baler green and yellow. "I built it because I was tired of getting a sore neck from having to look behind me all the time. Now I sit right over the bale chamber so I can see what's going on before a problem develops. Also, I have a good view of the knotters and know the minute they miss. We bale a lot at night, and with the pull-



Gandy's air seeding system features Acra-Plant notched, double-disc openers mounted on a 7-in. sq. toolbar. Shown is a 15-ft. toolbar model with a 64-bu. tow cart.

Gandy

For the first time, Gandy is marketing a complete air seeding system for soybeans and small grains, but not corn.

The unit features Acra-Plant notched, double-disc openers mounted on a 7-in. sq. toolbar. For better cutting action, the blades in each pair have a different number of notches, and one blade is ahead of the other. Special mounting brackets can be used to move every other row unit back 8 in. for better residue flow. Many row-width configurations are possible by using splitters or by closing outlets on the hopper. Standard row spacing is 10 in. but is adjustable to 7 1/2, 8, and 15 in.

The metering system is ground driven and compensates for speed changes. Individual metering wheels deliver seed into individual

ventures underneath the hopper.

The units can also be used to apply dry fertilizer in separate operations.

"We tested it extensively last year on 3,000 acres in Illinois, Minnesota, and Kansas and it worked great," says Jerry Ganfield. "It lets you plant faster than with a drill and has fewer components which results in less maintenance."

A 20-ft. toolbar equipped with 36 metering outlets and a 96-bu. tow cart sells for \$30,900. A 15-ft. model with 64 bu. cart is also available.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gandy Co., Box 528, Owatonna, Minn. 55060 (ph 800 443-2476 or 507 451-5430; fax 507 451-2857).



Flexicoil unit shown has Deere and Kinze row units mounted on a 30-ft. folding toolbar that's 3-pt. mounted to a 130-bu. tank.



type baler it was so hard to see that there might be four or five broken bales before we'd notice. I mounted extra lights on this machine which helps a lot.

"My total cost was only about \$1,000. As far as I know, no one even makes a self-propelled small square baler any more.

"It looks like it would turn wide but it

can actually turn shorter than a pull-type baler because I don't have to worry about turning too short and locking up the pto shaft. If I'm working in a tight spot I just run it in, back out, and go."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Don Steckley, 1212 Smylie Rd., Douglas, Wyo. 82633 (ph 307 358-3111).