Kits Lets You Adjust Case-IH Concaves On-The-Go

You can adjust the concave on-the-go on your older Case-IH Axial-Flow combine with this new kit that helps prevent over or under-threshing grain.

"The new 2188's and 2388's have an electronic concave adjustment but older machines must be adjusted manually," says Don Sizer of Farm Shop Agricultural Innovations, manufacturer. "Our kit provides on-the-go mechanical adjustment for Axial Flows from the late 1970's through 1993's 2188's. You have to manually adjust the concaves on those models several times a day in some crops, which is extremely time-consuming."

The kit contains all the hardware needed to reposition the ratchet that raises and lowers the concave. The ratchet is moved from underneath the hopper up to the cab next to your left arm. The heart of the system is a 2-ft. long, 3/4 in. dia. steel shaft that mounts under the cab and connects to the ratchet. It's fitted on each end with a 12-tooth sprocket that drives a #40 roller chain that drives the worm gears used to adjust the concave.

The kit can be installed by two men in about three hours, Sizer says. Installation requires some drilling.

Kit provides on-the-go mechanical adjustment for Case-IH Axial Flow combines from the late 1970's through 2188's built in 1993.

Sells for $235 (U.S.).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Farm Shop Agricultural Innovations, Box 308, Landis, Sask., Canada S0K 2K0 (ph 306 658-4512; E-mail: rsizer@sk.sympatico.ca).

Alabama farmer Tim Easterwood says feeding cattle with the student-built bale unroller wastes much less hay than using conventional round bale feeders.

Bale Unroller Built By Students Saves Hay

Alabama farmer Tim Easterwood, looking for less wasteful ways to feed his cows than conventional bale rings, or unrollers powered by hydraulic motors, took his needs to the Cullman Area Vocational Center's welding department.

The result is what instructor Wade Hancock calls the "Hay Un-Roller". It's designed to handle Easterwood's 4 by 5-ft. bales. It mounts on the 3-pt. hitch of his 75 hp Ford tractor equipped with remote hydraulics.

"Tim tells me it now takes 1/2 the hay to feed the same number of cattle compared to the conventional hay rings he used before," says Hancock. "He says it's also easier to control the amount of hay he unrolls compared with hydraulic-powered unrollers he looked at."

The student-built unroller consists of an 85-in. wide by 26-in. tall frame built of 2 1/2 in. sq. tubing. It has two 3-ft., 6 1/2-in. long arms that slide in and out hydraulically on frame cross members. It'll handle bales up to 6 ft. wide. Arms are operated by a pair of 3 by 10-in. hydraulic cylinders.

Each arm is fitted with a 16-in. long spike that slides into the center of the bale as the cylinders are closed.

Each arm is also fitted with a stand that has a sight gauge for ensuring that the bale is backed up to properly. "From the center of the spike to the top of the parking stand is 30 in., or right in the center of a 5-ft. bale," Hancock says.

Unroller has two 3 1/2-ft. long arms that slide in and out hydraulically on frame cross members.

"Not only can Tim feed less hay with less waste, it also allows every cow to feed at one time rather than the larger ones eating first and the smaller ones getting the left overs," Hancock says.

Cost of the project was $500. Hancock is looking for a manufacturer to buy the patent and market the tool. Also, he says he'll make detailed plans and a materials list available for a small fee if there's interest.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wade Hancock, Welding Department, Cullman Area Vocational Center, 17640 Hwy. 31, Cullman, Ala. 35057 (ph 256 734-7740; fax 7464).

Taylor mounted 24-in. wide push mower inside his front-end loader bucket. He uses it to trim a 7-ft. wide, 10-ft. high hedge that borders his property.

Hedge Trimming Lawn Mower Mounts On Loader Bucket

Trimming tall hedges takes time no matter how you do it but Joe Taylor, Philomath, Ore., has at least found a way to get the job done with less physical labor.

He mounted a 24-in. wide push mower inside the bucket on his tractor loader, tying the mower handles to brackets on back of the bucket so the mower deck extends out front.

Taylor uses the loader-mounted mower to trim a 7-ft. wide, 10-ft. high hedge that borders his property.

"It's simple to use and results in a nice even cut," says Taylor. "The bucket on my Kubota 36 hp tractor reaches up to 12 ft. high. I use it once every year in early summer. It's easier to set up than a sicklebar mower. However, a sicklebar mower works faster because you can just drive alongside the hedge. In the past I stood on top of a truck and had to lean out as far as I could using a conventional hedge trimmer. It wasn't an easy job.

"There's a deep ditch on the side of the hedge next to the road so I have to do all the trimming from my yard. It's a real shock to drivers because all they can see is the mower. The mower is so far out in front of the tractor that I don't have to turn the front wheels much as I drive ahead and back. In real heavy foliage the mower sometimes lifts up a little but that isn't a problem."

Taylor notes that he always wears safety eye glasses when using the mower.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joe Taylor, 39506 Luckiamute Rd., Philomath, Ore. 97370 (ph 541 929-6433).

Two-wheeled hauler consists of a mini forklift mast that tips backward toward the tractor when the forks are raised. When the forks are lowered, they are parallel to the ground.

New-Style Bale Tote Works With Smaller Tractors

There are a lot of home-built bale hauling rigs around but Tom McKee, Ramsey, Ill., came up with a new design for his tow-behind rig.

The 2-wheeled hauler consists of a mini forklift mast that tips backward toward the tractor when the forks are raised. When the forks are lowered, they are parallel to the ground. A single hydraulic cylinder raises and lowers the forks. Wheels on the rig are spread wide enough for a bale to fit between them. Steel rollers on either side of the upright frame allow the forks to roll smoothly up and down the overhead frame.

McKee designed the rig to pull behind a small tractor that would otherwise not have enough power to handle big round bales.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom McKee, Hwy 51S, Ramsey, Ill. 62080 (ph 618 423-9376).