Tractor-Mounted Auger

Loads Grain From Piles

If you’ve got grain in flat storage, or outside in piles, you’ll like this tractor-mounted auger for loading trucks.

It has an 8-ft. wide, pto-driven cross auger that feeds grain into an unloading auger which runs alongside the tractor. The auger attaches to the lower lift arms of the tractor’s 3-pt. hitch and also bolts onto the front and side of the tractor.

“It loads grain much faster than a grain vac or front-end loader,” says Larry Lempka, Minden Machine Shop, Minden, Neb. “A lot of farmers are piling grain on the ground for the first time this year and don’t have a fast way to load it into trucks.”

“We offer four different models in 9, 11, 12, and 14-in. diameters. The 14-in. dia. model can load up to 15,000 bu. per hour while the 9-in. dia. model can handle about 4,000 bu. per hour. All models are equipped with the 8-ft. wide cross auger. Standard auger length is 30 ft.; the 9 and 11-in. dia. augers can be custom built up to 55 ft. long. The auger is raised or lowered by a hydraulic cylinder that operates off tractor hydraulic spout.

Vermeer’s “Ensiler”. After bale is formed, rear gate lifts and stays up while bale is wrapped.

Grigsby uses 5-ft. wide “stalk rollers” on back of his 25-ft. grain platform as well as on his 8-row corn head. The rollers protect 50-in. wide “logger” flotation tires.

Header-Mounted Rollers

Prevent Tire “Stalk Wear”

By C.F. Marley

Joel Grigsby of Petersburg, Ill., got tired of watching corn stalks wear down the tires on his Case-HI 1688 combine. So when he mounted big “logger” flotation tires on the combine that cost about $5,000 apiece, he decided to make sure he protected them by mounting a pair of 5-ft. wide “stalk rollers” on back of the header.

“I use them on my 25-ft. grain platform as well as on my 8-row corn head. After two years I couldn’t be happier with them,” says Grigsby, who credits local welder Don Moss of Tallula, Ill., for the design and actual work.

Moss used heavy gauge steel piping to make the 14-in. dia. rollers. To mount them he welded steel brackets onto both sides of the header and attached a 3-pt. lower lift arm to each one. Steel arms that mount on both ends of the roller hook up to the brackets and are free to swing up and down. A solid steel axle runs through each roller and rides on bearings mounted at each end. During transport the rollers are supported off the ground by a pair of chains that run from the back of the header down to the end of each arm.

“It solved my tire problems,” says Grigsby. “Often I was able to go only 2 or 3 years before I had to replace the tires on my combine. A tire dealer told me that tire companies are now using ‘just on time’ inventory systems which means the soft new tires are sold almost as soon as they’re made. They have no chance to age and get tougher.

“I spent a total of less than $1,000 for both rollers. The 60-in. wide rollers extend about 5 in. on each side of the tires which are 50 in. wide and 5 ft. 8 in. high. Each roller weighs about 200 lbs. One advantage of this design is that if I trade for a different combine my rollers are wide enough to protect the tires even if the tires on the new combine are positioned different in relation to the header. To remove the rollers for use on a different head, I just pull a pin from each bracket, disconnect the chains, and remove the mounting arms.

“When we built the rollers we made the mounting arms so that the rollers could swing from side to side. However, that allowed the ends of the rollers to wear on the mounting arms so we modified the mounting arms so that now there’s only a little sideways movement where the arms meet the rollers.”

Grigsby bought the 50-in. wide Firestone logger tires from a tire store in Leavenworth, Kan. “I bought them because I was concerned about soil compaction. They have a footprint that’s more than twice as big as a standard 30.5 tire. The 10-hole wheel hubs on the tires (made by Titan Wheel, Chicago, Ill.) match the wheel hubs on my Deere 4640-4-WD tractor, allowing me to also use the tires on the tractor when planting.”

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