

## Portable, Hydraulic-Operated Air Compressor

One of the most innovative ideas at the recent Western Farm Progress Show in Regina, Sask., was this portable, hydraulic-operated air compressor built by Ken Mann of Dinsmore, Sask. It makes it easy to operate air tools or fill up tires, etc., right in the field using hydraulics off any tractor or pickup.

"It eliminates the need to carry a big gas-operated compressor on a tractor or pickup. It's such a simple idea that I don't know why no one has done it before," says Mann.

The unit consists of a pair of small air tanks with a carrying handle on top and a hydraulic motor that's used to drive a small compressor. The tanks are hooked together but are separate from the compressor.

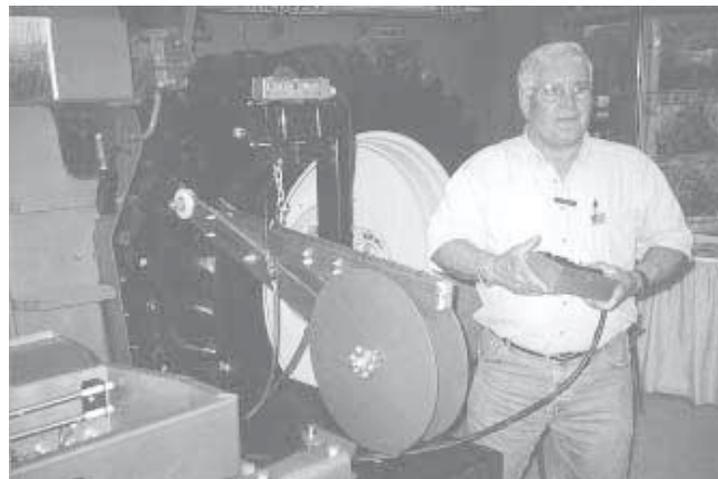
Mann carries the compressor in his tractor cab and mounts the tanks on back of the tractor. Whenever he needs to use the compressor he simply removes it from the cab and plugs it into the tractor's remote hydraulic outlets, then hooks up the compressor's air lines to the tanks. The compressor could also be mounted on a platform with the tanks.

Mann says he's looking for a manufacturer.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Mann, Box 158, Dinsmore, Sask., Canada S0L 0T0 (ph 306



**Ken Mann's air compressor makes it easy to operate air tools right in the field using hydraulics off any tractor or pickup.** 856-4409).



**Guidance system automatically keeps drill openers between stubble rows left by the previous crop. It automatically moves drill up to 30 in. left or right.**

## New Guidance System For Grain Drills

One of the hottest new inventions at the recent Western Canada Farm Progress Show in Regina, Sask., was a new guidance system for grain drills that automatically keeps drill openers between the stubble rows left by the previous crop.

"It has a lot of different benefits and they all add up to one thing – more profit per acre," says inventor Norbert Beaujot of Langbank, Sask.

The patent pending system consists of a 6-ft. long hitch that replaces the tractor drawbar and, with the aid of a hydraulic cylinder, is able to move the drill up to 30 in. left to right. Three pairs of 16-in. dia. furrow-sensing discs mount ahead of the drill – one set in the middle and the other two about 1 ft. from each end. Each pair of discs is spaced 3 in. apart. They're designed to straddle the stubble rows. Sensors mounted on the 6-ft. long hitch are wired to the discs. They sense if the discs slip off the row and shift the hitch accordingly. A light bar in the tractor cab shows the driver where the hitch is in relation to the tractor center at all times.

"It eliminates a lot of costs associated with misses and overlaps and also solves many other problems with direct or no-till seeding," says inventor Norbert Beaujot. "I've used it on my farm for three years to plant wheat, flax, barley and canola. I came up with the idea because there's no way to manually keep a grain drill seeding between rows, especially if you're pulling a 40-ft. drill behind a 250 hp tractor. The light bar in the cab tells the driver roughly where to steer while the hitch fine-tunes the location of the drill.

"Even if you don't direct seed your crops into standing stubble, you can still use the outside sets of discs to keep your drill running straight and prevent misses and overlaps. The operator can flip a switch to activate whichever pair of discs he wants. On



**The 6-ft. long hitch replaces the tractor drawbar.**



**Three pairs of 16-in. dia. furrow-sensing discs mount ahead of drill - one set in the middle and the other two about 1 ft. from each end.**

my farm I use the two outside pairs of discs mainly to lay out the field the first time I go around the field. After making one pass, I turn at the end of the field and drop the outside set of discs into the last row furrow that I just made. I do that one year out of five to get the fields all nice and straight. Then the next four years I seed between the rows." Beaujot says the guidance system can be adapted to fit all tractor brands and models.

Sells for about \$6,000 (Canadian).  
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Straw Track Mfg. Inc., Box 122, Langbank, Sask., Canada S0G 2X0 (ph 306 538-4441; E-mail: trebron@mailcity.com).

## Reversible Fan Blades Keep Radiators Clean

Modern tractors can have as many as five radiators lined up in a row which requires fans with a very high air flow. This causes a strong vacuum effect which can result in clogged air-intake screens and radiators.

A new fan with reversible blades is designed to solve the problem. Made in Germany and sold in North America by Sunova Implement, the Cleanfix fan simply bolts on in place of the original fan.

By flipping a switch, the operator can change the angle on the fan's blades. A small 12-volt air compressor is used to change the pitch of the blades by 90 degrees. You can do it manually or the fan can be set on a timer to periodically reverse itself.

"It helps stop overheating on tractors, combines, self-propelled forage harvesters, etc.," says John Van Lierop, Sunova Implement Ltd., Lakeside, Ontario. "The timer can be set to operate at anywhere from 10 to 60-minute cycles, with the duration of the cycles ranging from 10 seconds to 3 minutes.

"A universal adapter flange allows the fan to fit 90 percent of all farm equipment."

Several different sizes are available. A mid-sized model sells for \$1,850 U.S. The electronic timer sells for \$100 to \$150 depending on whether it's 12 or 24 volt.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sunova Implement Ltd., 196679 19th Line, Rt. 1, Lakeside, Ontario, Canada N0M 2G0 (ph 519 349-2075; fax 2028; E-mail: sunovasales@gtm.net).



**A small 12-volt air compressor is used to change angle on fan's blades by 90 degrees, allowing fan to blow out instead of suck in.**

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## Round Bale Snow Fence

This is a simple idea but many people might not have thought of it.

Jeff Smitherman, Union, Iowa, uses a line of round bales as a snow fence. The bales are positioned to keep snow from drifting in front of the door of his machine shed.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jeff Smitherman, 31757 Co. Hwy D65, Union, Iowa 50258.



**Bales are positioned to keep snow from drifting in front of door on machine shed.**