



QuadCruise cruise control lets you set a constant speed from 2 to 15 mph. It's especially valuable when spraying or applying fertilizer, says the manufacturer.

ATV Cruise Control Saves Fuel, Reduces Stress

Adding cruise control to an ATV that's used for spraying or other field work makes it easier to do a good job while saving fuel and reducing stress, says the manufacturer of QuadCruise, an electronic cruise control system.

The add-on system is manufactured in Australia and distributed in North America by Huntington Beach Motorsports in California.

"It helps farmers avoid the strain normally involved in tedious field tasks that otherwise require hours of careful manual speed control," says company director Tony Guymner. "QuadCruise lets you set a constant speed anywhere between 2 to 15 mph."

Cruise control is especially valuable when spraying or applying fertilizer, notes Guymner.

"Resume" functions allow you to run the same settings, regardless of who's operating the machine, even from one season to another. At the same time, it's very easy and quick to re-adjust the speed for different applications.

"We provide a speed output on the QuadCruise computer to feed 'area measurement equipment' that the farmer may already have. Similarly, our computer can accept speed pulses from Doppler radar and GPS systems," Guymner says.

Two Offset Disks Become One

Ron Post couldn't see spending \$3,000 for an offset disk when he was sure that joining two inexpensive smaller ones would work just fine.

His hunch paid off when he successfully built a 14-ft. unit by hooking two 7-ft. disks together. It cost him less than \$1,000.

"I had \$150 in one of them, \$525 in the other, and spent \$40 for a 3-pt. hitch toolbar. I bought some new hydraulic hoses for \$100, and already had two used cylinders to complete the job," the Celina, Ohio man says.

Post bolted the disks' hitches to a toolbar from a Deere 4-row cultivator. To make a hitch on the toolbar, he welded two 1-in. thick pieces of steel plate on its hinge point (the part that allowed the cultivator to swivel up and down, keeping the implement level). These two pieces of steel plate (one is 3-in. tall by 8-in. long and the other one is 4 by 12-in.) form a hitch that is held onto the

QuadCruise kits are model-specific, plug and play units that come complete with detailed instructions, photos and schematics. It takes 2 to 3 hrs. to install the system and absolutely no modification to the ATV is necessary.

The cruise control switch is mounted on the left handlebar while the majority of the remaining components are usually hidden compactly in the bike's under-seat storage compartment.

QuadCruise kits are available for selected Honda, Polaris, Yamaha, Suzuki, AUSA and Bombardier ATV's. The company is also developing kits for Kubota, Argo and John Deere ATV's.

They are priced in the \$900 to \$1,100 (U.S.) range, depending on whether the ATV already has a good digital speedo sender unit.

The company also makes a "speedsafe" speed limiter that makes it possible to preset a maximum speed.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Huntington Beach Motorsports, 17555 Beach Boulevard, Huntington Beach, Calif., 92647 (ph 714 842-5533; sales@quadcruise.com; www.quadcruise.com or www.mccruise.com (the manufacturer).

toolbar by the original bracket that has three holes – it's a 1-in. square U-bolt from the cultivator. Post welded the bottom swivel solid.

He then made another bracket to hold the hydraulic hoses up in the air.

"I had to bolt on a 4 by 4 by 1/2 in. angle iron bumper between the two disks so they wouldn't bang into each other and cut my tires," Post says of a final alteration.

He uses a 7060 AC tractor to pull the unit and works at a speed of 6 to 7 mph.

"You can go right along with that thing and it cuts just as deep as a plow. It works very well and I love it," he says.

If there ever comes a time when Post needs to work in a smaller space, he says the two disks can be easily separated.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ron Post, 726 Skeels Rd., Celina, Ohio 45822 (ph 419 942-1897).



Residue Tillage Specialist (RTS) has 5 to 6 ranks of wavy residue coulters on front and standard harrows at the back, which spread residue and level the field.

New-Style Tillage For Zero-Till Farming

"It's virtually impossible to plug it up and it won't bunch up residue. What's more, it's totally unaffected by stones," says Phil O'Grady, sales manager for Salford Farm Machinery about the company's new "Residue Tillage Specialist" (RTS) that's designed for a variety of field applications.

The RTS has been produced for three years and used in Ontario, Manitoba, the Midwest U.S., and even Australia. O'Grady says it's great for zero-tillers but has also been an improvement over cultivating in conventional tillage. No-till or reduced tillage operations have improved their seed-to-soil contact by using RTS for tilling the top two or three inches of the seedbed and at the same time, it successfully manages an unlimited amount of crop residue.

"We designed its individually-mounted spring coulters with a 1 1/8-in. wound coil to provide their own obstacle protection for stones," says O'Grady. "They don't pull up stones like a lot of other systems, and the coulters have no linkage or moving parts in the mounting assembly, so there's nothing to wear out. It's proving to be the longest lasting individual coulters ever developed."

The implement carries 5 to 6 ranks of these wavy residue coulters at 7-in. spacings, and has standard harrows at the back, which provide superb residue spreading and field leveling ability. To further crush and break down the residue, the RTS offers an optional roller behind the harrows.

Standard coulters have a 17 1/2-in. dia. with a 1 3/4-in. wave but options include a 17 1/2-in. coulters with a 3/4-in. wave, and a 20-in. coulters with a 2 1/4-in. wave.

The various RTS models range in width from 12 to 50 ft. with smaller ones being single-fold wing up design. The 41 and 50-ft. units are bifold models.



Individually-mounted spring coulters are designed with a 1 1/8-in. wound coil to keep from pulling up stones.

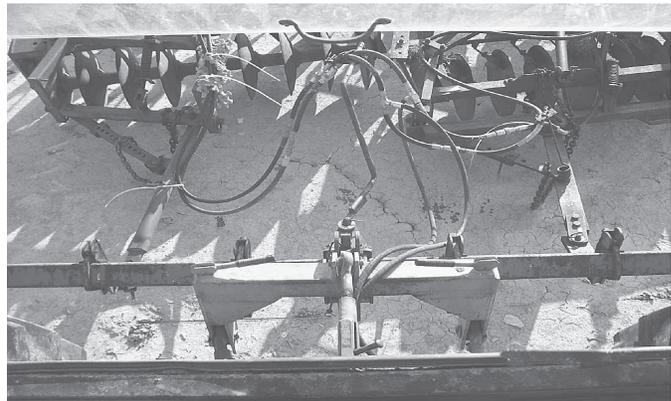
According to O'Grady, a key benefit to the system is that, "the faster you go, the better it works." Recommended field operating speeds are 8 to 12 mph. At those speeds, the implement requires 8 to 10 hp per foot.

Another big advantage of the RTS unit is that it allows farmers to work in wetter soil conditions than normal due to the fact that the coulters don't "ball up" with mud the way cultivator shanks do. They throw up soil so it will air out and dry.

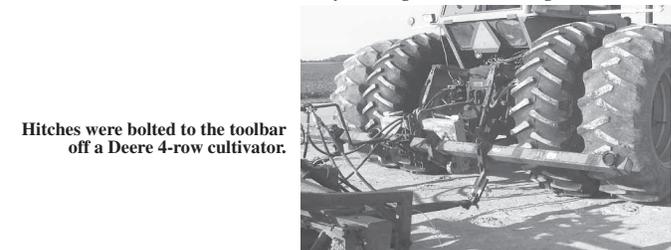
"In a wet season, it allows you to plant earlier and in a cool season, it warms the soil," O'Grady says.

The unit sells for about \$1,900 per foot and the company welcomes dealer inquiries.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Salford Farm Machinery, Phil O'Grady, R.R. #1, Salford, Ont., Canada N0J 1W0 (ph 519 485-1293; fax 519 485-1311; sales@salfordmachine.com; www.salfordmachine.com).



Ron Post made his own 14-ft. offset disk by hooking two 7-ft. disks together.



Hitches were bolted to the toolbar off a Deere 4-row cultivator.