

## Mini Combine Helps Field-Test Grain

The Minibatt in-field grain sampler, developed and introduced in Europe, is now available in North America. As first reported in FARM SHOW (Vol. 29, No. 4), it provides a clean grain sample in less than five minutes.

"We are marketing it primarily to small grain growers," says Scott Longlet, president, Reichardt Electronic Innovations, Inc.

The hand held unit operates like a mini-combine, harvesting and threshing small grains at a rate of approximately 3 1/2 oz./min. Like a full-size combine, the Minibatt has crop specific concaves available, including field-beans, canola, peas and small grains. A special canola kit allows the unit to be set up in the field and canola stalks fed into the Minibatt for processing.

The unit weighs only a little more than 7 lbs. Being able to gather a combine-type sample without the combine eliminates pulling into fields not quite ready for harvest.

Crop charts allow the operator to quickly estimate yield by harvesting an area equal to one square ft. Once that length of row has been harvested, the sample can be weighed to determine the yield. In wheat, every 2 grams equals 3.2 bu. To get weight per bushel, the weight in grams is multiplied by 43,560 and divided by 454 grams.



Handheld unit operates like a mini combine, harvesting and threshing small grain at a rate of about 3 1/2 oz./min.

"We tested the Minibatt on several farms last fall including Longlet's," says Andrea Reichardt. "The users were very satisfied."

Suggested retail price for the Minibatt is \$695. The rechargeable battery can process up to 12 samples on a single charge.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Scott Longlet, Reichardt Electronic Innovations, 2357 155<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Arthur, N. Dak. 58006 (ph 701 967-8369; info@reichardt.com).

## New Tool Safely Replaces Stripper Bars On Pickup Reels

Anyone who's ever had to change the stripper bars on the pickup reel of a baler or forage chopper knows that it can be a dangerous job. This new tool, invented by a retired Minnesota farmer, makes the job much safer and allows one person to do the work.

"A worn stripper bar can be razor sharp and very dangerous if it springs back up at you. This tool takes the tension out of the U-shaped bar as you unbolt it from the reel," says Rodney Anderson.

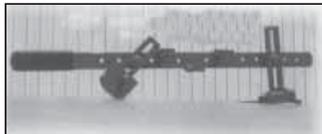
Stripper bars have to be replaced if they get bent by rocks, or simply because of wear. Replacing the bars requires removing two bolts. Usually, one person has to stand on top of the bar to keep downward pressure on it while the other person removes the bolts.

The new tool attaches to the top part of the bar and is designed to keep downward pressure on the bar as the bolts that fasten it to the reel are removed. The tool is equipped with two metal "fingers" on top and one at the bottom.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rodney C. Anderson, 307 E. Alden, Arlington, Minn. 55307 (ph 507 964-5166).



Tool attaches to top part of stripper bar and is designed to keep downward pressure on bar as the bolts that fasten it to reel are removed.



Unit takes the tension out of baler's U-shaped stripper bar as you unbolt it from the reel.



Gale Courson, Farina, Ill., converted an IH school bus into this 70-ft. boom sprayer. The original bus had a 6-cyl. engine and 4-speed transmission. He changed the rear end to a 2-speed low range job. He built the front axle and the hood. The axle was built from 5-in. steel tubing. The rear tires are 14.9 by 46; front 14.9 by 44. An inflatable truck spring is built into the boom to reduce shock on the boom.



Heavy duty steel concave for Case IH combines is designed to do a better job of removing chaff and cleaning grain with less damage and cracking.

## Gentle Concaves Improve Bottom Line

If you have a Case IH combine, a set of custom concaves from Kringstad Ironworks can help your bottom line by keeping dockage to a minimum, according to Les Woinarowicz.

"Our design does a better job removing chaff and cleaning the final product with less damage and cracking," says Woinarowicz. "Faster threshing lets the combine run easier, too, with less vibration and rumbling."

Faster flow-through reduces the load on the rotor as well. Woinarowicz notes that this all adds up to less power needed for operation and improved fuel economy.

While the company has never done a comparison to identify what percentage reduction in cracking occurs, Woinarowicz believes

sales speak for themselves. "We've sold about 30 sets over the past five years and we've had nothing but positive feedback," he says.

The heavy-duty steel concaves are priced at \$300 each and can be purchased in sets of two or three. Woinarowicz notes that some customers replace all three concaves in their combine, while others keep one original and replace the other two.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Les Woinarowicz, Kringstad Ironworks, Inc., 7248 Hwy 18, Hoople, N. Dak. 58243 (ph 701 894-6280; cell ph 701 331-2072; les@kringstadiron.com).

## How To Mount A Laptop In Your Pickup

This new seat-mounted, in-vehicle laptop stand makes using a laptop computer easier and safer in any vehicle.

The Trek Mobile Desk attaches to the passenger seat. No holes need to be drilled to install and it can be quickly moved between vehicles.

Simply loosen a bolt that holds the passenger seat to the floor, slide the Trek bracket underneath, and retighten the bolt. Glider feet in front of the base are reversed out to create compression, resulting in a stable, no-drill base mount. A telescoping pedestal supports the computer and mounts on a ball joint swivel mechanism that attaches to the base.

By loosening a knob, you can rotate the pedestal 360 degrees and angle it from zero to 90 degrees. By loosening another knob half way up the pedestal, you can adjust the pedestal up or down to adjust for the user's height. Another ball joint underneath the laptop tray can be loosened to adjust the angle of the computer. A 3/8-in. nylon strap equipped with a seat belt-type connector is used to secure the computer.

The computer sits on rubber shock pads that cushion the computer on rough roads.

"It keeps your computer secure at all times whether you're using it or not," says national sales manager Trent Slack. "It's a lot safer than keeping the computer on the passenger seat because if you have to slam on the brakes it won't fall onto the floor."

Sells for \$289.95 plus S&H. Comes with a three-year warranty on parts and labor, and a 30-day money back satisfaction guarantee.

Additional bases and mounting forks are available, allowing you to use the Trek Mobile Desk in more than one vehicle. Base and fork prices range from \$22.95 to \$99.95.

A Back Rest buddy is available to store your files. It consists of a canvas bag that hangs in a sling that goes over the back of the passenger seat. Sells for \$49.95.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mobile



Laptop stand attaches to passenger seat, keeping your computer secure at all times.



Telescoping pedestal supports computer and mounts on a ball joint swivel mechanism that attaches to base.

Desk/SVP Mfg., 8949 Cincinnati-Columbus Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069 (ph 877 663-3375 or 513 759-0904; fax 513 759-0914; sales @mobiledesk.com; www. mobile desk.com).