

# FARM SHOW

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## 50-IN. FLOAT TIRES SAME WIDTH AS DUALS

### He Says "Swamp Tires" Work Better Than Tracks

By C.F. Marley

Paul Corzine, Assumption, Ill., faced some of the muddiest conditions he'd ever seen when he went to harvest his 1993 corn and bean crop. But thanks to the special 50-in. flotation tires he put on his Deere 9500 combine, he got all his crop out while doing a minimum of damage to fields.

"I think they beat tracks and I was surprised at how well they steer," says Corzine, who had tried tracks in the past.

He bought the big tires from Larry Barry's Tire Service in Taylorville, Ill. Barry has been promoting the idea among local farmers and fitted a number of combines with the tires and special-built rims last fall.

The 50-in. tires Barry recommends are primarily designed for the logging industry. They're so wide, says Corzine, they act much differently against the ground than narrower tires. "Instead of squishing mud out the sides, these tires squish mud toward the center of the tires. The effect is that you do not mire down but ride right over mud."

The tires run on low air pressure, which causes them to flex upward a bit at center.

Larry Barry has special rims built for the 68 by 50 by 32-in. tires so that the rim telescopes in over the axle to help

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Photo shows "swamp tires" mounted on a 9600 Deere combine owned by Leroy and Gary Fultz, Taylorville, Ill. Farmers who've tried them say the big 50-in. wide tires float over mud rather than squishing it out to the sides.

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