

Latest New Products, Ideas From Western Canada

We recently sent Contributing Editor Jim Ruen to the Western Farm Progress Show in Regina, Saskatchewan. Held every June, the show is best known for its special showcase of latest new inventions and ideas. Here are a few that caught Jim's eye.

Safety Bracelet Helps Keep Kids Safe

WhereAbouts is an alert system for children, pets and even co-workers wherever heavy equipment is being used. It was developed by a young farming couple concerned about their children's safety. The wrist bracelet sends a signal to a cab-mounted receiver warning the driver that the wearer is nearby. The receiver with one bracelet sells for \$500 with additional bracelets at \$100 each.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Prairie Tech Enterprises, Box 247, Sedley, Saskatchewan Canada S0G 4K0 (ph 306 885-2042; www.prairietechonline.com).

Safety bracelet warns heavy equipment operators that children or pets are nearby.



Heavy duty plow makes 32-ft. wide drainage ditches in a single pass.

Giant Drainage Ditch Plow

V-Wing is a heavy-duty ditching plow invented by a 29-year-old farmer. It makes 32-ft. wide drainage ditches in a single pass, eliminating the need for multiple passes required by other ditchers.

The 12-ft., V-blade "nose" is fixed in place while the 10-ft. wings lift and fold back for easy transport. The wings also have a flatter pitch than the nose blade, causing a rolling action, breaking up clay and other heavy soils

that might otherwise clod or cake. The rugged frame and heavy-duty hydraulics sweep rocks and dirt to either side. A second pass can feather the sides or scatter dirt even more, if needed. Only recently patented, the price is yet to be determined.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jeff Penner, RR #1, Group 30, Box 6, Swan River, Manitoba Canada R0L 1Z0 (ph 204 734-0303; jrpnnr@hotmail.com).

Wireless "Full Bin" Alarm

Full Bin Alarm is a wireless probe that signals when a bin is full. The Sensor probe hangs vertically from the auger until rising grain pushes it out of alignment by 22°. At that point it activates a 95-decibel alarm and a flashing, 2-in. red alarm light on a receiver unit. Magnetic mounts allow the receiver to be temporarily mounted on any metal surface. A 300-ft. range accommodates even the largest bins. A probe and receiver set is priced at \$695.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brehon Agrisystems, Inc., 102-2750 Faithfull Ave., Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Canada S7K 6M6



Wireless probe hangs vertically from auger and signals when bin is full.



Ground-driven unit rolls up empty silage bags into a tight coil around a cone-shaped spool.

Ground-Driven Plastic Bag Roller

Poor-Boy Bag Roller rolls up empty silage bags behind a tractor, truck or ATV. No power is needed, which is why it's priced at half the cost of power bag rollers. Simply make a single wrap around the roller and pull ahead. The ground-driven roller pulls and wraps the bag into a tight coil around the cone-shaped spool. The longer and heavier the bag, the better it works. Leave bags on the roller or remove a wheel, slide the coiled bag off

and set it aside for disposal or recycling. Rolling most bags takes less than a minute. Greenslades is developing alternative uses for the used plastic. The bag roller is priced at \$3,850.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Greenslades Northern Welding, Box 640, Hanna, Alberta Canada T0J 1P0 (ph 403 854-4488; www.greenslades.ca).



Side-shift front toolbar lets you shift a rototiller, mower or other hydraulic-powered implement up to 6 ft. to either side of tractor.

Side-Shift Front Toolbar

Lateral Implement Boom Attachment (LIMBA) lets you shift a rototiller, mower or other hydraulic-powered implement up to 72 in. to either side of the tractor. The 68-in. wide quick-tach unit makes implement pickup fast and easy. The LIMBA tilts to mow roadside ditches and lifts to mow even the tops of hedgerows. The lateral arm makes it easy to use implements under fences or trees and

around obstacles. The arm slides in and out in 15 seconds. The carrier attaches to skid steer arms, tractor-mounted loader arms or a 3-pt. hitch. The 400-lb. unit is priced at \$15,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, LIMBA Holdings, Inc., Box 124, Macklin, Saskatchewan Canada S0L 2C0 (ph 306 753-2815; sieben@limba.ca).

Hopper Cover Boosts Capacity 75 Bu.

Umbrella Bin Extension is a flexible combine hopper cover that is strong enough to hold an additional 75 bushels of grain while protecting against rain. It collapses when not needed. The electric actuator is remote-controlled from the cab. The bin cover comes with an entrance hatch and an overflow vent. Options include equipping the cover with a top beacon and an in-cab "full" indicator. Base price of the Umbrella Bin Extension is \$3,700. With beacon and in-cab indicator, it is priced at \$4,700.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Horizon Agro, Box 59, RR1, Morris, Manitoba Canada R0G 1K0 (ph 204 746-2026; sales@horizonagro.com; www.horizonagro.com).



Flexible combine hopper cover comes with an electric actuator that's remote-controlled from the cab.

Magnetic Camera Attaches To Auger Spout

Magnetic Camera attaches to auger spouts or other flat or round metal surfaces with 260-lb. magnets or heavy-duty tie straps. The operator can keep an "eye" on the bin to place the spout exactly over the bin opening or check grain levels as the bin fills. The camera's 28 infrared illuminators provide visibility up to 32 ft. in the dark. The 7-in. color LCD monitor is portable, but like the camera, can be mounted where needed,

thanks to its 80-lb. magnetic base. The two can be placed up to 85 ft. apart with the included wire cable. The camera, monitor, headset, cable and tie straps are priced at \$699.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Full-Bin Super Sensor, Box 1172, Unity, Saskatchewan Canada S0K 4L0 (ph 306 228-2971; 877 228-5598; www.fullbinsuper-sensor.com).

Some of the best new ideas we hear about are "made it myself" inventions born in farmers' workshops. If you've got a new idea or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors? Send to FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or call toll-free 800 834-9665. Or you can submit an idea at our website at www.farmshow.com.

Mark Newhall, Editor

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"Made It Myself"