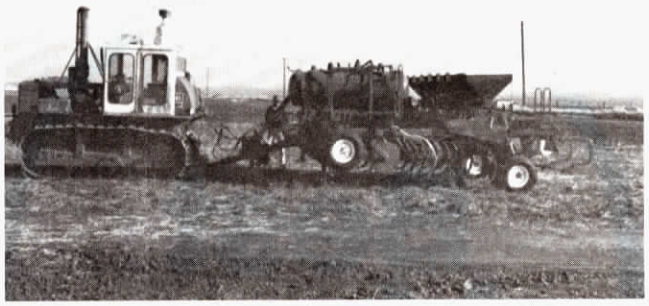

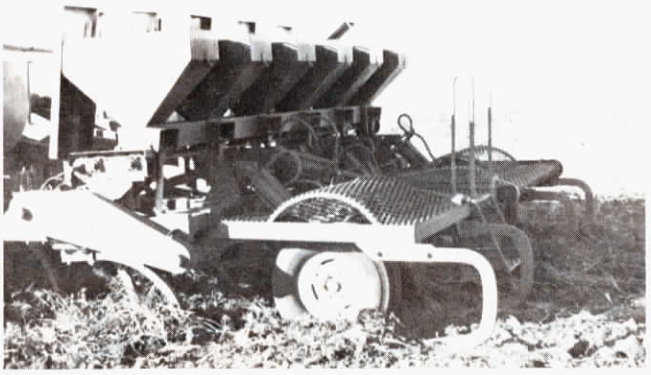

"Once-Over" Chisel Plow

A "once over" chisel plow designed by Washington state farmer J. L. Dewitt, of Waitsburg, and built by Weber Machine Shop, of Walla Walla, is especially suited to trashy fallow or minimum tillage cropping systems.

The plow has four rows of high-clearance chisel teeth. There are six teeth on each row spaced 32 inches apart, making an over-all spacing of 8 inches. The first two rows can apply NH_3 on a 16-in. spacing, and the last two rows apply dry material (fertilizer, seed, etc.) with the same spacing. The dry material can be placed underground or dribbled on top of the ground. A rod weeder attached behind smoothes and seals the ground as well as cutting off weeds. Heavy coulters in front cut trash.

The attachments (rod weeder, NH_3, and dry material) are driven by the rear carrier wheels. The primary drive chain runs between the dual carrier wheels to a shaft underneath the main frame. This drive is completely enclosed and runs in grease. The drive shaft is also enclosed to the sides of the machine where secondary drives begin.

The back row of teeth can be set to penetrate 4 to 6 inches deeper than the other teeth. This breaks up the tillage-pan on a 32 inch spacing. The other teeth can be set to work up to 10 in. deep.

The Caterpillar D6C pictured with the machine will pull it 3½ to 4½ mph working 8 to 9 inches deep. (The D6C has 125 drawbar horsepower). A 300 horsepower wheel tractor will pull the machine about 5½ to 6 mph. The machine works a 16-foot swath.

The machine is solidly built with total weight at 18,000 pounds. In addition, it will carry 2500 pounds of NH_3 and 2500 pounds of dry material.

Foundation Farm, Inc. will have the machine built on a custom order basis. Price would run about $40,000 to $50,000, complete with the described attachments.

For more details, contact: Foundation Farm, Rt. 1, Box 81, Waitsburg, Wa. 99361 (ph 509 337-6119).

Reconditioned Harvestors Cost 30% Less

If you've wanted a Harvestore but felt that you couldn't afford one, an Arkansas farmer has an answer for you. He can sell you a used one for 25 to 30 percent less than the price of a new one.

"These Harvestores are just like new," says Charles Peacock, whose firm buys and sells used structures. "We recondition them and replace anything that's worn."

Actually, the metal panels with their glass coatings never wear out, he says. Peacock's crews take down the old structures, load the panels on a truck, and haul them to his plant for reconditioning. There they are given a new glass coating and regalvanized.

Peacock's plant manufactures angles, troughs and bolts to replace old ones in used structures. The parts are then transported to a farm where one of his crews reconstruct it.

Peacock has been in this business for 11 years, and has moved about 400 Harvestores. "My crews do the same quality work as a Harvestore crew," he says. "They have to because we are in competition with dealers in new Harvestores."

Why are used Harvestores available?

Some farmers quit livestock farming and have no use for them. Others have to be moved to make room for new roads. In a western state, several had to be moved to make room for a surface mining operation.

Another part of Peacock's business is selling replacement parts for Harvestore unloaders. Farmers send in worn parts for replacement with a rebuilt part.

Peacock's crew will go anywhere in the U.S. but most business is concentrated in the Midwest because freight costs are lower.

Peacock expects brisk business to continue in used Harvestores since there are at least 100,000 now in use. He has nine of his own on his 12,000-acre farm.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Charles Peacock, Route 2, Bald Knob, Arkansas 72010 (ph 501 724-3283).

Automatic Milk Feeder Saves Orphan Lambs

A milk feeding device developed by U.S. Department of Agriculture researchers can save your lambs that have been orphaned or rejected by their mothers.

Desertion of newborn lambs is common in sheeps flocks, and lambs are usually lost unless "adopted" by other milk-producing ewes. In any given year in the U.S. an estimated 3,600,000 lbs. of lamb never reach the market because orphaned lambs die.

The milk feeding device, which takes the place of the young lambs' mothers, consists of nipples and tubes attached to a metal bar mounted on a framework on each side of a 4-in. dia. plastic pipe. The pipe serves as a milk reservoir fed by gravity from a refrigerator bulk tank. Milk level is regulated by an electric control valve.

As many as 200 lambs can be fed with the milk feeder. Lambs should be penned in groups of 15 to 25 with one nipple for every three to five lambs. Milk may be mixed from milk replacer, or ewe's whole milk may be used. A smaller feeder is available for smaller numbers of lambs.

Kenneth R. Frederiksen and Walter L. Moden, agricultural scientists at the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station at Dubois, Idaho, say the devices have been so successful they are saving 90 to 95 percent of the orphan lambs in the station flock but that there are still changes to make in the device. They hope to perfect a fully automated system to prepare, store and dispense milk replacer.

At present there are no commercial manufacturers of the milk feeders, but sheep producers may be able to construct their own systems with common materials available.

Detailed drawings and descriptions are available by writing FARM SHOW Followup; Kenneth R. Frederiksen, U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho 83423 (ph 208 374-5306).