

Latest New Products From California, Louisville

Featured here are “best of the show” new products and ideas that caught my eye while covering the World Ag Expo in Tulare, California and the National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, Ky. – *Bill Gergen, Senior Editor*

Power Steering Kit

Farmland Tractor Supply, Tangent, Oregon, says its new replacement power steering kit for older Deere tractors can save you a lot of money compared to a complete rebuild.

The kit is designed for Deere 2510, 3020, 4010 and 4020 models. It includes a new chromoly steering column and shaft, billet aluminum hydraulic manifolds, self-lubricating bronze bushings, and stainless steel hardware. The kit makes use of the tractor’s original steel lines and fittings, throttle column and stop, pilot valve, and steering wheel.

“All the components in our kit hook up to the original lines,” says Dustin Raschein. “The key component is the aluminum hydraulic manifold, which we designed

ourselves. Deere doesn’t make the steering housing on these tractors any more, so if it cracks internally all you can do is rerease it.

“A rerease kit from Deere costs about \$400, plus another \$200 to \$300 for the labor required to take everything apart and clean it. Our replacement kit sells for \$950 plus S&H, so for only another \$100 or so you get a new updated system that will likely last the life of the tractor.” (www.FarmlandTractor.com; ph 541 928-1646).



Electric Planter Drive

Six years ago FARM SHOW told you about a new retrofit electric drive kit from Graham Equipment designed to boost planter accuracy (Vol. 35, No. 6). Electric planter drive systems eliminate most chains, sprockets, and hydraulics.

The company now offers a range of products that can meet nearly any budget, including a wireless electric cab-to-planter drive system. Going wireless reduces harnesses, installation time, and improves command response times to improve variable rate changes in the field, says the company. Individual row control is also possible.

All their products install right on your existing seed meter, so there’s no need to replace any seed boxes or meters. The products work on any planter brand, model,



or type including twin row planters, narrow spacing planters, finger meters, cyclone or drum planters, drills, air seeders, and vegetable planters. A third party interface allows you to use most major controllers. (www.grahamelectricplanter.com; ph 844 464-7242)

Concave With Replaceable Bars

If you own a Deere or Case combine, chances are you’ve had problems with bent, broken or worn concaves that are expensive to replace. Now Kile Machine offers an alternative with removable cross bars, locked inside a permanent steel frame.

“It lets you switch out just the damaged bars without having to replace the entire concave,” says inventor Kevin Kile. “The operator just slides the worn bars out and the new bars in. The bars interlock together inside the frame, and are held in place by a metal cover plate that bolts onto the concave’s end plate. We plan to offer a variety of bars with openings that have different sizes and shapes to fit different crops.”

The patented concave system is designed



for Deere STS concave modules and Case 80 series and Flagship combines. The company also plans to add models for Case 60 series and Massey Ferguson combines. (www.kilemfg.com; info@kilemfg.com; ph 509 569 3814)

Compressed Air Bird Scarer

A New Jersey company that specializes in bird control devices unveiled a prototype machine at the World Ag Expo. It’s called a “vortex ring accelerator” (VRAD) and works by sending out 3-ft. dia. rings of compressed air.

“The idea is to shoot rings of compressed air out over the top of the crop. They hit the birds, without killing them,” says Steve Rehberg, Flock Free Bird Control Systems, Lakewood, N.J. “The ring is only visible under humid conditions. Typically, you’re using this device during the summer when the air is drier and you won’t see them.”

The company tested the idea successfully last September on a 300-acre pistachio orchard near Bakersfield, Calif., where crows were a problem. As the compressed air rings shoot out, it produces an intense “bang”, ringing and screaming out across the field.



The prototype VRAD is available for leasing this year. “We want to test it on every kind of crop available and keep it as busy as we can,” says Rehberg. (www.flockfree.com; ph 877 935-6250 or 208 660-7668)

“Drop Bed” Utility Vehicle

The bed on this new utility vehicle doesn’t just carry a load - it lifts and lowers it flat to the ground. And it can dump the load at any point along its arc of motion.

The cargo box on Hustler Turf’s new MDV (Maximum Duty Vehicle) mounts on a specially designed “LevelLift” frame. Flip a switch and it lifts the cargo box up, back and down, allowing you to load or unload at ground level. Once loaded, the LevelLift brings the cargo box back up and into position.

The MDV is available in all-wheel drive. Top speed is 37 mph.

(www.hustlerturf.com; ph 620 327-4911)



“Ride-On” Wheelbarrow

New from Australia, the Rat Barrow is described as a “ride-on” articulated tipping wheelbarrow. “Rat” stands for ride-on, articulated, tipping barrow.

The machine is powered by an electric start, 8 3/4 hp. Briggs & Stratton engine coupled with a Peerless hydrostatic transmission. A single variable speed pedal for forward and reverse makes it easy to operate. The plastic, UV-resistant tub can carry up to about 440 lbs. of material. Tipping large loads is made



easy by the balanced load, free tip design. Sells for about \$4,400 plus S&H.

(www.ratbarrowusa.com; ph 702 564-0910)

Mini Bale Accumulator

Kuhns Mfg. introduced a smaller scale version of their bale accumulator system in Louisville. The Kuhns AF4 accumulator and EGF8 grabber together sell for \$6,995 plus S&H.

The accumulator attaches to the baler and accumulates groups of 4 bales at a rate of up to 12 bales per min. The grabber is designed to pick up 2 of these 4-bale groups to stack them on a wagon in 8-bale groups. “At just 415 lbs., the grabber is light enough to be used with a utility tractor or small skid loader,” says sales manager John Byler.

The accumulator hitches to the baler drawbar and has 2 wheels on back, which



support a floor that’s permanently mounted at a 45 degree angle. A twisted chute mounts on front of the machine and hooks up to the baler chamber. (www.kuhnsmfg.com; ph 877 296-5851)

“Treadmill” Free Stall Cleans Itself

This moving free stall floor works like a treadmill to clean manure from free-stalls. The moving rubber floor mechanically rotates around a pair of rollers. As the belting moves, a stainless steel blade mounted underneath cleans it off.

As a cow steps onto the slightly sloped floor, a spring compresses underneath the front end. When the cow steps out of the stall, energy stored in the spring automatically rotates the belt and the blade pushes the material off into the alley where it can be disposed of.

“The cow cleans out her bed with the weight of her body,” says U.S. distributor Shane Schechinger. “The rotating design distributes wear on the entire belt instead of just on one spot like with traditional free-stall rubber mats. It comes with an automatic bedding dispenser that periodically adds enough bedding material onto the floor to



absorb the cow’s sweat.”

The system sells for less than \$2,000 per stall. (www.next-gen-group.com; ph 844 752-8628 or cell ph 712 579-1757)

Crop Divider Hinge

This new kit lets you quickly fold the crop dividers on Deere soybean platforms inward, narrowing the header’s road width by more than 3 ft. “It can eliminate the need to remove the dividers for transport or storage,” says Tim Johnson.

The crop divider hinge is designed for most Deere grain head models since 2002, including Deere 600 soybean platforms. It consists of a tubular metal frame fitted with a hinge. You just pull a pin and fold the divider



in, then reinsert the pin.

Sells for \$399.99 plus S&H per pair. (www.wajohnson.com; wajohns@bellsouth.net; ph 502 266-7177 or 800 523-3979)