

BREAKS UP SOIL CRUST FOR BETTER EMERGENCE, INCORPORATION

New Rotary Harrow Attaches To Planter

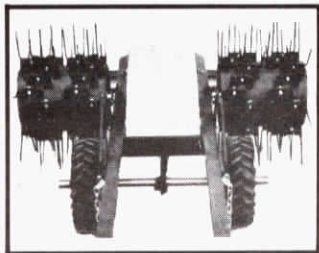
"It's the answer to crop emergence and soil crusting problems," says William Fuesz, Haxtun, Colo., inventor of a new-style harrow that attaches to corn and soybean planters or can be toolbar-mounted for early cultivation.

The harrow mounts behind planter units, loosening the soil surface and pulverizing dirt clods to aid crop emergence. "It'll also do a good job incorporating chemicals and will kill early germinating weeds," says Fuesz. "The rotating action of the harrow teeth is so gentle it won't disturb seeds and yet breaks up the surface enough to help prevent crusting after plating. This lets you get in the field a day or so sooner after a rain."

Fuesz adds that you can mount the new harrow on a toolbar to use in place of a rotary hoe for early cultivation. "This harrow is four times as effective as a rotary hoe in working the soil but is gentler on young crops," he says.

The harrow consists of 36 pairs of double teeth, similar to hay rake teeth, bolted to a rotating cylinder. They dig into the ground as the cylinder turns. A ground-driven, speed-reducing wheel (connected by drive chain to the cylinder), limits the harrow's ground speed to one-half that of the tractor's ground speed.

Fuesz notes that he hasn't had any problems with teeth breaking on rocks. Trash also hasn't been a problem but an attachment could be



New-style harrow has 36 pairs of steel teeth per unit. Depth is controlled by guide wheels ahead of the teeth.

added to clean teeth off if needed.

Each two-row unit is 66 in. long, weighs 210 lbs. and adjusts to 30 to 36 in. rows. Fuesz has brackets to mount the harrow on Kinze, Deere Max-Emerge and International Early Riser planters. It sells for \$800 per two-row unit. Width is 43½ in. on 30 in. rows, and 49½ in. on 36 in. rows.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, William Fuesz, Fuesz Farms, R.R. 1, Box 15, Haxtun, Colo. 80731 (ph 303 774-6259).

"WE CAN CUT YOUR TIRE COSTS ALMOST IN HALF"

They're Retreading Worn Tractor Tires

"We can cut a farmer's tractor tire costs almost in half," says John Olson, owner-operator of Olson's Tire Service, Mt. Pleasant, Mich., which has just "tooled up" to retread tractor tires.

Olson, who has turned out 48 retreaded tractor tires since launching the new service last December, is presently equipped to retread only one size — the 18.4 by 38 bias play or radial. However, he hopes to be "tooled up" to retread 20.8 by 38's within a month or two.

Here's how his "retreading" service works:

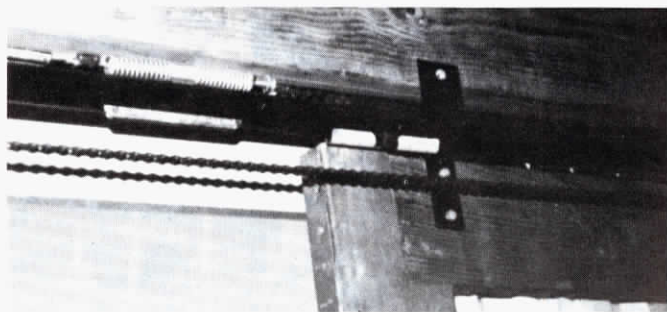
You send him your old smooth casings, making sure they're sound — with no cracks or breaks. Olson's shop buffs off the old tread, then puts on a thick layer of soft and spongy uncured rubber. The tire is then put into a mold where its inflated and the rubber cured. "The tread design of

the mold is like the Firestone All Traction Field and Road Tire," according to Olson. "The tread is wider and deeper than on an original equipment tire."

Olson backs his "retreads" with a "good as new" guarantee — a four year warranty on a pro-rated basis.

Cost of retreading is \$279 per tire, plus \$7.50 excise tax for a total of \$286.50. "This is about a 44% savings over the price of an original equipment tire, which runs right at \$500," Olson points out. "We pay the freight on tires coming to us and the farmer pays the return freight."

Olson notes that he's had 11 sets of retreads running in the field since last September: "They're doing conventional plowing, chisel plowing and pulling subsoilers. To date, we haven't had any problems with any of the retreads and we don't anticipate any."



Panther added a length of bicycle chain to a conventional garage door opener to automate his 12-ft. wide sliding door.

HE COULDN'T BUY ONE, SO HE BUILT ONE

Home-Built Automatic Sliding Door Opener

When Dave Panther, Chehalis, Wash., put up a new machine shed last year, he planned to use one end of it as a garage. The only problem was that the new building was equipped with sliding doors.

"We wanted to outfit it with an automatic door opener, but we soon found out no one makes an automatic opener for sliding doors," Dave explains.

Since he thought he could build one anyway, Dave bought a Sear's garage door opener straight out of the company's catalog and began adapting it to the door.

He mounted the door opener parallel to the sliding door, with the motor inside the building, and constructed a track just inside the door opening in line with the opener. A sliding bracket on the track attaches both to the door and to the door opener chain. As the chain pulls through the track, it opens, or shuts the door.

"The biggest problem was getting

enough travel out of the opener to control a large opening," says Panther. "The sliding door is 12 ft. wide but the opener was designed for 7-ft. high garage doors."

To solve the problem, Panther added a length of bicycle chain to the opener's chain and adapted the winch to handle the increased length.

"I didn't modify the door itself in any way. All the strain is on the upper part of the door so it shouldn't damage it in any way. The door opener is equipped with an automatic reverse if it hits an obstacle. The only problem with the idea is that if it's to be used in areas with large amounts of snow and ice, you'll have to find a way to keep the door moving freely," says Panther.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dave Panther, 1636 Bunker Creek Rd., Chehalis, Wash. 98532 (ph 206 748-8509).



Olson turns worn tires, right, into "like new" retreads, left.

Turn-around time to do a set of tractor tires is about one week after they arrive at Olson's shop. "If a farmer is really in a rush and doesn't care about getting his old tires back, we have a few retreads made up and will send him these and take his old casings in exchange."

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Olson's Tire Service, 704 E. Pickard, Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858 (ph 517 773-7978).