



Zimmerman says his bale forks for front-end loader and rear 3-pt. can pick up six stacks - a total of 36 bales - at once.

"MAKES SQUARE BALES AS EASY TO HANDLE AS BIG ROUND BALES"

First-Of-Its-Kind Square Bale Stacker

"My new automatic square bale stacker lets one man handle more hay with small square bales than he could with big round bales," says Larry Zimmerman, New Richmond, Wis., who builds the new automatic "Zimmie Stacker" haymaking system that complements Zimmerman's original hand-operated stacking system featured previously in FARM SHOW.

The "Zimmie Stacker" trails behind your baler and stacks groups of six bales together in triangular-shaped stacks that can be left in the field to cure. Zimmerman makes a front-end loader attachment that picks up two 6-bale stacks at a time and a rear-mounted fork that picks up four stacks.

"One man bales with a tractor and then transports bales just like with round bales. It makes square bales as easy to handle as big round bales. But it's a better system than round bales because square bales are higher quality due to less leaf loss. You can bale sooner after cutting because my bale stacks let hay cure in the field. Not only is hay green and leafy months after harvest, but it's also loaded with digestible protein otherwise lost to leaf loss, weathering, and high heat. Heat damage to protein is eliminated."

According to Zimmerman, ventilation during curing is the key to high-quality hay. "Grouping six bales on edge allows air to move through the gaps between the three bottom bales as well as around bales. You can bale wetter hay, up to 40% moisture,

because the bales will finish curing in the stack in the field rather than in the barn, avoiding the hazards of heating. Earlier baling means you save more leaves, which flatten out against the bale during a rain, weatherproofing the stack. The exposed sides of the bales weather only about 1/4-in. deep. Inside, the hay stays green and leafy."

Zimmerman's original stack system is built around a manually-operated 6-bale stacking sled pulled behind the baler. Bales are hand-stacked by a person riding on the platform. As each pyramid of bales is finished, the frame is "tripped," allowing the pyramid to slide off.

The new automatic stacker uses the baler's plunging action to push bales up a chute to the trailer's stacking mechanism. It uses a ground-driven wheel to power sorting and unloading actions. Deflector plates and sorting arms create the unique stack formation. The stack rides on staggered teeth which drop simultaneously to dump a completed stack. The teeth instantly snap back to receive more bales for nonstop stacking.

It's all done with the baler operating at full speed. There are no stops for wagon unloading or unhitching.

Sells for \$3,250.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry Zimmerman, Rt. 5, Box 38, New Richmond, Wis. 54017 (ph 715 246-4890).



Automatic stacker tows directly behind baler. A ground-driven wheel powers deflector plates and sorting arms that put bales in triangular-shaped stacks.



Roger Montag's cart converts self-propelled Uni-Systems to pull-type. Model shown is equipped with a husker bed and 6-row head and is pulled by an IH 856 tractor.

REMOVE THE OLD POWER UNIT AND LET YOUR TRACTOR DO THE HARVESTING

"Pull-Type" Cart For New Idea Uni-System

If you can't justify the cost of replacing the power unit in your self-propelled New Idea Uni-System, you may want to convert it to a pull-type model, says Roger Montag, Rodman, Iowa, who builds a new "pull-type" conversion cart for just that purpose.

Montag's cart is designed to carry all Uni-System components except for the power unit. Four bolts mount the 20-ft. long, "L"-shaped cart to the Uni-System's body, which can be equipped with either a corn picker or sheller. Any 2-WD tractor over 100 hp can operate the unit. The tractor hydraulically raises and lowers the head, which can be up to six rows wide, and uses its pto to power a corn picker or sheller. A pto driveline extends the length of the cart's tongue, leading to the gearbox. A wagon hitch is to the cart.

"Many farmers own 700 series Uni-Systems built in the 1960's or early 1970's," says Montag. "The husking beds or shellers are in good shape because they've been repaired or replaced every five to ten years. But they've never replaced the power units which now are worn out. Many farmers can't justify spending up to \$50,000 on a new power unit, or up to \$100,000 on a completely new self-propelled Uni-System. This cart lets them extend the life of their Uni-System for less than \$10,000."

According to Montag, Uni-System power units break down more often than the sheller or picker units. "If the power unit breaks down, the whole machine is out of commis-

sion. If a tractor breaks down, it can be quickly replaced."

The cart was also designed for farmers who worked their Uni-Systems beyond recommended capacity, says Montag. "For example, older Uni-Systems originally were designed to run 2- or 3-row heads and 8- to 12-roller husking beds. Some farmers now operate 6- or 8-row heads and 12- to 16-roller husking beds. And 20 years ago farmers pulled 150-bu. wagons. Now they're pulling 500 bu. wagons, in tough field conditions. The older power units often don't have the capacity needed."

A pull-type Uni-System can easily handle 6-row heads, including brands other than New Idea's, notes Montag. He adds that without the engine, there's less fire hazard and the entire rig is easier to service.

The cart is built from 8 by 8 by 1/4 in. steel beams. It's equipped with 16.9 by 26 or 18.4 by 26 tires. Two 20 by 3 in. hydraulic cylinders raise and lower the head.

To mount the rig, Montag backs the cart into the Uni-System's frame, which sets on stands, then uses four bolts to attach the cart. To remove the Uni-System, he simply takes a chain and belt off the gearbox, drops the head onto a stand, removes the bolts, and backs the cart away. Either job takes about 1 1/2 hours.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roger Montag, Rt. 1, Box 26, Rodman, Iowa 50580 (ph 515 887-4752).

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