

What's New In Europe?

FARM SHOW publisher Scott Geyer recently attended Agritechnica, one of the world's biggest shows held every other year in Hanover, Germany. Scott's son, Grant, who is stationed in Germany with the Air Force, joined him in trekking more than 10 miles a day while covering the giant show. Thankfully, they found a cow bench (shown at right) where they could occasionally rest their weary feet. Frequent **FARM SHOW** contributor Andrew Sewell also contributed to the reports on this page.



Deere's New Drone - Deere worked with drone manufacturer Volocopter to develop its new drone capable of carrying a 440-lb. payload. At the show it was set up with spray tanks. www.volocopter.com



Combine Runs On Natural Gas - This Cummins-powered combine from Belarus runs on natural gas stored in tanks at the top of the machine, behind the grain tank. The manufacturer says it lowers operating costs 45 to 50 percent. www.gomsmash.by



New Double Knife Design - ESM introduced a new double-knife cutterbar, a totally new design that reduces wear and the formation of gaps between blades. It eliminates the need for regrinding all cutting edges of the blades, and new-style mounts hold more securely. www.esm-ept.de



One-Row Flame Weeder - Propane-powered weed burner from the Netherlands has a low profile to take out weeds under plant canopies or near obstacles around the farmyard. Designed to be very easy to maneuver, the weight of the gas tank is directly over the wheels. <https://www.onkruidbrander.com/en/thermhlt/>



Robot Sprayer - Deere showcased this autonomous tracked sprayer with a 27-ft. boom and a 140-gal. tank. Developed in Iowa, the gas-engine powered spray rig has been in development for 4 years.



Farmdroid - Solar-powered field robot can operate 24 hrs. a day using precision GPS tech. Built in Germany, it weeds between rows and in rows, with much less compaction to growing fields. www.farmdroid.dk/en/



Hoing Robot - This electric-powered robotic cultivator has been under development in France for several years. In addition to weeding between and around young plants, it monitors crop health, soil nutrients, and other data, sending that information to smartphone apps. www.carre.fr



Wonder Wheel - British-designed water-saving wheels form "heaps and hollows" between rows which continuously catch rain and irrigation water to preserve moisture, reduce erosion, and minimize loss of applied nutrients. www.byeengineering.co.uk



French Chaff Collector - Two-stage hydraulic-powered chaff collector catches crop material in a hopper, then augers it over to an impeller that can either blow chaff into a trailing wagon, or drop it in a windrow behind the combine. www.menuepaille.fr



Rotary Rake "Glide Bar" - Pottinger's new wear-resistant plastic glide bar for hay rakes allows 10 percent faster driving speeds thanks to lower vibration and smoother operation, especially on rough or uneven ground. It holds the tines at a more consistent height than caster wheels, so less dirt and other debris is pulled into windrows. www.pottinger.at



Giant Wood Chipper - Big drum-type chipper swallows whole trees, quickly turning them into compostable chips. The innovative Italian company makes a wide range of chippers, wood processors, and other related wood handling equipment. www.pezzolato.it



Razor Maize Picker - German manufacturer Geringhoff has been making stalk choppers for cornheads for many years. The problem is that they still leave stubble standing that can promote corn borer problems, not to mention the wear and tear on tires. A new rotating cutter works like a rotary disc mower but is fitted with angled blades at each end that shred stalks right down to the ground. The new header has a pivot point at the center that allows it to hug uneven ground. www.geringhoff.com



Low-Pressure "Cupwheels" - Revolutionary new tire design fits existing rims but that's where the similarity to ordinary tires ends. They have a larger footprint for better traction and grip, a smoother ride on rough terrain, and run on very low pressure. If punctured, they can run flat so downtime goes to zero. www.galileowheel.com



Boot Cleaning Station - With 3 fixed brushes and a hand-held brush, workers or visitors can quickly and thoroughly clean off boots when entering livestock facilities. Hand-holds on top help maintain balance when using. www.cemo-group.com



Deere's Autonomous Tractor - Code-named "Joker" while under development, Deere's electric-powered robot tractor runs on two sets of tracks. Developed in Germany, it puts out 250 kW through the tracks and another 250 kW on the implements. The tricky part is that it's powered by cables that can be laid out in the field or carried by a second carrier vehicle.