



Schild mounted Gleaner hopper on angle iron frame that he handles with forklift.

FILLING DRILLS & PLANTERS IS QUICK, EASY

Drill-Fill Hopper Mounts On Forklift

By C.F. Marley

Filling bean drill hoppers and planter boxes is a quick and easy job for Roland Schild, Greene County, Ill., thanks to his 3-pt. mounted seed-fill hopper.

Schild found a salvaged Hyster forklift mast that had been through a fire and mounted it on the back of his Ford Versatile bi-directional tractor. He added dolly wheels to the base of the unit to help carry the load, taking strain off the tractor.

He salvaged the hopper from an ancient Gleaner combine. Angle iron was used to build a base around the hopper so it would stand on its own for easy loading and storage. Two separate sets of tube steel fittings

for the forklift forks were set on both the back and sides of the hopper so it could be handled either way, depending on whether he's filling the drill - which can be loaded from one spot because it has a leveling auger that runs the length of the drill - or the planter hoppers, which he loads with the hopper chute pointed out to the side of the planter so he can just drive along behind the planter.

The hopper holds 30 bags of seed. When going to the field, Schild pulls a trailer or wagon behind the hopper-equipped tractor so he can do all his seed handling in the field.



"World's Best Axe"

"I heard about this Swedish axe while buying tools to clear trees and chip brush on our farm in upstate New York. It worked so much better than any other axe, I wanted to tell other people about it," says Miles Manchester of Joy Brook Farm Tools, Brushton, New York, who now sells the axe which is a combination axe and machete.

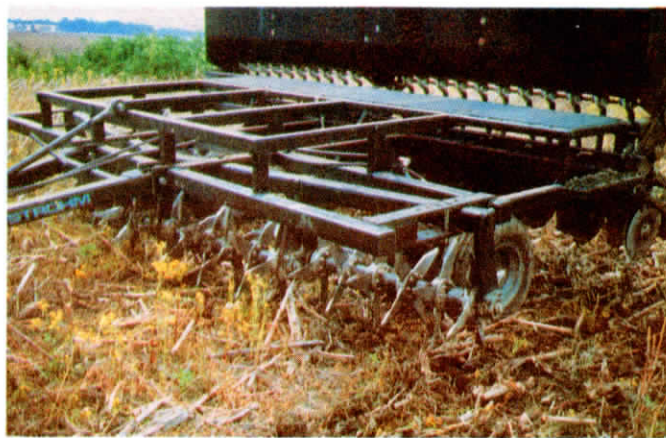
The Sandvik Clearing Axe has a thin, cold-rolled, hardened steel blade held in a spring steel bow that's mounted on a hickory handle. It's lightweight and balanced so you can easily swing it with one hand. "It'll cut through a 2-in. branch or tree trunk with one stroke. The blade is just a bit thicker than a nickel so there's less resistance than with a normal axe. It just slices right through the wood," says Manchester.

FARM SHOW editors gave the new axe a tryout and found that it did a great job, particularly for trimming branches off trees or clearing brush. It does the work of a regular axe but is much lighter and cuts faster so you're less tired after using it.

Manchester says he's used his original Sandvik axe for two years and still has the original blade. "It can be easily sharpened with a file. If needed, you can quickly replace the blade with a new one."

The 27-in. long axe weighs just 2 1/2 lbs. Sells for \$29.95 plus \$4 shipping. Replacement blades sell for \$7.95.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Miles Manchester, Joy Brook Farm Tools, Rt. 1, Box 63, Brushton, N.Y. 12916 (ph 518 529-1162).



Adjustable aerating roller mounts on frame ahead of new no-till drill.

"LEAVES MORE RESIDUE ON TOP"

New No-Till Drill Chops Stalks, Aerates

Nationally known no-till farmer and manufacturer Mike Strohm, West Union, Ill., has come up with a totally new approach to no-till with this drill that's got an aeration roller up front and a "new from the ground up" no-till drill on back.

Strohm says his new drill leaves more surface residue than other no-till drills hooked up to coulters carts or other up-front tillage units yet shatters the entire soil profile down as deep as 8 in. Strohm has been a distributor for Aerway aeration rollers for years. Now he's having Aerway build spiked rollers to his specs for the new drill. The triangular-shaped tines are 8 in. long, mounted in clusters of four spaced 7 in. apart on gangs that can be angled from 0 to 10 degrees like a disk gang, depending on how aggressive you want the tillage to be.

The aerator shatters soil without churning it up like disc coulters while leaving most of the residue on top. It also chops stalks or other residue as it goes, depending on conditions.

Double disc openers on the drill plant directly between the tines on the up-front aerator so seed is planted into solid ground that has been shattered by the aeration tines but not tilled up. Strohm says that eliminates plugging problems and depth control problems experienced with other no-till drills. Row spacing is 7 1/2 in.

Strohm designed new double disc openers for the drill by pairing smooth coulters

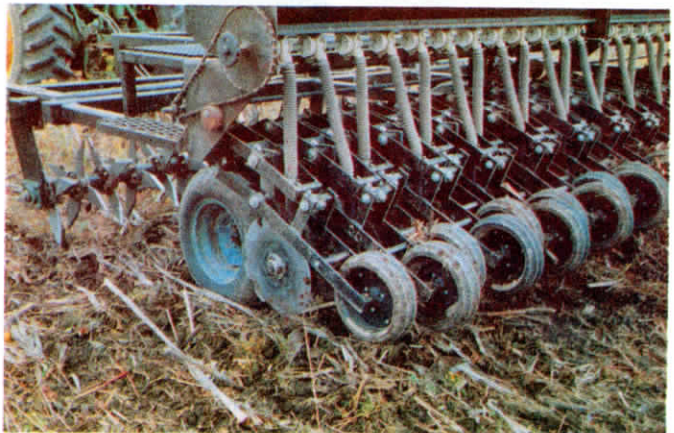


Double disc opener consists of a serrated disc and a smooth-edged disc, with the serrated blade leading by about an inch to cut through residue.

with scalloped-edge coulters and setting the scalloped-edge coulters out ahead of the smooth ones by about an inch. He says that sets up a scissoring action between the two discs that slices through residue much better than two smooth discs mounted together. Press wheels follow behind.

Strohm has had prototypes in the field the last two years and plans to have production units on the market this fall ready for no-till wheat. The new drill will be available in widths from 10 to 30 ft. No prices have yet been announced.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Strohm Brothers, Inc., Rt. 1, Box 98, West Union, Ill. 62477 (ph 217 279-3306).



Openers are positioned between knives on aeration roller. Makes depth control easier to maintain because drill plants into firm ground.