



Ride-on "Hemp Hawk" provides manual control of hydraulic-powered cultivation in hemp fields. Each operator uses hand grips to control 2 sets of 10-in. dia. spinning cultivator heads.



Operators can remove weeds on either side of row, and in-row. Models up to 12 rows wide are available.

Ride-On Cultivator Clears Out In-Row Weeds

The simple and easy to operate in-row "Hemp Hawk" cultivator from A-1 Implements was designed by producers Travis and Taylor Cooper to replace hand hoeing in hemp fields. It's attracting a lot of attention for use in other high value crops as well.

"We were paying a lot for hand labor controlling weeds in our hemp," says Travis Cooper, A-1 Implements. "We got together with a friend and came up with a better idea than hoes and blistered hands."

Their original prototype was a 2-row, 3-pt. mounted attachment with 2 operator seats and 2 sets of spinning cultivator heads. While the Hemp Hawk design continues to evolve, the basic premise remains. Each operator controls 2 heads with handgrips on vertical posts leading to the spinning heads. The posts pivot independently on a yoke ahead of the

operator. This allows the operator to move the heads around desirable plants while removing weeds to either side and in-row.

The Hemp Hawk replaces back-breaking hand labor with manual control of hydraulic-powered cultivation. The manual control lets the operators adjust to different size plants and spacing.

Each cultivator head consists of an 8 psi hydraulic motor and a 10-in. dia. disc with 6 steel pegs or teeth. When entering the field, the tractor operator lowers the toolbar to the preset depth wheels and activates the hydraulic pressure to the motors.

Row spacing is adjustable, depending on the model. All models can be adjusted to handle crop heights of up to 41 in. Larger models are also available with an auxiliary oil cooler to protect fluids, hoses and fittings.

The company offers models with up to 12 rows. Suggested retail price starts at \$10,900 for a 2-row model. A 3-row is priced at \$19,900.

"The largest we have built to date is an 8 row," says Cooper. "However, we also sell individual row units, and customers mount them on existing toolbars customized to their farming operation."

The company website offers a quick savings calculator to help prospective customers evaluate payback. Cooper estimates that a single 2-row machine can replace 8 to 10 day laborers and pay for itself in a matter of a few days.

While the Hemp Hawk was designed for its namesake crop, growers of other high value crops have quickly seen the potential it offers.

"Vegetable growers asked for a smaller

head, so we are now offering 4-in. diameter heads for use with smaller plants and tighter plant spacing," says Cooper.

One of the attractive features of the Hemp Hawk is its simple design and low weight. A 2-row unit weighs only 800 lbs. Cooper recommends a 40 hp. or larger tractor, but acknowledges a smaller tractor could probably handle it. A single row unit for use with a compact tractor is in the planning stage.

Check out the video at farmshow.com of the Hemp Hawk in action.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, A-1 Implements, 1095 Judy Pike, Winchester, Ky. 40391 (ph 606 388-3114; info@a1implements.com; www.a1implements.com).



Chain hanging from overhead support is fitted with double hooks every 6 in. Horizontal strings are pulled in from either side and hooked onto chain to support plants.



Hooks & Chains Eliminate Greenhouse Tomato Stakes

A new Chain & Hook Trellis System is designed to eliminate stakes that support determinate tomatoes in greenhouses. The chains provide vertical support, while the hooks gather the twine supports that run down either side of the row.

"I raise tomatoes and was frustrated with the wooden stakes most growers use with bush-type tomatoes," says David Ropp. "They are either not tall enough or else they break under the load. I wanted something that would stay in place all season."

Ropp was already using lines for supporting indeterminate tomatoes in his greenhouse. While trimming side shoots works with those vine-like plants, that's not desirable for the bush-type determinates. With them, the more

side shoots, the better the yield. So Ropp needed side supports for them.

"I came up with the idea of hanging a chain from the overhead supports like I do the lines," says Ropp. "I place double hooks every 6 in. on the bottom 5 ft. I pull the horizontal strings in from either side and hook them to the chain. This gives the plants the support they need."

Although greenhouse designs vary, Ropp can simply extend the chain length as needed. His base package for a 7-ft. chain with 11 double hooks on the bottom 5 ft. is \$6.50.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dropp Plastics, 1506 550th St. SW, Kalona, Iowa 52247 (ph 319 656-2896).



Free-standing corral panels can quickly be set up anywhere.

Free-Standing Corral Panels

"Ranchers and cattlemen can quickly set up our free-standing corral panels anywhere in minutes," says Bob Studebaker of GoBob Pipe and Steel.

Each panel is just over 6 ft. tall and weighs about 550 lbs. They're made of 2 3/8-in. heavy wall pipe and have 1 1/4-in. rails. They're available in 10, 12, 20 and 24-ft. long panels. Prices start at \$250 and Studebaker says his sales staff is also happy to assist customers with complete corral and Bud Box designs.

The panels have detachable legs that rotate parallel to the gate for storage and at a 90 degree angle for field placement, a GoBob exclusive with patent pending. A short length of metal chain holds the gate to the leg to keep it secure while in use.

GoBob free-standing panels and gates are an ideal way to round up cattle for vaccinations, preg checks or sorting and selling Studebaker says. They're easily paired with a portable



Legs detach and rotate parallel to gate for easy storage.

alleyway and GoBob's Cattle Flow Squeeze Chutes. The company ships nationwide and to Canada from yards in Oklahoma and Alabama, plus a network of dealers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, GoBob Pipe and Steel Sales, 5873 W 181 St So., Mounds, Okla. 74047 (ph 918 827-4500; priority@gobobpipe.com; www.gobobpipe.com).

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