



Hiniker air seeder unit mounts on Rawson coulters cart ahead of modified Max-Emerge planter.

Home-Built Air Planter

Continued from cover page

to fill. He rented a special-built bulk seed truck with crane and used 2,000-lb. seed bags to fill the 60-bu. hopper. "It takes only about five minutes to fill the hopper," says Ellis.

He plants two rows between the previous year's 30-in. corn rows, placing seed 7 1/2 in. to the side of the row. In order to avoid problems with trash, he replaced the planter's standard 5-in. wide gauge wheels with 2 1/2-in. wide wheels from Kinze Mfg. "The narrow gauge wheels let stalks pass through better - we didn't plug up the planter even once," says Ellis. "Kinze uses the narrow wheels on their planter fertilizer attachments. The wheels are built as a 2-piece unit so we had to modify them to fit our planter.



The home-built planter toolbar and up-front Rawson coulters cart both fold for transport.

The narrow wheels work so well in trash that we were able to leave all the row units in line instead of staggering them.

"We wanted to work up the ground in front of each row unit so we doubled the number of coulters on the Rawson cart and moved them in so that they're only 3 in. apart, with two coulters per row. Next year we plan to mount no-till coulters ahead of the row units that run in tracks made by the tractor and the coulters cart.

"We use a 12-row, 30-in. twin line Kinze planter to plant corn. We could use our 'air seeder' planter to plant corn if we removed every other row unit."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sam Ellis & Sons, Rt. 2, Box 72, Chrisman, Ill. 61924 (ph 217 666-3474).



Ellis rented this bulk seed truck with crane from a local seed dealer to load bags into planter's 60-bu. hopper.

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First-Of-Its-Kind Folding "Splitter" Planter

By C.F. Marley

How do you transport a 12-row planter with a pull-behind "splitter" toolbar on back? That's the problem that faced Meteer Machine & Manufacturing, Athens, Ill., when it set out to make a 23-row split-row planter for J. Hopwood, also of Athens.

Bill Meteer of Meteer Machine has a well-earned reputation for the quality of its folding and stacking toolbars of all types. Hopwood asked Meteer to turn his 8-row Max-Emerge 7000 into a 12-row with an 11-row splitter toolbar on back. But he didn't want it to be any wider than

an 8-row planter for transport.

Meteer revamped the existing toolbar, widening it out to 12 rows and hinging it so 3 rows on each side fold forward. Then they rebuilt a complete stacking toolbar to pull behind. The two outside rows on the back toolbar stack on top.

Hopwood says his new planter is easy to transport, can cross all bridges in the area, and takes up a lot less space in his machine shop for storage.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Meteer Machine, Rt. 1, Box 221, Athens, Ill. 62613 (ph 217 636-8109).



Skid Steer Tracks Made From Used Tires

They're low cost, easy to mount, and won't scratch up concrete or asphalt, says Gillmore Tire Recycling, Springville, Iowa, about its new rubber tracks designed for skid steer loaders that are made from used rear tractor tires.

The company cuts down worn-out 18.4 by 38 tires so they're 1 in. wider than the loader's tires. Steel guides - 3 in. long and made out of 1/4-in. plate - bolt to each side of the track at 8-in. intervals.

"Our tracks sell for \$1,300 to \$1,400 compared to about \$3,000 to \$4,000 for conventional rubber tracks and \$2,000 for steel tracks," says owner Joe Gillmore. "The tracks lie flat on the ground with a metal hinge at either end. They're easy to take on or off. You simply drive onto them and let the air out of the tires, then insert a single pin to connect the ends of the tracks together. We use tires that have only about 20% of their tread left. That still provides more tread surface area than you have with conventional tires, yet isn't too aggressive.

"We can custom build the tracks for virtually any skid steer loader that has at least 1 in. of space between the tire and machine - if you can put chains on your loader's tires we can put tracks on. The guides are secured by countersunk bolts that go through holes drilled into the tread.



Tracks are made from used rear tractor tires. Steel guides bolt to each side of track at 8-in. intervals.

The bolts have a 1 1/2-in. flat head to keep them from pulling through the belting. With some conventional rubber tracks you have to replace the loader's original tires with smaller, narrower tires to make room for the guides. We have had problems mounting the track on some Bobcat models because stops that keep the loader arms off the tires interfere with our guides.

"As the track wears you can adjust its length in 1-in. intervals by changing the position of a pin on the hinge."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gillmore Tire Recycling, 473 Dubuque Road, Springville, Iowa 52336 (ph 319 854-6903).

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