

**Keith Martin, Alexandria, Minn.:** "My wife and I looked at many different nut crackers, trying to decide which worked best. We wanted primarily to crack black walnuts, which are really tough. We found several nut crackers designed just for black walnuts, but they were expensive.

"We were leery of trying a product we had never seen before, but all the research we did on the **Goody Getter**, including watching videos on their website and communicating with the inventor, convinced us to give it a try (www.grandpasgoodygetter.com; ph 417 833-2421). It's an amazing value at \$69.99 and has worked flawlessly. We have to keep it oiled and greased periodically, but it'll crack any nut with ease. It comes with 2 different rams which self-adjust as the machine is operated, allowing us to crack nuts very quickly. The rams cut rings around the top and bottom of the nut, causing the nut's shell to fall away and expose the meat."

ExoPlate Crop
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## **Compact Crop Dividers Cut Crop Loss**

You can replace long crop divider snouts on many grain heads with ExoPlate Crop Dividers, short snouts from Lundell Plastics that knock down fewer soybeans when making sharp turns or adjusting to auto track. Their trim design also makes platforms easier to store and transport.

"They really slip under tangled beans," notes Vance Lundell, Lundell Plastics. "They are perfect for guys who don't like those long snouts sticking out."

The company had been working on the crop dividers for several years before introducing them at the National Farm Equipment Show this past winter.

"The sample units we brought to the show had worked more than 1,000 acres, but they looked brand new," says Lundell. "We use 2 different types of plastic in them. The black core is high-density polyethylene (HDPE). It is wrapped top and bottom with a yellow strip of ultra high molecular weight (UHMW) polyethylene."

One reason the sample units looked like new is that UHMW polyethylene has the highest impact strength of any thermoplastic presently made. It is extremely resistant to corrosion, self-lubricating and highly resistant to abrasion, up to 15 times more resistant than carbon steel. The HDPE, known for its high tensile strength, gives the unit its core durability.

Lundell says the ExoPlate Crop Dividers will replace snouts on any grain platform with a 1 1/2-in. square receiving tube. Initially promoted for Deere 600 and 900 Series platforms, they have also been adapted for Case IH grain platforms.

The dividers are 14 in. long with a shape that widens from 1 1/2 in. at the front tip to 4 1/2 in. before narrowing again to a mounting shaft that is a 1 1/4-in. square. They are priced at \$129 per pair.

"They are simple to attach," says Lundell. "Remove the old snout, slip the shaft into place and tighten the set screw. When you tighten a set screw into poly, it is like tightening a lock nut."

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