They Turn Grain Bins Into Buildings

"They’re totally maintenance-free and simpler and cheaper to put up than a conventional building," says A.J. Horinek who’s come up with innovative ways to make farm buildings out of old grain bins. Horinek and his son, Kelvin, of Atwood, Kan., constructed their first grain bin building - a 22 by 50-ft. calving pen - 12 years ago. Since then they’ve put up other buildings, including a 100 by 23-ft. open-sided machine shed that they started just after Christmas last year and finished in April. It was built with sections of 18-ft. dia., 3,250-bu. bins. Some were his bins; others he bought.

"There’s plenty of room in there to store our three 22- to 30-ft. wheat headers, a 8-row air seeder, 8-row corn and row crop headers, our round baler, rotary grain cleaner and 400-bu. grain cart," Horinek says. "The biggest advantage of the design is that machinery is stored in one long row so you never have to move one piece of equipment to get at another like you do in most machine sheds."

There’s a 2-ft. high concrete wall on the back side of the building. Sections of 3 by 5-in. angle iron were bolted into the concrete every 20 ft.

On the open side, the men made supports out of five heavy steel poles sunk in concrete. Two of the poles are spaced 23 ft. apart and two are spaced 26 ft. apart to accommodate various widths of machinery. An k-in. I-beam welds across the top of the poles and pieces of angle iron weld to the I-beam.

Grain bin sections were then bolted to the angle iron front and back.

"We had to do very little cutting," says Horinek. "We even used the old bin bolts, but we had to buy new neoprene washers for them."

The ends of the shed were made out of 2 by 6’s covered by corrugated sheet metal. Horinek says the shed is rock solid.

"There’s not an inch of give - not even on a windy day," he says.

The Horineks plan to equip the open front with sliding doors. Total out-of-pocket cost for the building was $2,376.

Contact FARM SHOW Followup: A.J. Horinek, Rt. 2, Box 154, Atwood, Kan. 67730 (ph 913 626-3992).

Add-On Row Dividers For Grain Heads

"Our new grain head dividers let you convert a grain head into a row crop header, allowing you to harvest row crops such as milo and sunflowers with less loss, says the company.

The "Crop Sav'r Row Reel" mounts in place of normal bat reel, allowing you to harvest row crops such as milo and sunflowers with less loss, says Bill Laueke, Laueke Enterprises, Hays, Kan.

The "Crop Sav'r Row Reel" mounts in place of the normal bat reel, bolting to the reel support arms and the sicklebar guards. Row divider pans on 30-in. centers extend out in front of the header.

"The row dividers straighten up leaning plants and can even pick up some down crops," says Laueke. "They have a trough on each side that’s designed to catch any milo and sunflower heads as well as shatterd grain. The dividers guide the crop into the header more gently than a conventional reel which tends to bat the heads of the crop down into the ground, especially in uneven or tall crops.

"The snouts can be carried lower than the cutterbar, allowing you to raise the header for crops such as sunflowers so you can cut less stalk and increase harvest speed. The dividers can even be skidded on the ground, if necessary, to help pick up lodged or uneven crops while the sicklebar is raised 12 to 14 in. off the ground. It the snouts drop down into a center pivot irrigation track or hit a movable object, they fold up without getting damaged because they hang from an adjustable chain."

The Crop Sav'r Row Reel fits any header and sells for $1,800 per row. Laueke also plans to rebuild used headers and equip them with row dividers. He expects the headers alone to sell for $7,000 to $8,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Laueke Enterprises, 761 E. 41st St., Hays, Kan. 67601 (ph 913 628-1426).

Rig is equipped with a pair of forks that are raised or lowered by a hydraulic cylinder that’s powered by a self-contained 12-volt hydraulic pump.

HYDRAULIC-POWERED FORKS
LIFT 4,000-LB. LOADS

Pickup-Towed "Pallet Carrier"

You can pick up and tow a 4,000-lb. pallet load behind a car or pickup with the new "Amaze-N-Tow" pull-behind forklift.

"It gives any vehicle the lifting power of a forklift plus you can carry the load at highway speeds," says company spokesman Jim Petrella.

The rig is equipped with a pair of forks that are raised or lowered by a hydraulic cylinder that’s powered by a self-contained 12-volt hydraulic pump. After you slip the forks under a load, you get out and operate a lever on the unit to raise the load. The forks tilt slightly forward as they’re raised to secure the load. Two lock bars hold the lift mechanism safely in place.

The load is raised about 12 in. off the ground during transport. The low center of gravity and wide wheelbase make it pull smoothly on the highway, says Petrella.

Sells for $4,020. A 2,500-lb. model is also available that sells for $3,620.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Amaze-N-Tow Pallet Carrier, Box 1058, Carrollton, Ga. 30116 (ph 706 688-7627 or 404 834-6821).

MAGNET HOLDS PLASTIC TUBE IN PLACE ON ROTATING PTO SHAFT

Magnetic Pto Shield

A magnetic pto shield invented by a retired Cornell University professor makes it easy to keep the pto shaft shielded. Joseph Campbell, Cornell professor emeritus of ag engineering, came up with the idea two years ago. The shield consists of a length of plastic tubing with an side diameter that’s slightly larger than the outside diameter of the pto shaft. A disc-shaped magnet fits into the end of the tube. It sticks to the end of the shaft when the tube is slushed over it. The magnet holds the tube in place on the rotating shaft, but it fits loosely enough on the shaft so that if a person leans against the shield or if clothing becomes caught on it, the tube stops turning while the shaft continues to spin inside of it.

"Barber pole" red-colored spirals on the shield make it highly visible when shaft is turning, adding an additional safety factor.

Campbell says Cornell University is looking for a manufacturer.

Magnet fits loosely enough on shaft so that if a person leans against the shield, tube stops turning while shaft continues to spin inside of it.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joseph Campbell, 602 W. Burbank, Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 (ph 210 997-0997).