

Made It Myself

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New Non-Corrugated Grain Bin Cuts Costs

A new non-corrugated grain storage bin could reduce the price of on-farm grain storage almost 10%, says the Iowan who invented it.

The new grain bin, patented by Dick Holschlag of New Hampton, a farmer and grain bin dealer, has no horizontal corrugations. Vertical supports provide the necessary strength to the otherwise flat bin sheets.

Holschlag says the bin would be cheaper to manufacture and that it would sharply reduce a dealer's bin inventory.

"All sheets are the same dimension," he explains. "Any size bin can be built with the one size sheet. Dealers now stock different size sheets for every different bin size. This new bin will cut inventories by up to 75%, reducing interest costs."

Holschlag says farmers would also get bin orders filled faster because dealers would more likely have the needed sheets on hand.

The bin can be erected quickly by the farmer himself, says Holschlag. If the price of a 27-ft. by 20-ft. (10,000-bu.) standard bin, not erected, were \$4,400, the Holschlag bins would cost \$3,800, he estimates.

"This bin is stronger than corrugated bins because vertical supports provide more support than horizontal corrugations," he says. "A big advantage is the smooth sides. Inside the bin, the walls are completely smooth, which causes less wear on the bin sides, lengthening life of the bin and reducing damage to grain."

He built his 20-ft. high prototype bin one sheet at a time using a break and a punch press. The sheets are 5 ft. by 3 ft., 3 in. and there are 40 sheets in each ring, making a 27-ft. dia. bin. The side of each sheet is bent into a vertical "stiffener". The unbent side of each sheet fits into the stiffener on the next sheet and is bolted to it. Holschlag used 18 ga. steel on

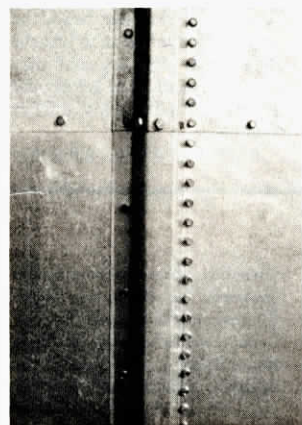


the bottom two rings, 20 ga. on the top two rings, and installed a conventional Chief roof.

"I used heavier steel than was necessary on this prototype and bolted it more than was necessary. Once the bin has been more precisely engineered, it will be extremely easy for farmers to erect their own bin," he says.

The bin can accommodate all optional bin equipment such as fans, perforated floor, or stirring machine, says Holschlag, who is looking for a manufacturer.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard Holschlag, Holschlag Bin Sales, New Hampton, Iowa 50659 (ph 515 394-3057).



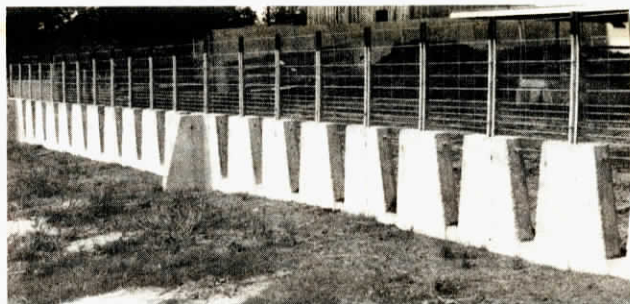
Combine Crop Sprayer

"My father and I built this self-propelled sprayer from a combine last winter in our shop," says Wilfred Berchimsry, Watson, Sask.

"We dismantled our MF Super 92 combine and, using the main frame, attached 80-ft. booms to the rear of the machine. With some reinforcing to the main frame, and a heavier rear axle, we can carry 500 gal. of water for spraying. Because the combine has variable speed, we can operate at different speeds for different

rates of application. Sitting up higher in the cab protects the operator from spray drift and provides better visibility. Compaction is minimal and tracks go unnoticed 1½ weeks after spraying. The Super 92 has plenty of power to handle the unit when spraying up to speeds of 7 mph.

"We're well-pleased with our self-propelled sprayer, especially since the cost was only half the price of a new pull-type sprayer."



"Tombstone" Cattle Fence

When Robert Spereslage, Greeley, Iowa, needed a new fence around his feedlot, he decided to put up something that would be useful in more ways than one. The tombstone fence he and his son came up with not only keeps cattle in but lets him drop hay along the outside of the fence so cattle can feed without leaving the lot, and without him having to haul bales into the lot.

The Spereslages first poured an 18-in. wide footing at the bottom of a shallow trench they dug and then built forms to pour the entire fence at one time. "Two steel rods run vertically up out of the footings to support each vertical section of the feeder-fence. When the upper sections were poured, a single rod was laid in horizontally to run across the top of each

head opening. This horizontal rod only holds the sections together and is strong enough to keep the cattle from lifting their heads and damaging the fence above."

The concrete fence is 5 to 6 in. thick and 4 ft. high. Spereslage says the opening is the same size as the opening on a stanchion. "Cattle can reach out surprisingly far. We set big bales outside the fence and they clean up most of it," he notes. He adds that the ground outside the fence is heavily limed so it stays relatively hard and dry during wet times of the year, although some weeds do grow on it. He says the spot is a sunny area that stays relatively dry anyway. The feeding fence is used primarily during winter months.