



New Wil-Rich air Seeder-Cultivator will handle most types of seed and granulated chemicals, fertilizer.

Seeder-Cultivator From Wil-Rich

First U.S. manufacturer on the market with an air seeder for small grains and other crops is Wil-Rich Mfg., Wahpeton, N. Dak.

The company's first-of-its-kind Seeder-Cultivator, with pneumatic seed and granular fertilizer distribution, is now in production for sale this spring. "We plan to produce

about 100 units during this first production run," Sherman Quanbeck, inventor, told FARM SHOW.

The unit, which is 41 ft., 5 in. wide and folds hydraulically into a neat package for road transport, was tested extensively from Kansas to Northern Alberta, Canada, last year.

"These on-farm tests produced

very positive results. Yields in all cases were equal to, or better than, conventional press drills and no-till drills. We think it's the small grain seeder of the future, especially for operators with larger acreages. What's more, we think the basic machine can be easily adapted to soybeans, alfalfa and many other crops. It offers tremendous advantages over conventional drills in machine cost, mobility between fields, and maintenance," Quanbeck points out.

The new Seeder-Cultivator will handle most any type of seed, or granulated material such as fertilizer or chemicals. The material can be put into the ground behind each cultivator shovel. Or, by adjusting the seed injectors, it can be spread on top of the ground to be incorporated by the rear-mounted harrow.

The unit can be used as a conventional disk drill or hoe drill on prepared seedbeds, or as a reduced-tillage machine where soil erosion is a problem. It can also be used as a no-till machine since each cultivator shovel can penetrate stubble ground, and the wide rank, high-clearance field cultivator can operate in a large amount of trash, Quanbeck points out. The unit can also be used to spread and incorporate granular fertilizer and chemicals.

Different shovels, from 2 in. spikes to 7 in. sweeps, can be used. The 2 in.

spikes, for example, can be used in no-till or reduced-till operations. The 4 in. and 7 in. sweeps can be used where tillage and weed control is desired.

"A key feature of this new way to seed small grains is that precise depth control can be maintained," explains Quanbeck.

The large capacity tanks are divided into seed and fertilizer compartments. If desired, the entire tank can be used for seed. This involves changing a lower panel.

An optional drill-fill auger which mounts on the cultivator can be used to fill the seed and granular fertilizer tanks. It eliminates the need for separate drill-flow augers in the truck since the truck hoist can dump directly into the auger hopper, explains Quanbeck.

The large air blower can be operated from the tractor pto, or by a separate gasoline engine for tractors which do not have pto's.

"The versatility of being able to use this new seeder in reduced tillage or no-till operations will become increasingly important as the cost of fuel goes up and farmers become more and more concerned with field erosion," Quanbeck points out.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wil-Rich, Inc., Box 1013 Wahpeton, N.D. 58075 (ph 701 642-2621).

New Air Seeders For Small Grains



The Super Seeder is available with a 125 bu. grain tank, or with a combination grain tank (65 bu.) and liquid fertilizer tank (300 gal.).

Super Seeder From Prasco

by Roger Olson

Alex Currie crops about 4000 acres near Moosomin, in Saskatchewan, Canada. To get those acres ready for seeding, he used to work the stubble twice in the fall and again before seeding. Then, he seeded and harrowed.

Not any more. Currie switched to a new-concept seeder called the Super Seeder, manufactured by Prasco, of Winnipeg. It cut at least one field operation from his seeding program and, depending on the year, he says he'll reduce field operations by still another trip. This would cut his field trips from five to three.

But more important, Currie will save the cost of another drill, tractor and operator.

"With the number of acres we seed, I would have to buy another press drill. But, with the 40-ft. Super Seeder, plus traveling at 7 to 8 miles per hour, I can get the crop in with the one unit. So, I save the cost of the second drill, tractor and operator," he explains.

Currie is not the only Great Plains farmer using the Super Seeder. Jim Peterson, who farms just across the border in North Dakota, already has changed his field operations to in-

clude a Super Seeder. He cut field operating costs from \$21.75 to \$11.25 an acre.

Prasco's Super Seeder is an air-stream seeder developed by two farmers in the Antler area of southeast Saskatchewan. It is really a minimum tillage seeder designed to give better seed placement over a range of soil textures and conditions, according to Chuck Harrison, general manager. "It goes through mud better than a drill, which allows you to get close to pot holes and low-lying areas," he points out.

Currently, the Super Seeder will mount on most 40-ft., heavy duty field cultivators, or any size unit your existing tractor can pull, says Harrison. "The only adaptation needed is to remove the cultivator's existing hitch and fit a special rolling hitch. This adaptation, which is part of the Super Seeder package, close couples the grain tank and cultivator, yet leaves the cultivator flexible to move up and down as the machine moves over uneven ground."

The system works this way: Seed from the grain tank is metered into an air flow which carries the seed to the main manifold. From this primary manifold, grain is distributed evenly to smaller manifolds and then to the plastic boot behind each cultivator shank.

One of the big advantages of the air seeder is that it has only three moving parts. The blower is driven by its own hydraulic motor from the tractor hydraulic system. It creates the air flow to

carry seed from the grain tank to the seed boot.

The metering device immediately below the grain tank meters seed evenly into the air stream. It can be calibrated to precisely meter any size seed at any rate. Currie has seeded wheat, fall rye, oats, barley and rapeseed.

Currie says another advantage of the Super Seeder is that you can seed faster: "With conventional drills, you have to keep the speed between 4½ to 5 mph. But, with this air seeder, you can travel between 7 and 8 mph. Seed is metered into the air flow in relation to the speed of travel."

Currie adds that, by keeping weight of the seed and fertilizer off the cultivator, "you maintain better depth control so you seed at a more even depth, which gives you better germination and emergence."

When seeding in a field is finished, the cultivator folds, making it easy to transport the 40-ft. unit to the next field. "There is no need to load it onto a drill carrier. The seed and fertilizer tubes are flexible piping which allows the cultivator to fold without having to alter the seeding system," Currie explains.

Both the grain and grain-fertilizer models of the new Super Seeder sell for \$17,500.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Prasco Super Seeder, 400-280 Smith St., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1K2, Canada (ph 204 942-7354).