An 11-shank chisel plow can be converted with add-on coulters for about 1/3 the cost of a new coulter-chisel.

ADD COULTERS TO YOUR CHISEL PLOW

Build Your Own Coulter-Chisel

If you're looking for an inexpensive way to convert to conservation tillage, you might want to consider converting your chisel plow to a coulter chisel, allowing you to combine disking and chiseling operations in one pass.

All it takes is add-on coulters mounted ahead of each shank, says Mitch Romer, director of marketing for Yetter Mfg. Co., of Colchester, Ill. The company offers disk-chisel coulters in 17 or 20 in. dia. The self-sharpening, ripple blade coulters slice the trash and residue so the chisel can shatter and incorporate with less horsepower.

"Plugging problems are reduced and the result is better protection against wind and rain erosion. The coulters also reduce implement draft while making one pass possible in trashy conditions," says Romer. "They're ideal for farmers who want to eliminate trips over the field, leave more trash and save the soil without having to spend big money. For example, on an 11 shank chisel plow, you can addd coulters for under $2,000 — about a third the cost of a new coulter chisel implement. Besides, many dealers won't give you much for your old chisel plow."

Romer says brackets are available to fit Yetter disk-chisel coulters to 95% of all chisel plow makes and models. "Each coulter swivels separately so there's no problem with trash being pushed along in front, or mud balling up between them. And, because the coulters precut for each skank, slightly less horsepower is required. The coulters are spring loaded to prevent bouncing and to cut through trash and tough ground conditions. Down pressure can be adjusted for ground conditions, depth of cut and blade wear.

Spring-loaded coulters swing independently and can be adjusted for "down" pressure.

"In normal situations, you don't need to add weight to get coulters into the ground. In heavy trash, you may want to add weight, especially on chisel plows which don't have the frame filled with concrete," says Romer.

In addition to fitting chisel plows, the coulters can be easily adapted for use with field cultivators and planters.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Yetter Mfg. Co., Colchester, Ill. 62326 (ph 1 800 447-5777; in Illinois call 1 800 325-7165).

USE YOUR TRACTOR LOADER

Bale Feeder Mover

"I read in FARM SHOW last year about a round bale feeder mover. I thought it was a great idea but I've found a way to simplify it," says Bob Gillson, who's begun marketing his own feeder mover.

The "High Lifter" lets you pick up a bale feeder with the lip of a tractor bucket, or a bale spear, and move it without leaving the tractor seat. Frequent movings prevent hay and manure buildup around feeders and helps keep feeders from getting frozen in place.

Gillson's mover is made up of 9 steel components welded together into one solid unit. It weighs 15 lbs. and can be installed on the feed ring by one person in less than 5 min. using only a pair of pliers to bend the loops on the lower end of each steel rod around the top bar on the feeder.

Sells for $24.95, including shipping.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Gillson, Hebron Innovation & Mfg., P.O. Box 8, Pillager, Minn. 56473 (ph 218 746-3638).

Morey strips anhydrous rigs, fits stainless steel applicator tubes to the knives and builds on a cradle for a 500-gal. liquid fertilizer tank.

BANDS LIQUID N, P & K BELOW ROOT ZONE OF GROWING CROP

Rebuilt Anhydrous Rig Deep-Places Fertilizer

An Iowa farmer-manufacturer is doing a booming business converting old anhydrous applicators to deep-placement liquid fertilizer rigs.

Howard Morey, who farms near Mallard, got into the manufacturing business when he converted an anhydrous rig for use on his own farm. He started getting inquiries from neighbors when they saw him working his way through standing corn at the 4 to 5 leaf stage. "Fellows would stop on the highway and come out to see what we were doing," he recalls.

Morey started building deep-placement rigs for neighbors and soon had almost more business than he could handle. He developed a unique method of manufacture, buying up used anhydrous applicator rigs all over the country at farm auctions and sales. He brings the rigs back to his Iowa farm and totally strips them down. He sets them up for 4 to 12-row spacing, fits stainless steel application tubes to the knives, builds a cradle for a 500-gal. liquid fertilizer tank, and repaints the machine.

The rigs place fertilizer 8 in. deep. Crop roots grow downward to reach the fertilizer, increasing drought tolerance.

On his own farm, Morey applies N, P & K at once using an 85-hp. Deere 4010 to pull an 8-row unit with a 500 gal. tank at speeds of 5 mph. The knives cause minimum soil disturbance, so they're ideal for ridge-till and no-till, and they pull easier than a same-size anhydrous applicator because the knives don't frost up, increasing drag. Orifices on the application tubes can be changed to change application rates.

Morey figures his "liquid" deep-placement rig cuts fertilizer costs to less than half that of conventionally applied anhydrous. "Some researchers say that 80% of anhydrous is gone 8 weeks after it's applied. Some escapes when it's applied and the rest of it washes away. When you apply fertilizer to a standing crop, it gets used right away. That saves you money and helps clean up the ground water," says Morey.

The used anhydrous rigs he converts come to him from all over the country. "I've made contact with auctioneers all over the country so they know I'm looking for these. There's a lot of them around," he notes, adding that he converts both 3-pt. and trailing rigs.

An 8-row, 30-in. applicator sells for $2,285. Models are available from 4 to 12 rows.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Howard Morey, D.P.F., Ltd., Rt. 1, Box 55, Mallard, Iowa 50562 (ph 712 425-3391).

Four steel rods form the long "fingers" of the mover which attaches to the top of bale feeder.