# Most Popular Products

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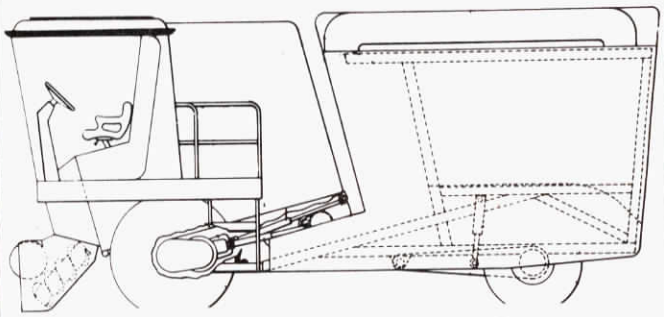


## Deere's Articulated Combine

The patent to the world's first articulated combine, featured in FARM SHOW'S November-December issue, is owned by Deere and Co. but the machine is still a long ways from being ready to market.

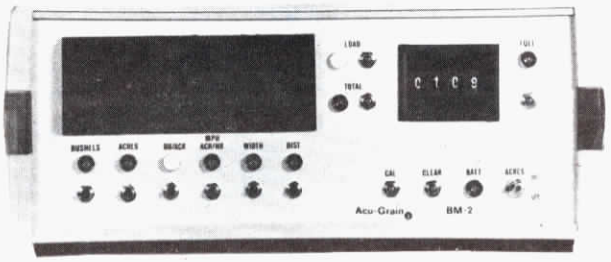
The revolutionary combine, invented and patented by Franz W. Riedinger, Einod, West Germany, pivots in the center and has two wheels front and back. The header, rotary separators, engine and cab are mounted up front, and the grain cleaners and grain tank at the rear. The combine steers by pivoting on the vertical axis between the two units and is self-leveling on slopes.

According to patent documents, the inventor feels the articulated concept will allow combines to continue to expand in size while being able to transport them down roads without dismantling.

The articulated design will allow combines to be long and low, as opposed to conventional combines which — with cleaning mechanisms located in the lower part of the machine, and the cab, engine and grain tank on top — tend to be top heavy.

Documents say the new articulated design solves the limited-size grain tank problem, and that the new-style machine will ride better because the rear unit flexes independent of the forward unit so that all four wheels maintain good ground contact even in rough terrain. In additon, the rear unit of the articulated combine self-levels while the front unit follows the contour of the ground so that the cleaning mechanism, mounted at the rear, isn't adversely affected by sidehill slope.

Another key feature of "the combine of the future" is the means for transferring separated grain from the front unit across the pivot axis to the rear unit.




## Combine Grain Weigher

"Thanks to your article, we've shipped Acu-Grain units to farmers throughout the U.S. and Canada," says Roger Sherer, president of Acu-Grain Co. Great Falls, Mont., manufacturer of a first-of-its-kind "grain weigher" that measures grain volume as it comes out of the combine auger. Featured in FARM SHOW's May-June issue, the Acu-Grain system is reported to be accurate to within plus or minus 1%.

Sherer feels the real value to small grain, corn and soybean farmers is the Acu-Grain's ability to measure, quickly and easily, grain output by test plot, by field, by farm, by the load, by the hour, day or the whole season. Crop share tenant-landlord splits can be determined quickly. Also, says Sherer, the digital read-out provides quick per-acre yield readouts, acres/hour harvested, and sounds an alarm when the grain hopper is full. Read-out numbers are about ½ in. tall, and the terminal itself is 8 by 11 by 4 in.

Adjustments can be made quickly to measure accurately any grain that the combine itself can harvest, says Sherer. Throughout the day, as moisture content of the crop changes, new moisture values are calculated manually to convert the meter's readings to a bin-dry basis.

The latest model has been improved with a new calibration switch located on the rear panel which allows much easier calibration to various crops. Another new feature is the automatic cut-off switch for the acre meter function. Distance is also measured in feet as you travel through the field, allowing you to accurately measure fields of any size.

"Cost of the grain monitor is $1,400 for self-propelleds and $1,489 for pull-type combines. A $150 optional package lets you mount the unit on tractors and other field equipment for use as an acre meter and speedometer. A $300 mounting package is also available to adapt the grain measurer to transport augers. Sherer says one large elevator in Montana now uses the Acu-Grain in place of scales to loading rail cars and has obtained the same 1% accuracy rates that hold true for farm use.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Acu-Grain Co., P.O. Box 2453, 4307 N. Star Blvd., Great Falls, Mont. 59401 (ph 406 453-0074).

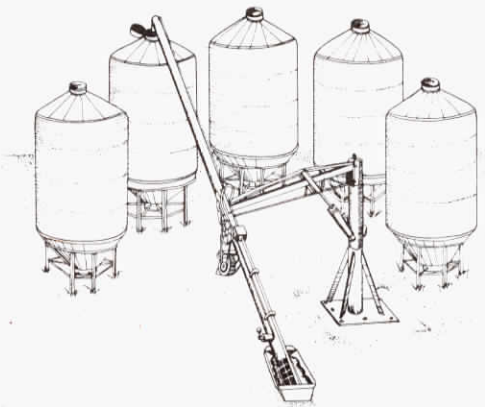
## "World's Simplest" Grain Handling System

"It works exactly like we said it would when it was still on paper," says Elwood Sawby, of Skyland Manufacturing about the company's revolutionary new "Hydra-Shift" swivel auger grain handling system first featured in our March-April issue. The first Hydra-Shift installations have now been built — one servicing nine 4,800-bu. hopper bottom bins — and Sawby expects to sell out this years total production by spring.

At the heart of the new system is the Hydra-Shift auger, designed to replace expensive elevator legs or vacuum equipment, and heavy rolling augers that take "too many people too much time to move," according to Sawby.

The Skyland system consists of a conventional 8 to 10-in. dia. auger up to 70 ft. long and mounted on a pivoting hydraulic arm. The arm raises and lowers the auger, pivoting on a center support stanchion. The operator stands at the bottom of the auger, activating the arm up or down with auger-mounted controls, lifting just 40 lbs. of balanced weight to move the auger from bin to bin. With a 53-ft. auger you can fill and empty ten 14-ft. high bins in a semi-circle. A 60-ft. auger will fill and empty nine 19-ft. semi-circled bins. If your bins are already in a straight line, a 60-ft. Hydra-Shift mounted auger will reach six 14-ft. tall bins.

"It takes just 90 seconds to move the auger from bin to bin and anyone who can lift 25 lbs. of weight can move it along. You don't have to stop combining, or other activities, during harvest to move the auger," says Sawby.



A 60-ft. auger, 8 in. in dia. and mounted on the Hydra-Shift arm, sells for around $9,100 U.S. dollars.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Skyland Manufacturing Equipment, Ltd., Maple Creek, Sask. (ph 306 667-2653).