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Home-Built Seed Box Speeds Spring Seeding

Strongly constructed plywood seed boxes speed spring seeding for Iowa farmer John P. Vermeer. He uses the 2,000-lb. boxes to fill the central hopper on his International 900 Cyclo air planter.

"They totally eliminate handling sacks or buckets. Our local elevator cleans our beans in the fall so we store them over winter in these boxes," says Vermeer, noting that his seed boxes can be used for any crop or granular fertilizer.

Each 3 by 4-ft. box is 4 ft. high, constructed with 5/8in, plywood. Corners are reinforced with metal. Chains inside each box support the sides with four chains running crosswise (they must be crossed to prevent twisting) and two chains running lengthwise. Both front corners on each box are closed off with plywood for better cleanout. Seed pours out through an up-front metal spout with a sliding door. Each box mounts on a wood pallet that allows it to be picked up with a front-end loader forklift attachment fitted with a tilt cylinder.

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