Ridge-Plant With Your Conventional Planter

Iowa farmer Ernie Behn, of Boone, a staunch advocate of reduced tillage, has invented several attachments that let you ridge-plant with your conventional corn planter.

Behn and his son Jerry are making and selling (1) Ridge Mate, (2) Deep Shields, (3) Handy Ridger and (4) Row Finder.

1. The Ridge Mate switches late-model standard pull-type planters to ridge-till without modifying them. The row-ridging attachments do not weld on, making it easy to switch back and forth from ridge-till to conventional level planting. Available for Deere, IH, White or Kinze planters.

2. Deep Shields protect the ridged crop when small. As the crop gets larger, the shields can be raised. They fit the Buffalo cultivator and, with an adaptor, can also be used on the Hiniker. The shields fit 30-in. to 40-in. row widths.

3. The Handy Ridger attachment converts the Buffalo cultivator to dual-purpose ridge-till or flat till. "You can do first-cultivation of beans, not ridge- ing, in the forenoon, switch to ridgeing corn in the afternoon, and then switch back to beans the next morning."

4. The Row Finder attachment keeps a pull-type ridge-till planter exactly on the row without worry or stress. "It's essential for ridge farming on the contour, but nice to have for straight rows, too," says Behn.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ernie Behn, Rt. 1, Boone, Iowa 50036 (ph 515-432-1569, or 795-2749).

New V-Shaped Scraper For Max-Emerge, Kinze Planters

"The V-shaped scraper on our new Post-Plant planter attachment firms the seed trench so well that dry soil can't fall back into the seed trench and affect seed depth," says a spokesman for Pro Equipment Sales, Inc., Olivia, Minn.

The dual-purpose Post-Plant scraper also helps in wet conditions by keeping the discs free from dirt and mud build-up. It's made of cast iron and installs on Deere Max-Emerge 7900 series and Kinze-built planters, replacing the existing scraper. It installs with two bolts in place of the roll pins on the original scraper. It can be installed in two positions, depending on the condition of the disc.

Sells for $25 per row.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pro Equipment Sales Inc., West Hwy. 212, P.O. 122, Olivia, Minn. 56777 (ph 612 523-5050).

Coulter Brackets Make Switch To No-Till Easy

"They make a good planter better," says Gary Miles, Mound City, Mo., who's come up with no-till brackets for Max-Emerge and Kinze planters that, he says, are a big improvement over factory designs.

"To mount Deere no-till coulters on the planter, you have to first remove the furrow openers. Then, you have to remove the mounting bolts that fasten the row units to the planter frame to attach the coulter brackets. It takes lots of time to put them on every time you want to change from no-till to conventional.

"With my no-till brackets, you can leave the furrow openers on and you only have to install the brackets once. If you want to remove the no-till coulters later, you simply take off the bolts that fasten the coulters to the brackets." says Miles, noting that most farmers who've bought his brackets leave the no-till coulters on all the time. "They help make a better seedbed under all field conditions. And, they help stop downhill drift of the planter on hillsides and terraces."

Miles says being able to leave the furrow opener discs on in no-till conditions is another big advantage of his planter brackets. "The furrow openers remove clods and trash that the coulters cut through. That makes a smoother surface for the gauge wheels to run over, and helps plant at a more uniform depth."

A set of no-till coulter brackets, bolts, and Deere coulters for a 4-row planter sells for $900.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, HMS, P.O. Box 165, Mound City, Mo. 64470 (ph 816-442-3113).

Closing Wheels For "Early Risers"

New for IH Early Riser planters are "V" closing wheels that replace the inverted disc closing system.

According to Mitch Romer, sales manager for Yetter Mfg., Colchester, Ill., the closing wheels were made in response to farmer requests for a better furrow closing system on Early Riser planters.

"Farmers tell us that the existing closing system doesn't do the job in no-till fields," says Romer. "Our new 'V' closing wheels bolt in place of the old wheels and are similar to the closing systems on the White and Max-Emerge planters."

The closing system, with 12 in. dia. wheels, sells for $117 per row.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Yetter Farm Equipment, P.O. Box 358, Colchester, Ill. 62326 (ph 309-776-4111).