"Flying Saucer" Grain Refrigerator

Back in 1966, this silvery dome on the Wilbur Paulus farm near Lincoln, Ill., created a lot of interest when it started appearing in farm magazines. At first glance it looked like a flying saucer but it was actually a giant grain refrigerator.

The idea was to cool high-moisture corn down to 32° in order to store it without spoilage. The problem was that even at that temperature, some molds still grew in the 25,000-bu. structure. Cattle could handle the molds but hogs could not and after a few years, Paulus tore the dome down and put up conventional storage buildings.



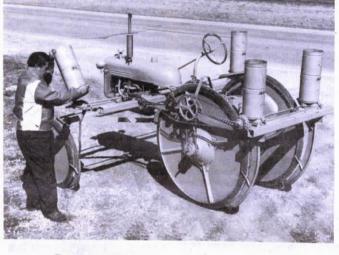


Add-On Engine Boosted Tractor Power

One way to add extra power to tractors in the late 50's and early 60's was to mount an extra engine on the tractor and transmit additional power to the tractor through belts to the pto or belt pulley.

M & W Gear Co., Gibson City, Ill., came out with a piggyback engine package that

included a 60-hp. Ford industrial engine that mounted at the rear of the tractor and was belted to the tractor pto. Photo shows kit mounted on Minneapolis-Moline tractor which is pulling a chisel plow equipped with an NH3 applicator.



Soybean Double Cropping Rig

Today there are planters on the market that can plant soybeans into standing wheat but when this 4-row rig was built by Robert Mowen, Kane, Ill., farmers had to come up with their own machines.

Mowen equipped a lightweight tractor with special disk wheels that would dig furrows. He narrowed up the rear wheels

and widened the front axle. A seed box mounted behind each wheel with extended seed tubes that ran right down to the ground.

Mowen said the planter worked great under perfect conditions but he often had depth control and seed covering problems.

Tandem Tractor

In the late 1950's and 60's, farmers were looking for more power but big 4-WD's were not yet widely available so "tandemizing" tractors for added power was common.

Joe Wilson, Windsor, Ill., built one of the more sophisticated tandems in 1964. It consisted of two Allis Chalmers tractors, driven by the rear tractor and steered with hydraulic cylinders. The front axles were removed from both machines. A vertically-mounted tractor axle provided the pivot point between the two tractors, which were propane-powered.

