Mfg. Co., Gibbon, Minn. and work great. Once installed, you can't make the head push dirt no matter how wet the ground is. The best improvement the manufacturer could make on this combine is to change the walkers because they throw wheat over. Otherwise, we're very satisfied," says Jerome Taatjes, Raymond, Minn., about his 1978 **Deere** 6600.

"We put deflectors on the sides of the chaffer and shoe to increase capacity on steep hillsides. They've worked well," says Paul Kieffer, Dornsife, Penn., about his two **International** Axial Flow combines.

"I installed a Tiger Jaws cutterbar from Herschel Corp., Indianola, Iowa, on my 1976 **Deere** 7700. There's less shatter loss and we get longer sickle life with this cutterbar. I also retrofitted the combine with Deere's Dialamatic header control to give selective platform down pressure for varying ground conditions. It's worth the investment. I've also found that ordinary PVC tubing slipped through the coil of each pickup tine on a platform reel does almost as good a job of preventing reel wrapping as plastic drainage tile. The advantage is that PVC is cheaper, quicker and easier to install," says Jack Miller, Lake City, Iowa.

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power steering is slightly slow and concave adjustment could be improved. The grain bin is poorly designed and could be considerably bigger. I'd like to see them mount it on scales for yield checks. This combine works very well, though, and the 4-WD gives much better steering stability in slick conditions. Helps keep combine on top of the ground in wet areas rather than cutting trenches. I installed a fold-down bin extension from Walton Mfg., Walton, Ind., and a Comput-N-Acre from H.G. Schnider, Inc., Hugo, Minn., which gives a readout of feet traveled, acres and speed," reports Dan Miley, Greenville, Ohio about his 1984 **Deere** 7720.

Scott Hancock, Griffin, Ind., owns a 1983 **Allis Chalmers** Gleaner L3. "It does a good job cleaning, has a quiet cab, and is easy to work on. One problem is that if you go too fast in high moisture corn, you get a lot over the return. The only modification to the combine is a set of dealer-installed cut-out cylinder bars. Now anything that gets to the cylinder goes through it."

"I've had great success taking the six short rasp bars off the grain rotor. It results in much easier threshing and more aggressive action at the same time. I added extra chain links to extend the feeder chain closer to the auger for better feeding. I also have a patent pending on a reverse feeder for Axial Flow and 15 series IH combines," says Ray M. Gremillion Jr., Zachary, La., who owns two **International** 1460 rotaries. "Overall, I'm satisfied but they could use larger capacity on the return elevators, especially for hi-volume crops. The brakes are a joke and should be redesigned from scratch. They also need to redesign the grain tank to unload all grain, and group their grease fittings."

"I installed a Tiger Jaws cutterbar on my 1982 **International** 1420 and it works great. I also added a fiber tine reel which eliminated sickle damage and reduced wrapping," says Vincent Spies, Ashkum, Ill. "I don't like not being able to easily check the amount and type of material in the return elevator. Also, the adjustment of the electric header control leaves a lot to be desired. I seem to have to set it where I can get it to work, not where I want it to cut."

Stan Feldman, Lone Tree, Iowa, likes his 1981 **International** 1460 but has had trouble with the header control and grain loss. "The header control works sometimes and then quits. Dealer has tried to fix it but can't discover what's wrong. To stop grain loss, we installed a grate under the rear beater, which we bought from a company in Canada that we read about in FARM SHOW. (Vincent Farm Equipment, Ltd., Box 131, Woodstock, Ont., Canada). We also put a Tiger Jaws cutterbar on our grain head. Works great."

"We reversed the grain augers under the straw walkers so they throw grain towards the center of the machine. It definitely helps reduce grain loss on sidehills but doesn't solve 100% of the problem," says LeRoy Steinbrenner, Fosston, Minn., about his **Deere** 7700 Turbo.

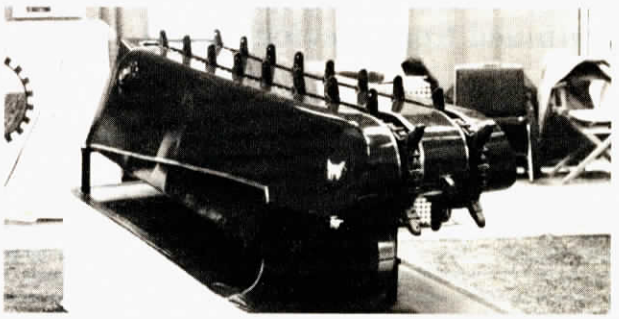
"I changed the shaker hangers on the grain shoe, which changed the ratio of the up and down strokes to the back and forth strokes, making it much easier to clean small seeds. We also use a rubber concave insert for small seed. It bolts over the top of present concave, forcing all material onto the straw walkers. The rubber concave insert is available from Walter Vanderzanden, Hillsboro, Oreg.," says Wright Beach, Mesa, Wash., who owns a 1979 **Deere** 7720 and a **Deere** 7700. "I find these combines can handle almost any crop. We use them on all different kinds of vegetable seed crops and small legumes, such as alfalfa and clover, besides basic crops like wheat, corn, barley, and peas."

"It should be equipped with a grain loss monitor that lasts longer and that has pads on the rotors so you can tell if loss is from the rotors or sieves," says Doug James, Prescott, Iowa, who's otherwise pleased with his 1981 **New Holland** TR85. "The corn and wheat heads are good and the bean head is better after the company's 1984 updates but it still needs work. After 200 hours the wobble box started to creak so I welded it in place to finish. But I know the company will make it right because they have been great on everything else. The combine does a great job keeping grain loss to a minimum and it handles real well. We combine wheat in 5 states and harvest corn and beans at home."

"There are dead air spaces toward the sides of the cleaning shoe, especially near the front. Also, straw occasionally sticks to the front of the chaffer in high-yield crops such as barley," says Gordon McLean, Gilby, N. Dak., about his 1981 **Deere** 7720. "The machine is maneuverable, has lots of operator comfort and controls are outstanding. Capacity, adjustments, maintenance, and accessibility are very good. It cannot be fine-tuned to compete with rotaries as far as grain damage in beans and corn but it has more capacity in tougher conditions and hard-to-thresh crops. As for the heads available, the 653 all-crop head is absolutely the best sunflower harvester available and it also works great in soybeans. We also use it as an extra corn head."

"It has exceeded expectations in both capacity and dependability," says Steve Van Allen, Clearwater, Kan., pleased with his 1980 **International** 1480. "I used two tips to increase performance from Ray Stueckle's book "Setting Your Rotary Combines For Better Harvesting" (P.O. Box 1323, Caldwell, Idaho 83605). I hard-surfaced and sharpened the replaceable impellor wear plates on front of the rotor. Then I reset the rotor transport vanes, putting the front one-third in the slowest position. The vanes as far back as the center were set in the middle position, and I set the last three vanes in the fast position. This transport vane setting is nearly the reverse of the manufacturer's recommendations for rotors. These two changes increased the capacity of this machine 20% by decreasing the pull of the rotor. At the same time, the thresh was much more aggressive. I would also like to see the manufacturer provide a longer unloading tube, or an extension, for use

(Continued on next page.)



New "Down Corn" Snout

Farmers crowded around to get a close look at a new "down corn" snout at a recent midwestern farm show.

Invented by farmer Randy Mak, Fair Oaks, Ind., the snout permanently replaces existing snouts. In down corn, it gathers up stalks, feeding them into the head. In a standing crop, the snout chains are shut down and capped by a cover that looks like a conventional snout.

Besides its unique gathering chains, each snout is hinged and fitted with a wheel under the end of the snout so it floats over uneven ground. "You don't have to continually maneuver the cornhead to slip it under stalks lying on the ground. Chains lift the stalks so the machine can glide in under them. The chains then prevent any plug-ups by feeding broken stalks directly into the cross auger," says Mak.

The snout is built at a steeper angle than conventional snouts. "That results in a deep well so ears don't get thrown out when they hit the stripped plates. In the same way, the high-topped back end of the snout keeps the cross auger from throwing ears back out onto the ground," Mak notes.

The new snout simply bolts in place of the old snout. To power the chain, the top gathering chain sprocket is replaced with a double sprocket connected by a number 50 chain to a gear box. To disconnect the snout chain in a standing crop, you simply remove the chain. If a field has both down and standing corn, you simply remove the chain. If a field has both down and standing corn, you simply leave the gathering chains running. They won't affect normal operation in any way.

"Just one ear lost every 25 sq. ft. adds up to 10 bu. per acre so it doesn't take long to pay for the added equipment," says Randy, noting that he developed the new snout on his own farm and has begun manufacturing it along with Larry Young, a Rensselaer, Ind., machine shop operator.

The snout can be made to fit any corn head and sells for around $1,200 a row. It can be easily installed by the farmer himself, according to Mak, who says he's negotiating with a manufacturer to take over production of the units.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mak-Young, Randy Mak, Rt. 1, Box 138, Fair Oaks, Ind. 47943 (ph 219 987-3442 or 866-7091).