set properly," says an Oklahoma cutter who operates three 2188's equipped with 30-ft. grain headers and 8-row (40-in.) corn headers.

"However, there are some problems. Engine governor settings are bad so they're short on power. Rotor belts slip in hot weather. Hydrostatic pressure is too low to pull in mud. Bad wiring and electrical connections prevent the grain loss monitor from working accurately. Bad shaft speed sensors keep the alarm buzzer going when there's no problem."

He runs Bish bin extensions on all his combines. (Harv's Farm Supply, Rt. 1, Giltner, Neb. 68841, ph 402 849-2293 or 2674).

Case-IH: A North Dakota cutter says his 1996 2188 is an "excellent machine. More power would be welcome, as would making it easier to clean out. I don't buy the headers that come with the combines - Macdon is the only one I'll use."

Deere: "They've stood up real well, developing only a few normal problems after three seasons use," says a North Dakotan about his three 1994 9600's. "The only improvement I can think of is that they could boost horsepower some."

He uses a Deere 30-ft. straight head and a 36-ft. Macdon head.

"The Deere is very simple, reliable and easy to maintain. The Macdon cuts closer to the ground and feeds more evenly, but it's more expensive to maintain and is not as reliable because it has a greater number of moving parts."

Case-IH: A 1994 1688 is "hanging together pretty well" for an Iowa custom harvester. "But they need to put the iron back in their machines. I'm waiting until Case comes out with a better-built, higher-capacity machine before buying a new one."

Case-IH: A Montana harvester is pleased with his two 1994 1688's because "they're easy to maintain and service.

"The two driveshafts that drive the header are nearly impossible to connect and disconnect after some use, so that's an area that needs improving. Feeding into the header also needs improving because the crop has a tendency to bunch up in the center. And, surely, they can make a 1010 header quieter-operating."

Deere: "They're dependable, well-built, and have the best resale of any make," says a Mississippi harvester about his three 9600's, one a 1993 and two 1994 models. "But the company needs to install power points in the cab for two-way radios and other electrical equipment."

He runs Crary hopper extensions on his combines. (Crary Company, 237 Northwest 12th Ave., P.O. Box 849, West Fargo, N. Dak. 58078, ph 800 247-7335).

Deere: A Minnesota cutter likes his 1996 and 1997 9600's.

"However, they need to improve the tailings deposit on the threshing cylinder so that it doesn't prematurely erode out the center of the rasp bar. Also, they need to improve the warp or shrink on the separator frame on both side sheets so shoe movement doesn't wear holes in them. They need to create a tailings flow area that's visible. And they need to make tank fill augers and hinges more durable.

"Platform augers on the headers are not very true, even in static temperatures. Reel bats are very susceptible to damage and are expensive to replace."

He uses Calcu-Dry grain moisture monitors on his combines (DMC, 1600 12th St. NE, Mason City, Iowa 50401, ph 515 423-6182). He also uses Maurer tank extensions and Vittetoe chaff spreaders.

Case-IH: "I'd like to see a bigger grain tank and an all grain concave so we wouldn't have to change them from small grains to corn and beans," says a Kansas custom harvester about his 1995 2188. "Overall, I'm satisfied, but we did have some trouble breaking rotor belts and with our unloading auger. Problem is, there's no gradual warm-up when you turn on the auger. It delivers high horsepower torque immediately and if there's any grain left in it - as there always is - you'll trash the whole auger system in about 3 seconds. We did and it cost us $2,500 to fix.

"I'm also satisfied with my straight header, but would like to see them build a 12-row (30-in.) corn head."

Case-IH: "Generally satisfied" is how a North Dakota cutter feels about his 1997 2188. "But the grease zerks on the rear axle are hard to get at, chaff has a tendency to build up around straw spreader drives, and they need to improve the aspirator for the engine. Also, the left front beater bearing is extremely difficult to change and the tightening rod on the clean grain elevator chain wears out the cotter pin and falls off."

Deere: "We find the combine throws grain over the strawwalkers," says an otherwise satisfied North Dakota harvester about his 1993 9600. "The only real problem we had was when an O-ring failed on the hydraulic pump, and that was fixed promptly by the company. We haven't had any trouble since.

"I like straight heads and pickup heads because maintenance is low."

AGCO: "It loses very little grain in all crops and produces clean samples," says a Texas harvester about his 1997 Gleaner R-62. "It could use a little more horsepower and improved crop feeding in the middle of the header."

New Holland: "We've used TR-96's since 1992 and maintenance and repair has been nil. All we do is take extra belts with us from home," says an Illinois harvester who has a 1994 TR-96, a 1995 TR-97, and a 1996 TR-98. "The TR-98 has incorporated all the improvements we wanted to see, including a notch all the way

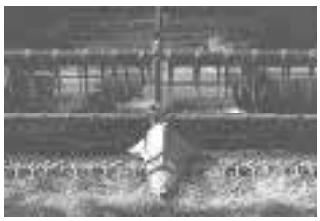
(Continued on next page)

Cutterbar-Mounted "Flow Divider" Keeps Grain Flowing Evenly

New cutterbar-mounted "Flow Divider" bolts onto the center of a combine cutterbar. "It keeps the crop flowing evenly to both sides so it can't bunch up at the center of the header," says LeRoy Richard, Richard Equipment Sales, West Fargo, N. Dak.

The "Flow Divider" is a 2 1/2-ft. long, 6-in. wide piece of molded plastic designed for use with any auger header. It bolts onto the cutterbar using existing guard bolts.

"It works on the principle that the more evenly you feed the combine, the more efficient it will be in threshing the crop," says Richard. "The problem on a conventional auger header is that grain coming into the center of the header gets blocked by the grain that's coming in from either side, creating big bunches. The bunches don't thresh well which can result in increased grain loss and uneven windrows. The heavier the crop, the worse the problem is. The flow divider diverts the crop away from the center of the header so that it can join the supply coming from either side and provide a steady flow to the feederhouse.



"Besides small grains it also works great in milo and rice. We haven't used it in soybeans yet but we plan to this year."

Sells for $349 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard Equipment Sales, Ltd., 734 13th Ave. East, West Fargo, N. Dak. 58078 (ph 701 282-5079; fax 701 277-0643).

Performance Boosting Combine Replacement Parts

Loewen Manufacturing

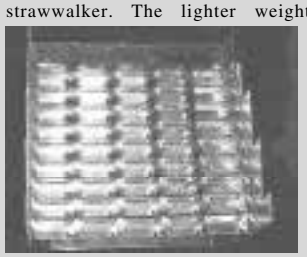
Here are two new performance boosting combine replacement parts unveiled by Loewen Manufacturing, Altona, Manitoba, at the recent Canadian International Farm Machinery Show in Toronto.

The Concave Shock Kit is designed to prevent bent concaves on Case-IH axial flow combines when a foreign object or a large amount of crop material goes through the threshing area. It consists of two

clevises and turnbuckles fitted with heavy-duty compression springs that act as hanger brackets on each end of the input side of the concave. Installation is easy. You simply remove the existing hanger brackets and plate and pin and bolt the new ones in place.

Available for all Case-IH combines. Sells for $224 (U.S.).

Also new for 1997 is Loewen's all-aluminum strawwalker for Deere 9600 combines. Aluminum construction reduces the weight of the strawwalker 50 percent from the manufacturer's original 160-lb. steel strawwalker. The lighter weight



strawwalker helps to reduce wear to strawwalker crankshafts and bearings.

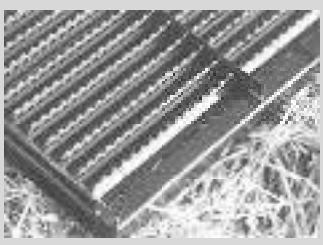
Sells for $945 (U.S.).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Loewen Manufacturing, Box 820, Altona, Manitoba, Canada ROG OBO (ph 800 667-5082 or 204 324-8621; fax 1288).

Harvest Services

Two new combine replacement parts from Harvest Services debuted at North American farm shows this past winter.

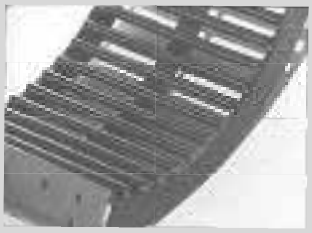
Harvest Services says its new "Plastic Louvered Bottom Sieve" reduces the amount of clean grain in the return, reduces the amount of cracked grain and produces a cleaner sample. It's the only replacement bottom sieve built out of poly on the market. It's 40 percent lighter than conventional steel bottom sieves. It has a



plastic load bearing surface that's four times larger than conventional sieves, and flexible louvers for increased durability. Smooth louver surfaces reduce build up from sappy weeds and snow "icing." A cupped tail scoop at the bottom of the louver forces air more vertically than conventional sieves to keep unthreshed heads out of the tank.

Available for all makes and model combines. Priced competitively with conventional replacement sieves.

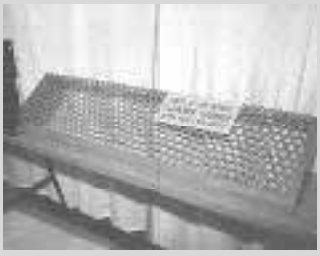
Also new for 1997 is Harvest Services Specialty Round Rod Concave for Case-IH 1460 through 2188 combines. The concave, which features 3/4-in. dia. steel rods spaced 3/4 in. apart, was designed specifically for wet corn and adverse threshing conditions in other crops. It treats corn



more gently than conventional grate-type concaves by not mashing the kernel and breaking the cob.

Starts at $300 (U.S.) for 1460's.

Contact: Harvest Services 1995 Ltd., Box 519, Craik, Sask., Canada SOG OVO (ph 306 734-2601, fax 2266; U.S. 800 667-2601).



Kuchar Combine

"Our new air intake screen for Deere 9000 series combines allows 40 to 50 percent more air to reach the interior fans and results in much cleaner grain, says George Kuchar, Kuchar Combine Performance, Carlinville, Ill.

The screen replaces the combine's original solid steel plate and bolts on using existing bolt holes. The job takes about 1 1/2 hours.

"The problem with the original solid steel plate is that it prevents an adequate flow of air to the interior," says Kuchar. "Air gets sucked in from the side so the interior fans are starved for air. Our screen ensures that all fans receive enough air to efficiently clean the grain."

Two models are available - one for Deere 9400 and 9500 models that sells for $525 and one for 9600 combines that sells for $575.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kuchar Combine Performance, Box 595, Carlinville, Ill. 62626 (ph 217 854-9838; fax 6076).