

Low-Cost Weigh Wagon Built From Fuel Tank, Grinder-Mixer Scale

If you want to check yields of corn hybrids and soybean varieties but you can't justify the cost of a commercial weigh wagon or combine yield monitor, you might be interested in how Charles and Norbert Weilt of Templeton, Iowa, turned a 1,000-gal. fuel tank into a low-cost weigh wagon.

They fitted the tank with an electronic scale off a grinder-mixer. They paid \$1,200 for the scale, which came with an axle equipped with sensors wired to the scale.

They paid \$20 for the fuel tank and cut out both ends of it. Then they welded a sloping floor into the bottom and mounted it upright on a home-built frame affixed to the axle. A slide gate on back is used to empty the tank.

They use a hand-held calculator and math-

ematical equations to figure yields. They start with the corn or bean weight provided by the scale. Then, they enter into the calculator the length of the row and the crop's grain moisture content. To determine row length, they mounted a measuring wheel on the weigh wagon that trips a counter as it turns.

"It's really interesting to see the differences between different hybrids and varieties. We've found that it's not necessarily the highest priced seed that always yields the best. Looks can be very deceiving. Of course, one year of data isn't nearly as meaningful as two or three years," says Charles.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Charles Weilt, 28682 Hwy. 71, Templeton, Iowa 51463 (ph 712 669-3670).



The 1,000-gal. fuel tank is fitted with an electronic scale off a grinder-mixer.

"Winter Fence Posts" Require No Digging

By Georgina Campbell

When cows destroyed a fence in the dead of winter, Stan and Francis Harder of St. Brides, Alberta, had to fix it right away to keep their bulls and heifers from mixing. They couldn't put in new posts because the ground was frozen. They solved the problem by designing "winter fence posts" that sit on top of the ground and require no digging.

The Harders used three 5 1/2-ft. long 2 by 4's. Two of them fasten together in a 90 degree angle. The third is nailed at a 45 degree angle to the other two and extends 2 in. beyond the crossbar at the bottom to dig into the ground. The fence wire is then stapled to the upright post.

"It's as solid as any post you can put in. As long as there's a bit of snow or rough ground for the angled brace board to catch

on, these winter posts will work," says Stan. "You can use a whole series of these posts as long as you have a solid anchor at both ends of the fence and use a turnbuckle on each wire to keep the fence tight. One limitation is that these posts can't be used to go around a corner. They can only be used to make a straight line fence.

"As long as cattle are kept only on one side of the fence they can't push the posts over. If you want to keep cattle on both sides, you can drive a length of rebar over the crossbar so that the post can't be tipped up.

"It might pay to build the posts before an emergency occurs so that you're ready if you ever need to make a quick repair."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Stan and Francis Harder, St. Brides, Alberta, Canada T0A 2Y0 (ph 403 645-1881).



Fence posts are made from three 5 1/2-ft. long 2 by 4's nailed together to form a triangular-shaped base.



Big tires provide flotation and roadability, while the sprayer's low profile allows you to see the equipment you're pulling.

High Flotation "In-Between" Sprayer

"Our new 'in-between' spray trailers are equipped with big 18.4 by 38 bar-type tires that provide good flotation and road ability. The low profile allows you to see the equipment you're pulling and provides easy access to the trailer," says Verlyn Fast, Mt. Lake, Minn., who recently introduced 1,000-gal. and 1,600-gal. models.

The trailers have a 120-in. wheelbase and are equipped with a heavy 5 by 7-in. in-line

pull tongue. Four hydraulic lines are plumbed to the back of the trailer. Other standard items include a poly tank, 2-in. bottom fill, two ball valve shut-offs with strainers, 4-in. liquid filled pressure gauge, 1 1/4-in. sparger agitation, and a deep sump for complete drainage. Options include extra ball valves, auto-rate controllers, and hydraulic pumps.

The 1,000-gal. model lists for \$6,900; the 1,600-gal. model for \$8,200.

"First True Drill Monitor"

"Our new drill monitor is designed specifically for grain drills. We think it's the first true drill monitor on the market," says Bob Peterson, Loup Electronics, Lincoln, Neb.

Unlike other drill monitors which are often adapted from planter monitors, the Cloup unit is equipped with counting sensors designed specifically for drill shafts. It offers true population reading for up to 24 sensors. The sensors can be radar or ground driven. The unit can provide a direct readout of the rpm's on up to three shafts and can also provide a direct readout of seeds per foot, seed spacing in inches, average population or spacing, maximum or minimum population, and ground speed. A bar graph readout shows the level of seed in up to three hoppers. A "scan" feature shows individual row population and spacing. An alarm goes off if the seed population gets too low.



New unit is equipped with counting sensors designed specifically for drill shafts.

A monitor equipped with 7 sensors sells for about \$1,500.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Loup Electronics, Box 67252, Lincoln, Neb. 68506 (ph 402 420-7051).

Also available are 300-gal. front mount tanks and new 3-wheel trailers equipped with 500, 1,000, or 1,600-gal. tanks. The tanks are oval-shaped for good visibility. The 1,600-gal. model has 18.4 by 38 tires with 10-bolt hubs and the 500 and 1,000-gal. models have 16.9 by 24 tires on rear. The trailers are designed to be pulled behind planters, cultivators, and 3-pt. sprayers.

The 1,000-gal. model lists for \$6,000 and

the 1,600-gal. model for \$8,700.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Verlyn Fast, Fast Distributing, Inc., RR 2, Box 325, Mt. Lake, Minn. 56159 (ph 507 427-3861; fax 3030).