

Swather Attachment Cuts Lodged Crops

You can cut even the most badly lodged crops with this new swather attachment invented by Cornelius Hiebert.

"We installed it on our 1992 International swather equipped with a 30-ft. header last year. We used it on badly lodged canola and it eliminated at least 90 percent of the problem of lodged grain dragging on the end of the swather," says the Osler, Sask., retired farmer.

The patent-pending "Clean Cut" system consists of two 18-in. dia. rotary blades fitted with sickle sections. They mount in a housing that's positioned vertically on the side of the header. The blades mount one above the other and rotate 1/4 in. apart clockwise, just the opposite of the reel. The lower blade, which rotates 1/3 faster than the top blade, lifts the lodged crop and the top one cuts it.

The blades are hydraulically driven with an orbit motor mounted on the side of the housing. It has a removable shoe that rolls rocks away from the blades.

If you swath back and forth, you'll need two attachments, one for each side. Extra



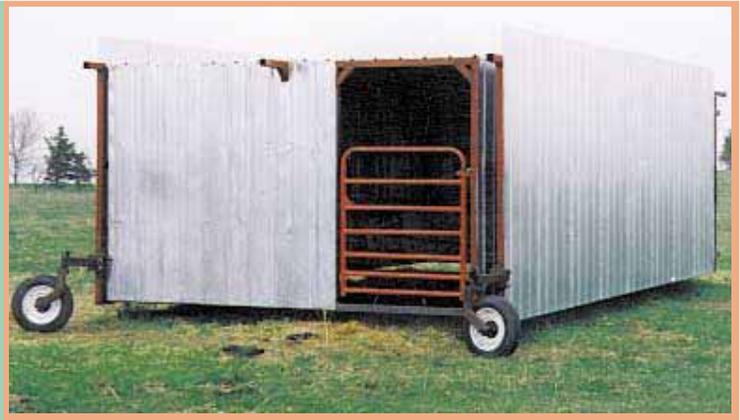
"Clean Cut" attachment consists of two 18-in. rotary blades fitted with sickle sections.

bracing is needed for two attachments to prevent potential side-whip to the cutting reel.

Your local welding shop can install the system in an hour or two.

Sells for \$1,200 (Canadian) per side.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cornelius Hiebert, Box 83, Osler, Sask., Canada S0K 3A0 (ph 306 239-4710; cell 227-7316).



Calf shelter is supported by four large rubber wheels, allowing it to be easily transported down the highway by a pickup or tractor.

Calf Shelter On Wheels Folds Out To 60 Ft.

Not satisfied with the portable calf shelters on the market, Richard Waltman, Wetonka, S. Dak., decided to build his own "fold-out" calf shelter on wheels. It works so well he's already built a couple for his neighbors.

"It's designed to protect cattle from wind from different directions and is big enough to protect a lot of cattle, yet it can be easily transported down the highway by a pickup or tractor," says Waltman.

The calf shelter consists of a 12-ft. wide, 24-ft. long, 7-ft. high enclosed barn and two 24-ft. long, 8-ft. high wings that are hinged where they attach to the barn. The wings fold out to form a windbreak. Both the barn and wings are made from corrugated steel screwed onto a frame made from sq. steel tubing. Calves enter the barn through 38-in. high, 4-ft. wide holes cut into both side walls. The end of the barn opposite the windbreak is partially open and has a steel gate across it.

The entire unit is supported by four large rubber wheels - two under the barn and one at the end of each wing. The position of each wheel can be changed by adjusting the position of a pin. Rolling the wings out 90 degrees from the barn forms a windbreak that's 60 ft. long.

In the field, the shelter rests on the ground. To transport it, Waltman uses a front-end loader to raise the end of each wing so he can adjust the wheels for transport, then rolls both wings back against the barn and locks them in place. Then he uses the loader to raise the barn and goes inside to lower the wheels.

He then folds a 4-ft. long tongue down from one end of the barn for towing.

"It's highly wind resistant and is good insurance against snowstorms during the calving season. It'll protect about 75 cow/calf pairs," says Waltman. "I got the idea for it one night three years ago in the middle of a spring snowstorm. So far I've built five shelters and sold two of them at about \$3,200 apiece to neighbors.

"The barn keeps the calves dry and the windbreak gives the cows a place to get out of the wind. They can't get in the barn because the side openings are just high enough for a calf to enter. I put the gate in the one end so I can inspect the calves and get inside to unpin the wheels for transport. However, it can also be used to let a cow inside, if necessary. My calf shelter is bigger and much easier to transport than commercial skid-mounted calf shelters, and I can drive it on the highway. In transport position it's narrow enough to go through a 14-ft. wide gate.

"Stabilizer braces made from 2-in. sq. tubing connect the windbreaks to the barn after it's set down. I lay the braces on top of the wings during transport. I used steel pipe to make double throw hinges for the wings. The double throw hinges allow both wings to flex up or down as well as in or out on uneven terrain. The tongue is welded to the bottom part of the barn, and there's a screw jack mounted on the gate end of the building."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard Waltman, 36924 115th St., Wetonka, S. Dak. 57481 (ph 605 439-3485).



Shelter consists of a 24-ft. long enclosed barn and two 24-ft. long, 8-ft. high wings that fold out to form a windbreak. Note gate at end of barn.

Hand-Held Stripper Harvests Prairie Grasses

If you're looking for a new sideline business venture - or if you just want to seed a portion of your farm to Prairie grasses and flowers - you might be interested in this hand-held seed harvester.

Designed and manufactured by Prairie Habitats Inc., it mounts on a hand-held Stihl string trimmer powered by a 28 c.c. 2-cycle gas engine. The head has been removed and replaced by an 18-in. long nylon stripper brush that acts like thousands of "fingers" to strip small fluffy seeds from the wildgrass. It works like a mini stripper header for combines. The seed is collected in a 2-ft. by 18-in. hopper, which consists of a steel rod frame covered in nylon.

To use, you simply walk along slowly. It collects up to 85 percent of seeds in one pass.

"You're obviously not going to harvest acres and acres a day with our hand-held machine, but it's a much more efficient way of collecting seed than trying to do it by hand," says John Morgan of Prairie Habitats. "And you can use it in sensitive areas where a combine can't go."

Comes with three interchangeable heads to permit harvesting a wide variety of crops and to allow easy customization for special seeds.

Sells for \$749 (U.S.) delivered.

A new front-end loader unit for use on a 50 hp tractor has an 8-ft. stripping brush. It



Hand-held seed harvester mounts on a Stihl string trimmer powered by a 2-cycle gas engine. Head was removed and replaced by an 18-in. long nylon stripper brush that strips seeds off.

sells for \$6,999 plus S&H.

A pull-type unit equipped with 4-ft. wide brush and suitable for use behind a small tractor or ATV is also available for \$5,999 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Prairie Habitats Inc., Box 1, Argyle, Manitoba, Canada R0C 0B0 (ph 204 467-9371; fax 5004; E-mail jpmorgan@mb.sympatico.ca; website www.prairiehabitats.com).



Company also offers a pull-type unit equipped with a 4-ft. wide brush. It can be used behind a small tractor or ATV.

Don't Miss The Next Issue Of FARM SHOW

Every day our editors are uncovering exciting new products and farmer-built inventions that may save you time or money. Don't miss out! You can tell when your FARM SHOW subscription expires by checking your address label on the front cover. The abbreviated month, followed by the year (example: Feb. 99, gives you the date of your last issue. You can use the order envelope enclosed with this issue, or the order coupon on page 44, to send in your renewal.