



These two Deere 750 drills were pulled out of the ground at the same time. Drill on the left was equipped with the Seed Miser attachment; the drill on the right did not have it. Flags mark seed left on the ground by each drill. There are 1,490 flags on the right but only 452 flags on the left.

Attachment Reduces Seed Loss On Deere Drills

Every time you raise or lower your grain drill, valuable soybean seed continues to flow from the seed cup and lay on top of the ground where they probably won't grow. A new patented attachment is designed to help solve the problem.

The "Seed Miser" operates off the drill's master hydraulic cylinder and works automatically every time you raise or lower the drill. It automatically engages and disengages the drive clutch, shutting off the flow of seed from the seed cup as the drill's lift hydraulics are activated. When you lower the drill to the ground, seeds are released only after the row units have made ground contact.

The unit was designed for Deere 750 and 1560 drills but will fit any cam-operated seed clutch.

"It shuts off the seed clutch much quicker than conventional ground-driven seed clutches. It can result in savings of \$1.75 per acre in seed costs," says inventor Doug Schmelzle, Seneca, Kan. "The problem is that ground-driven seed clutches don't react fast enough to stop the flow of seeds running from the meter cup, so some seed continues to flow from the seed cup and lays on top of the ground for another 10 to 15 feet as you raise the row units. The same problem occurs when you lower the drill to the ground. The seed gate opens 4 to 6 ft. before the disc openers are in position to place seeds

in the soil, so again seed lays on top of the ground.

"I came up with the idea several years ago after my brother and I bought a Deere 750 no-till drill. As the price of seed has increased and the price we get for our crops has decreased, we decided that we had to stop some of this seed loss. We've also installed units on some of our neighbor's drills. We have quite a few terraces and waterways on our farm, with many short rows and point rows. On average we find that we're able to save about one bag of Roundup Ready soybeans every fourteen to fifteen acres. We farm almost 1,000 acres so we save well more than \$1,000 in seed costs per year. Of course, the savings will depend on how many times you raise and lower your drill when planting."

The unit makes use of a small hydraulic cylinder that replaces some mechanical linkage and attaches to the drill's existing seed clutch. The add-on cylinder acts as a slave cylinder.

The "Seed Miser" takes less than an hour to install. No special tools are required.

Sells for \$295 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Doug Schmelzle, Timber Creek Mfg., Inc., Rt. 3, Box 45A, Seneca, Kan. 66538 (ph 888 704-5400 or 785 336-6622; fax 3328; Website: www.seedmizer.com).



Reimann took out every other wheel on his Deere rotary hoe to keep it from plugging in heavy trash.

Modified Rotary Hoe Works Better In Trash

"I modified my 400 series Deere rotary hoe to help dry the surface of my no-till fields in wet conditions," says Bob Reimann, Olivet, S.Dak.

"The hoe would plug up in cornstalk residue. I tried an after market kit that spread the wheels further apart, but it didn't help the plugging problem.

"So I removed the pivot links and then took off half the wheels, bolting the remaining wheels directly to the shanks using a 5/8-in. dia. 5-in. long grade 5 bolt. I placed a 2 1/2-in. spacer (cut from 3/4-in. dia. black pipe) to keep the wheels spaced directly between the shanks. I also used a 3/8-in. spacer (from 3/4-in. pipe) in the slot for the pivot link to

keep from collapsing the pivot point.

"I plant on 38-in. rows at a population of 21,000 and generally produce 100 bu. corn or more, so there's a lot of residue.

"I drive through the field in road gear so there's a rooster tail of stalks and mud behind the hoe.

"If you have too much residue even for the modified hoe, you could reverse the hoe wheels to further prevent plugging. But then it would be less aggressive at mixing residue.

"I think this idea would work on most rotary hoes."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Reimann, 42159 U.S. Hwy 18, Olivet, S.Dak. 57052 (ph 605 583-2286).

Cattle Tank Made From Two Hot Water Heaters

When the heating element on a pair of 40-gal. electric hot water heater tanks went bad, Leonard Seltzer, Manhattan, Ill., made a low-cost cattle water tank by welding the two tanks together.

He cut the bottom out of each tank and welded them together end to end. He then cut a rectangular hole in the top and welded on a 6-in. lip. He plugged up all the pipe fittings and used wood 2 by 4 skids to keep the tank off the ground. He also cut a 1-in. dia. hole in the bottom at one end and welded in a drain pipe.

"I use it every summer with my beef cattle. I welded heavy metal bracing inside the tank to reinforce it," says Seltzer.



Seltzer made the cattle tank by welding two 40-gal. electric hot water heater tanks together end to end.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Leonard Seltzer, 16040 W. Elwood Manhattan Rd., Manhattan, Ill. 60442 (ph 815 478-3578).

Trailer Hauls Everything From Concrete To Leaves

By Jim Ruen

From tons of fresh concrete to dried out shredded leaves, George Wojnar's dump trailer does it all.

He built the trailer (without a plan) building around a used trailer box he had bought. "I gave each cut a lot of thought before I made it," recalls Wojnar.

The first cuts were to remove the original subframe from the dump box. A heavier subframe was made from 6-in. beam. He mounted two 6,000 lb. axles under the frame.

The box itself measures 6x8 ft. inside. It is raised up by its original 3,000-lb. lift hoist which runs off a 12-volt battery.

Living on a heavily wooded lot, it made sense that one of the first adaptations Wojnar would make was for leaf hauling. The addition of plywood sides, a top-mounted screening and a swing gate on the end provides capacity for up to 7 cubic yards of leaves. An 11 hp Briggs and Stratton engine powers a commercial leaf



Box on tandem axle trailer measures 6 by 8 ft. inside. It's raised by a 3,000-lb. lift hoist which runs off a 12-volt battery.

blower designed to be hung on the back of a pickup truck. It pulls leaves and other light material through a 12-ft., 8-in. hose and into the box. Wojnar hangs the entire unit on the front of the box ensuring that it would lift with it at dumping and not require any additional couplers to either the hose or the box.

Contact FARM SHOW Followup, George A. Wojnar, 5 Malsbury Lane, Cream Ridge, N.J. 08514 (ph 609 758-7295).



Trailer is equipped with a commercial leaf blower which pulls leaves through a 12-ft. long hose and into the box.



Plywood sides and top-mounted screening can be removed, leaving an open box.