



Using parts off an old tandem disk, Jeff Sebasty lengthened his 14-ft. chisel plow, increasing the spacing between the three chisel gangs to give crop residue more space to flow through.

“Plug-Proof” Chisel Plow

Jeff Sebasty, who farms near Akron, Indiana, with his brothers Eric and Kevin, was tired of continually plugging up their chisel plow.

He solved the problem by rebuilding the 14-ft. plow. Using parts of an old tandem disk the brothers bought at a farm auction, they lengthened the chisel plow, increasing the spacing between the three chisel gangs to give crop residue more space to flow through the tool.

They stripped the disk blades and mounts off the two lengths of 3 by 8-in. toolbar as well as the lift wheels on front of the chisel plow, and then mounted the chisel plow frame on back of the cultivator. Then they removed the middle gang of chisels from the three-gang machine and hung it on the back bar of the disk. On the front bar of the old disk, they mounted nine spring-loaded coulters they

salvaged from some old John Deere and Oliver moldboard plows.

On the rear of the chisel plow, they added another section of toolbar. On this, they mounted a gang of six 12-in. cultivator sweeps to make a ridge divider. “With the coulters up front, the increased spacing between the chisel gangs, and the sweeps in back to level the field, it’s almost a one-pass tillage tool,” Sebasty says.

He says the total cost of reworking the chisel plow was under \$500. “That’s if you don’t count the time we had in it,” he says. “We had to rework it several times before we got it right.”

He says the final tool is 19 ft. from front to back, not including the 8-ft. tongue on it. “With the wheels closer to the front than the back, it’s fairly well-balanced and is easy to maneuver in the field,” he says. “The best part is that with the increased length, trash flows right through and it hardly ever plugs.”

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Motorized “Nozzle Cart” Makes Bin Cleanup Easy

Using a grain vac hose to clean grain out of a bin or quonset is a job that’s made a lot easier with this new motorized nozzle cart that was shown for the first time at the recent Western Canada Farm Progress Show in Regina, Sask.

The 4-WD unit supports a removable snout on front that hooks up to the hose on your grain vac. The operator uses hand controls to drive it around while standing on the unit, or he can remove the hand controls and walk beside the machine. The unit is made from lightweight aluminum and weighs 62 lbs. It measures 22 in. wide by 27 in. long and is 47 in. high. The handle folds down to a height of only 12 in., making the unit small enough that you can easily carry it into a bin.

The cart is driven by two 12-volt electric motors that connect directly to the axles using reduction gears, chains and sprockets. Each motor drives a pair of axles on each side of the cart, and these four separate axles support the frame through a total of eight sealed bearings. The forward and reverse operation of each motor is controlled by a pair of rocker switches located at the top of the handle bar. The switches control four solenoids which direct power to the two motors, providing skid steer-style steering. The unit can be powered by a 12-volt battery, or by a 12-volt extension cord strapped to the vacuum hose and drawing power from a tractor.

Adjustments on front and back of the cart allow the operator to change nozzle distance and angle from the floor.

Sells for \$1,995 (Canadian) to fit a 7-in. tube. Six and 5-in. hose/tube adapters are available and sell for \$75 apiece. A 12-volt, 40-ft. long extension cord sells for \$390.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, UltraCart Ltd., Rt. 1, Box 1031, Sylvan Lake,



New 4-WD motorized nozzle cart supports a removable snout on front that hooks up to the hose on your grain vac. Operator uses hand controls to drive it around while standing on the unit. Eliminates the need to lift heavy grain vac hoses to clean grain out of a bin or quonset.

Alberta, Canada T4S 1X6 (ph 403 887-3487; fax 403 887-0358).

Miniature Trees Grow Full-Sized Fruit

You can grow fresh fruit on your patio or balcony thanks to new varieties of mini fruit trees that produce full-sized fruit.

Columnar apples are one of the most popular mini tree fruits. They grow to a maximum height of 6 to 8 ft., have only upright branches, and get no wider than 2 to 3 ft. The leaves and fruit are anchored right to the trunk and the sight of one is still a real novelty to most people. They require no labor-intensive pruning or spraying, like their ordinary orchard cousins.

Gilbert, of One Green World Nursery, Molalla, Oregon, says the columnar apple was first discovered as a mutant tree in Canada in the 1930’s, but it has only been during the past 10 to 15 years that these tasty and productive varieties have been commercially promoted. Gilbert encourages people to use them in landscaping around the house.

“Because they are so new, there is very little information available to home gardeners, telling them about these valuable plants. All three available varieties have MacIntosh in their parentage. Who would have thought you could grow such great eating apples right on your back step?” says Gilbert.

“Care must be taken when growing potted columnar apples in regions with very cold winters,” Gilbert points out. “The plants need two to three months of cool temperatures (below 45°F) to satisfy their dormancy requirements, but the roots can be damaged if the pot freezes solid. It is recommended that the pot be wrapped with old blankets or other insulating material during the winter. The plant can then be kept in a garage or other cool but protected area.”



Columnar apples can be grown in pots. They reach a maximum height of 6 to 8 ft. and get no wider than 2 to 3 ft., with the leaves and fruit anchored right to the trunk.

Popularity of the columnar apple has led to the development of a wide variety of other mini-fruit plants such as pee-wee lemons and oranges, bonsai Cabernet or Concord grapevine, potted cranberry, dwarf banana, Garden Gold peaches and Dwarf top-hat blueberries.

Columnar apple trees cost about \$25 apiece. “We supply several mail order nurseries including Miller, Jung, Mellinger’s, and



Raintree, besides our own mail order business,” notes Gilbert.

For availability in Canada, check local garden centers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jim Gilbert, One Green World, 28696 S. Cramer Rd., Molalla, Oregon 97038 (ph toll-free 877 353-4028; fax 503 651-3882; email: info@onegreenworld.com; website: www.onegreenworld.com).