

Latest New Products, Ideas From



Scratch-resistant clear Lexan shield blocks kernels from being thrown out of header.

Crop Catcher Cuts Header Losses

"Our new Crop Catcher header attachment is designed to virtually eliminate seed loss due to shattering by the auger's retractable fingers. It almost eliminates feederhouse buildup," says Brad Michel, Michel's Industries, Ltd., St. Gregor, Sask.

The Crop Catcher is an 8-ft. wide shield made from scratch-resistant clear Lexan that's designed to mount above the entrance to the feederhouse. The shield creates a barrier to block kernels from being thrown out of the header, and keeps them feeding into the combine with the rest of the crop. The unit can be used on a wide range of

crops such as canola, soybeans, barley and wheat. Installation requires drilling 8 holes for self-threading bolts.

"It eliminates the grain loss problem without obstructing the operator's view of the header," says Michel. "It's particularly useful in canola because canola is a light seed that shells easily. You can save up to 1/4 bushel or more per acre on canola."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Michel's Industries, Ltd., P.O. Box 119, St. Gregor, Sask., Canada S0K 3X0 (ph 306 366-2184; bradm@michels.ca; www.michels.ca).

Planter Mounts On Steerable Tracks

New at the recent Farm Fest show near Redwood Falls, Minn., this 24-row Gaspardo precision tracked planter was equipped with optional steerable rubber tracks that are linked to GPS to minimize side drift on hillsides. Each track is equipped with a large hydraulic cylinder that acts on a big rotating turntable mounted above the track. The planter is also available with wheels.

The Gaspardo planter is available up to 48 rows wide. It can be equipped with an electronic control system and a vacuum metering system that maintains accurate seed-to-seed distances. The seed singulation system is shaft-driven and capable of variable rate seeding.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,



Gaspardo planter's steerable rubber tracks are linked to GPS to minimize side drift on hillsides.

Maschio Gaspardo North America, Inc., 120 N. Scott Park Rd., Eldridge, Iowa 52748 (ph 563 285-9937; www.maschionet.com).

"Bazooka" Liquid Fertilizer Tanks



Bazooka liquid fertilizer tanks are tucked away nicely on tractor, without interfering with other components, says inventor Brian Janzen.

"My new Bazooka liquid fertilizer dual tanks look sleek and are tucked in nicely with your tractor, without interfering with anything. They leave plenty of room around the engine for service and maintenance without compromising ground clearance," says Brian Janzen, Janzen Fabricating & Repair, LLC, Mountain Lake, Minn.

The stainless steel tanks are designed for all Deere first generation RT tractors. "They're cone-shaped on front and have a round design that eliminates most, if not all, potential areas for stress cracks to develop," says Janzen.

A full length stainless steel agitation tube is located inside each tank and ties into a pressure pump that mounts on the tractor. There's an 8-in. inspection lid on top and sight gauges on back of each tank.

"These tanks are geared more for applying starter fertilizer while planting. They're a little too small to use for spraying, but you



could use them for that if you wanted," says Janzen. "The problem with larger tanks is that it's difficult to make oil changes or do other routine service work. With my Bazooka tanks, the tractor's ladder and radar remain in the factory location on factory mounts."

Janzen says he plans to also offer the tanks for Deere 8000 series and the new Deere RT models, and eventually Cat tractors.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Janzen Fabricating & Repair, LLC, 509 6th Ave., 303 Golf Course Rd., Mountain Lake, Minn. 56159 (ph 507 220-3595; bj_janzen@hotmail.com).



Ag Tucker Terra rides on 4 steerable tracks and comes with a 3-ton granular fertilizer tank and spinner spreaders, or a 500-gal. spray tank with booms up to 90 ft. long.

Tracked Snow Groomer Shines On Farm Fields

Track, Inc., Bloomington, Minn., is North America's largest dealer of tracked snow grooming vehicles used by snowmobile trail grooming associations. The company recently began offering a new agricultural tracked vehicle that can be fitted with sprayers or fertilizer applicators made by DK Machine.

The Model 1600 Ag Tucker Terra is a tracked machine made by Tucker Snowcat Co. based in Medford, Ore. It rides on 4 steerable tracks and uses many of the same components the company uses in their Tucker Terra snow grooming equipment. It comes with a 3-ton capacity granular fertilizer tank and spinner spreaders. A 500-gal. spray tank with spray booms up to 90 ft. long is also available.

"The Tucker Terra has a very light

footprint and really shines in soft ground conditions," says Rick Keith, Track, Inc. "It was introduced to the West Coast last year and has been widely used in the grass and sod farming industry.

"The tracks measure 26 in. wide and exert only 1 1/2 lbs. per sq. in., which results in less compaction than you typically get with tracked farm tractors. The machine itself weighs only about 12,000 lbs."

The 1600 Ag Tucker Terra is available with rubber, steel, or rubber-coated Grouser tracks. It sells for about \$250,000.

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GPS-guided spraying system turns spray nozzles on or off individually to virtually eliminate over and under spraying.

GPS Sprayer Turns Individual Nozzles On Or Off

"It's the first GPS-guided spraying system that turns spray nozzles on or off individually to nearly eliminate over and under spraying. It also offers variable rate application through the use of dual nozzles," says Ken Rost, Frost Services, Shafer, Minn., about the company's new Bravo 400S aftermarket sprayer kit.

The kit components consist of a GPS receiver, a computer, a monitor, actuators at every nozzle position that open and close the nozzles, and a Can-bus language system and wiring that connects all the components to the computer.

"We've tested the system for 3 years and demonstrated it to all the major sprayer manufacturers. Now we're ready to market it," says Rost. "The system pays for itself in reduced chemical usage. In the past, the best you could do was to use valves to control sections of nozzles, which meant some

nozzles would overlap. By controlling the spray at each individual nozzle, you have more immediate on-off control and can eliminate the overlap problem. The GPS guidance system and the Can-bus language do all the work. A monitor shows you what you've missed so you can go back over it again. Due to the GPS, the nozzles will only spray where you haven't sprayed before."

Rost says they've installed the system on everything from turf sprayers for golf courses that sell for about \$15,000, to large 120-ft. booms that sell for about \$44,000. "Generally size of the sprayer is the cost driver. The more actuators needed on the boom, the higher the cost," he says.

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