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Heavy-Duty Discs Come To North America

Since Ukraine’s farmland resembles Canadian prairie, it’s natural that farm equipment, like Ducat’s high-speed discs, is finding its way from Europe to North America.

Russ Douglas has been importing dozens of these heavy-duty machines over the last 4 years.

“The high-quality pre-lubricated bearings are the main feature making these discs popular,” Douglas says. “The company manufacturing the bearings has been doing so for over a hundred years. They were originally made for Europe’s high-speed trains and come with a one-million-kilometer warranty.”

Ducat uses 22-in. notched blades for all their machine sizes which range in width from 8 ft. to 54 ft. Row spacing spans 7 in. between discs with the back row cutting down the middle of the front furrow. Douglas orders all his units with added heavy-duty rolling baskets.

“These rugged machines really mix the soil and vegetation to a depth of 5 1/2 in. at

speeds between 6 to 10 mph,” Douglas says. “They’re self-cleaning, which ensures they work well in wet soils.”

All machines are built maintenance-free without lubrication points. Road transport widths range up to 13 ft.

Douglas currently has only two discs on location, a 26 ft. and a 40 ft., which he’ll be retaining until year-end for customer viewing. He’s also building an ongoing waiting list but doesn’t expect any new discs to arrive until at least the end of January 2024.

While prices vary depending on size, Douglas says they keep their cost competitive and lower than their competitors. He suggests interested parties contact him directly for pricing and availability.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, RD Sales and Service, P.O. Box 491, Wadena, Sask., Canada S0A 4J0 (ph 306-338-3938; r.d.saleswadena@gmail.com; www.lozovamachinery.com).

Chaff Cart Has No Blower

To improve on air blower-designed chaff collection systems, Feed Works Ltd. has developed the Boomerang, a licensed version of Australia’s Tech Farm’s CT series chaff wagon.

“The Boomerang is a much simpler machine than those with blowers,” says Eldon Obach, Feed Works owner. “We wanted to build something with low energy requirements, and good control of the product.”

The Boomerang cart adds the versatility of collecting straw in addition to chaff, which is an advantage in crops like peas and lentils.

“It’s more suitable as a livestock feeding machine,” Obach says. “For grazing or field consumption, the chaff, with or without straw, can be spread into longer windrows for better use by the cattle, just by opening the door slightly.”

Adaptable sections of hydraulically operated conveyors carry chaff, and straw if desired, into the trailing wagon. The front conveyor can be cross-mounted to divert straw for baling, while the long conveyor delivers only chaff into the wagon.

The Boomerang 30 holds roughly 2 tons of material. Rather than the floor dropping to the ground for unloading, only the rear gate opens and closes with hydraulics. The taller wagon is steeply angled, so the chaff slides out the back.

A control panel can be programmed for how far the gate cylinders are opened and the time held in position. It also monitors fill-level and door status.

Feed Works builds hitches for combines to match the cart, usually pulling from the front



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axle to eliminate stress. The pivot point on the Boomerang’s hitch is usually set 36 in. behind the combine’s rear axle to ensure clearance in tight turns.

“It also tracks down the road well when moving from field to field,” Obach says. “More people have trouble forgetting it’s there than dealing with it.”

The carts are manufactured near Brandon, Manitoba, and are available throughout North America.

“With the different combine setups and hitches, we’re building them on a machine-by-machine basis,” Obach says. “For this reason, the costs will vary some.”

The Boomerang 30 series retails for around \$75,000 CAD plus S&H. Feed Works is also developing a 40 series that will sell for \$84,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Feed Works Ltd., 129 4 St., Wawanese, Manitoba, Canada R0K 2G0 (ph 204-596-8161; eldndeb@gmail.com; www.boomerangchaff.com).

Offset Hitch Centers Haybine

Jesse Barley of Tyrone, Penn., built a custom hitch to make it easier to navigate roads with farm equipment. “When moving my New Holland 489 haybine down the road to different hay fields, it always stuck so far out to the right side of the truck I was worried about catching guard rails or rocks on the side of the road,” he says. Barley designed a hitch that goes in the receiver to move it about 16 in. to the left. “It really helps to keep the outside wheel on the road more.”

Barley built the hitch from scrap metal that he already owned. Assembly, including drilling holes, took about 3 hrs. The first few times he tested the hitch, the horizontal bar bent, so he took it to a metal fabricator to get it “beefed up.” There have been no problems since.

The hitch receiver is easy to take on and off his truck, as he uses it exclusively for the haybine. It’s lasted well throughout the summer he’s used it, and Barley plans to paint it soon. “I’m happy with how it turned out,” he says. “If you want to make your own, just get a big enough piece of iron that you can extend it far enough horizontally.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jesse Barley, Tyrone, Penn. (jbarnsnow@gmail.com).



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Covering silage can be an ongoing challenge.

Euro Farm Ideas For Covering Silage

When European farm magazine Profi asked its readers for suggestions on covering silage bunkers, they came through big time. Covering silage is one of those tough jobs that has to be done, but nobody wants to do it.

Slatted panels from cattle and hog flooring were used by several readers. One fabricated steel brackets to hang on bunker sidewalls to hold pig slats in place. The slats formed a slip-proof walkway with a railing. The walkway was wide enough to set gravel bags as the silage was being uncovered and the plastic rolled back. A stairway with mesh panels at one end made getting up and down safer, too.

Another reader built a catwalk of welded brackets, using fence panels cut to size for flooring. In his case, he used a ladder for access.

An old concrete cattle slat was used as a heavy-duty hold-down for the end rolls of plastic sheeting. This reader fabricated a frame from tubular steel and bolted it to the slat. Pallet forks can set it in place and move as needed.

A variety of frameworks for holding rolls of plastic were submitted by readers. One loader-mounted holder could hold up to three rolls of the same or different sizes. It was designed for use on a front-end loader. When detached from the loader, a stable base made it ideal for storing partially used rolls.

Plastic dispensers mounted on loaders little and big, as well as left stationary, were popular tools. A front-mounted holder for a farmer who used a thin base sheet and a heavier top sheet held both rolls. He could fit and roll them out at the same time, noting the heavier top sheet held down the lightweight base sheeting.

One solution was a stationary unit with wide feet that could be set in front of the silage pile and sheeting simply pulled off. This freed up a tractor or loader for other tasks, such as delivering tires or other weights.

Equally popular were recovery reels that rolled up plastic sheeting once it had been folded to match the reel’s width. One featured was shop built with a hydraulic drive motor and a rear mount.

A second one was a commercial unit, but the farmer noted extensive modifications. He reduced the turn rate by adding a throttle valve and installed a crossbar to improve control in windy conditions. The front-end loader mount let him raise the reel to disperse water residues from the plastic.

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