

The cab, header and all grain cleaning and handling mechanisms are on the front half of the combine. All motors, pumps and reservoirs are on the rear half.

Articulated Combine

(Continued from cover page)

from the grain cleaning operations, but it also features an exclusive grain cleaning system. After two seasons of operation, he says the combine has worked perfectly.

"One of the problems with big combines is the feederhouse, so I eliminated that. The header feeds directly into the rotor which mounts



Vol. 7, No. 3, 1983

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FARM SHOW is published bimonthly for \$9.95 per year (\$11.95 in Canada and foreign countries) by Farm Show Publishing Inc., P.O. Box 704, 20088 Kenwood Trail, Lakeville, Minn. 55044. Second class postage paid at Lakeville, Minn., and Madelia. Minn. POSTMAS-TER: Send address changes to FARM SHOW, Box 704, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 612 469-5572). Single copy price is \$2.00. Publication No. 470870

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Printed in U.S.A. All rights reserved, including the right of reproduction, in whole or in part, without written permisperpendicular to the header, butted right up against the back of it. From the rotor, grain is fed to sieves, some of which were taken from an International 915 and some built in my shop. They're mounted in a housing I designed and built."

Except for the International sieves, an International cab, a Deere header and a Gleaner discharge auger, Vogel built the combine from the ground up. He didn't skimp on the budget, either, using primarily new parts. Total cost of the project was \$50,000.

"It's better than any combine on the market," claims Vogel. "It harvests as clean or cleaner than any other machine, working at speeds of 4 to 7 mph. The articulated design allows it to stay on the row better in muddy conditions because there's no steer time, and, as a result, there's no grain lost on turns or hillsides. It's equipped with 6-ft. tall, 30-in. wide rice tires and goes farther in mud and snow than other 4-WD combines, even those with tracks."

The combine is equipped with a 160 hp. 6-71 GMC diesel engine and two differentials with 27.1 interplanetary drive, the same differentials used on Deere log skidders. The combine has hydrostatic, variable speed drive. All motors, pumps and reservoirs are mounted on the rear half of the combine. The cab. header, and all grain cleaning and handling mechanisms are on the front half. The 175 bu. grain tank is also mounted on the front half of the machine but in such a way that it's balanced between the front and back. Vogel says the two halves are equally balanced. The machine weighs 22,000 lbs. and operates at speeds of 18 mph in either forward or reverse.

Vogel has used the combine only in corn but says that, with the addition of a lower set of sieves needed for small grains, it would work fine for any crop. He operates with a 4-row corn head but the combine is equipped to handle a 6-row head or bigger. In two seasons, he has harvested 1,900 acres of corn. Last fall, he



Disc gangs are totally adjustable to different angles and depths, depending on soil conditions.

New-Style Tillage Tool Chisels, Discs & Plants

"Every farmer who's tried it says they'd buy one even if it was priced thousands more than competing brands," says Elmo Meiners, president of M & W Gear Co., manufacturer of a new concept minimum tillage tool that chisels, discs and plants—and is priced competitively.

The machine features two rows of disc gangs — one smooth-bladed and the other rippled — which can be adjusted to different cutting angles and depths, depending on ground conditions and the amount of crop residue. A chisel plow, with a new "parabolic" design that Meiners says pulls easier and stays in the ground better, mounts on a 3-pt. hookup behind the discs.

"Because of the chisel's rigid shanks and the sharper angle of the tip which cuts through the soil rather than pushing against it, it'll run at 12 to 14 in. deep and yet pull as easy as a plow that only runs 8 in. deep," says Moiners

In corn ground, the new tillage tool is used to disc and chisel. In soybean, ground, you can remove the chisel and mount it on a tractor 3-pt. and plow without destroying the residue

cover of the soybeans. A grain drill can be mounted behind the disc gangs on the 3-pt. for planting.

The 15-in. spacing between blades allows trash to pass through without plugging. Replaceable, greaseable bearings are used on the disc. Discs are stabilized and held in the ground by the chisel plow and plow depth is controlled by the discs. Vertical hydraulic lift wheels allow the disc to drop into the ground before the chisel so, trash does not collect on the shanks. Discs can be adjusted to cut deeper or to throw more dirt to cover any amount of trash," points out Meiners.

Twenty farmers have tested the new tillage tool, which will be on the market this summer. Meiners says M & W will supply demonstrator models to each dealer which farmers can use at no charge to compare to their current machines. Prices, which have not yet been determined, will be competitive with competing brands, according to Meiners.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, M & W Gear Co., Route 47 South, Gibson City, Ill. 60936 (ph toll free 1 800 637-1144).



"Parabolic" rigid chisel shanks pull as easy at 12 in. deep as do conventional shanks at 8 in., claims Elmo Meiners, M & W President.

started getting calls in bad weather when other combines could no longer get through the mud and snow. "It has never yet left corn standing in the field," he says.

Vogel builds a new machine in his farm shop almost every winter. In addition to his combine, he has also built his own 35-ton tiling machine, a one-pass, no-till self-propelled carrot planter, a 4-row carrot harvester ("bigger and better than anything on the market"), a 4-row onion harvester, and a farm tractor.

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