

FRONT GANG USED ON HOME-BUILT DRILL

He Split A Deere 750 Drill Into Two Parts

"I noticed that the front gang of discs on our Deere 750 grain drill was not worn nearly as much as the back gang because we lift the front gang up when planting soybeans in 15-in. rows. As a result, it was difficult to get accurate depth control when we put the front gang down to plant wheat. That's when I decided to find more work for the front gang," says Eric Moore, Boderich, Ontario.

I had a local machine shop make up a frame that's identical to the frame on the 750 drill. I had a drill box from an Oliver grain drill on hand so we mounted it on the frame, extending the ends of the box with scrap steel since the Oliver drill was narrower than the Deere. We made down tubes

for the add-on ends from exhaust pipe. We also made a ground drive using a wheel up front, which is much simpler to set up than a floating rear wheel (I see the new 20-ft. Deere drill uses the same principle). The drill worked to perfection right off, which is unusual for something we build ourselves. It holds the same amount of seed as the 750 drill. I also mounted an IH 400 Cyclo air corn planter on front that's driven by the tractor pto so we can use this drill to plant corn by plugging off every other row.

"We put the front gang back on the Deere drill to plant wheat.

"I've used this setup for two years now and it has worked perfectly from the start. It's built so well most people think I bought



Moore fit his home-built drill with an IH Cyclo air planter system, an Oliver drill box, and the front gang of openers off a Deere 750 drill (not shown).

another grain drill, says Moore. "Planting soybeans with two drills saves me a lot of time and money. I plant about 1,500 acres of soybeans and 400 to 500 acres of wheat. I spent only about \$6,000 to build the drill

and I can also use it as a 6-row corn planter." Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Eric Moore, 147 Essex St., Boderich, Ontario, Canada N7A 2H8 (ph 519 524-2359).

CUTS HAY-MAKING TIME IN HALF

Alberta Farmer Rakes & Bales In One Pass

"It cut hay-making time in half and reduced operating expense," says David Jones, Mountain View, Alberta, who mounted a 10-wheel hay rake on the "front" of his Ford Versatile 9030 bi-direction tractor and pulls a Deere round baler behind so he can rake and bale at the same time.

Jones raises 1,200 acres of hay. "The bi-directional tractor is what made it work. I modified a 10-wheel rake so I can push it from behind. I removed the tongue and mounted it on a 3-pt. It mounts on the back 3-pt. on the tractor and we reverse travel so we're pushing the rake."

The rake narrows and widens hydraulically.

"It reduces both labor and machinery costs, since only one tractor is needed to

rake and bale, and we cut fuel costs in half. Hay curing time is also reduced since we can lay it out in wider swaths when cutting it. We can gather up two or three swaths with the rake."

Jones also feels leaf loss is minimized since there's no windrows to blow around in heavy winds and the rake pulls together fluffy windrows. And there's no need to weave the baler to create an even bale since the rake is adjusted to the width of the baler pickup.

After Jones first got the idea, he then had trouble finding a rake that he could use. On most wheel rakes, the wheels extend out behind their supporting framework. He finally read about a rake built in Italy and



Jones mounted 10-wheel rake on "front" of his Ford Versatile 9030 Bi-Directional tractor and pulls a Deere round baler behind so he can rake and bale at same time.

looked all over North America for one until he finally found one in Western Canada.

"It works better than I ever expected. People who said it would never work are now telling their friends to come and see

it," says Jones.

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ATV SPRAYER PULLED BY SUZUKI SAMURAI

New "Mini" Spray Rig Offers Comfort, Flotation

"This spray rig was developed specifically for no-till and zone-till farming," says Jeff Mick, JM Innovations, of the sprayer package his company and Rawson Enterprises unveiled at the Farm Progress Show this fall.

"It'll conservatively do 300 acres a day based on extensive field tests in 1994, and it's going to be a lot more economically priced and run cheaper than a big self-propelled rig," Mick says of the comfortable, flotation rig that will be available for the 1995 season. "The whole combination - our cab and high flotation tires on a Samurai, coupled with our ATV sprayer and goose-neck hitch - is all new."

One important component of the sprayer package is JM Innovations' new Total Com-

fort Cab specially built for the Suzuki Samurai. With the addition of the molded fiberglass cab, the Samurai - which comes from the factory as an open-top convertible - becomes a miniature pickup complete with air conditioning, heater, seats with full back support, AM-FM radio and charcoal filter.

The company uses pre-owned, low-mileage Samurais specially outfitted with high flotation tires that let the Samurai get into even the wettest fields without compacting. That makes it a perfect replacement to the ATV and ideal for early pre-plant chemical applications.

"It has the floatability of an ATV with creature comforts of a pickup," Mick notes.

When the Samurai is coupled with a JM "high rise" Mini Floater sprayer, there's



Suzuki Samurai is fitted with specially built molded fiberglass cab.

plenty of clearance for postemergence applications.

Entry level sprayers start at \$3,895. Including a wide range of options, such as electronic monitor and foam markers, the complete Samurai sprayer package will run about \$13,000 to \$14,000.

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