

Storage Rack Makes Planter Seed Boxes Easy To Transport, Store

When Eddie Newell, Bonnie, Ill., sold his drill and bought a Kinze 16-row twin-line corn and bean planter, he bought an extra set of seed boxes so he wouldn't have to change meters or clean out the boxes every time he switched from corn to beans and back. He also built a steel rack to hold the extra boxes. The rack is fitted with brackets that attach to the side of his truck.

The rack is made from 1-in. sq. steel tubing and is 6 ft. long, 4 ft. wide, and 4 1/2 ft. high. Eight boxes mount on each side of the rack and are arranged in two rows, one above the other. Each box clamps onto its own set of brackets.

"It lets me easily transport the extra set of boxes between my farms and protects the fiberglass boxes from damage. It also works great for storing the boxes during the winter," says Newell. "I farm on land that's scattered up to 25 miles apart. Without the rack I'd have to throw the boxes in the truck where they would roll around on their sides and possibly get damaged. Having an extra set of boxes really comes in handy because we



Seed boxes eliminate changing meters, cleaning boxes for different varieties. often plant corn and beans the same day. When I'm done planting corn I simply remove the seed boxes and replace them with the other set of boxes.

"I use a front-end loader to lift the rack and attach it to the brackets on the truck."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Eddie Newell, Rt. 1, Box 215, Bonnie, Ill. 62816 (ph 618 279-3105).

New "Zero Turn" Utility Vehicle

"It works like a zero turn riding mower but is much more versatile because you can haul cargo on back and mount a wide range of attachments on front," says Tom Rich, Lebanon, Ind., about his new "zero turn" utility vehicle.

The two-seater, hydrostatic drive "Z-Cart" is equipped with a manually-operated dump box on back and a platform-bumper on front. It rides on big lugged flotation tires on front and smaller caster wheels on back. Power is provided by a 17 hp 2-cyl. Kawasaki gas engine or an 18 hp 2-cyl. Briggs Vanguard gas engine. The engine belt-drives a hydraulic pump which powers hydraulic motors on each front wheel.

A wide range of front-mount attachments are available including a 5-ft. snow plow, electric broadcast spreader, and mower deck. A 55-gal. spray tank can be mounted in the box, with a boom mounted behind it.

"It offers great maneuverability and traction and can go where conventional utility vehicles can't go. It's amazing what it can do," says Rich. "It works especially well in wooded areas because you can turn short and zip right around trees. The entire rig is only 87 in. long and 60 in. wide. It can go up to 15



Vehicle hauls cargo on back and accepts a large variety of attachments on front.

mph forward and 6 mph in reverse. The box has a load capacity of 800 lbs. and there's a hitch on back that allows you to tow up to a 1,200-lb. load. It's also easy to operate - the only controls are the two levers. Because it has a hydrostatic transmission there's no clutch.

"An optional 1,000-lb. electric bed lift is available for the box, as is a spray-in bed liner. A ROPS rollover cage and canvas cover are also optional."

The basic model sells for \$5,500.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, L.T. Rich Products, Inc., 920 Hendricks Dr., Lebanon, Ind. 46052 (ph 765 482-2040; fax 2050).

"Poor Man's" Plasma Torch

Here's the "poor man's" answer to conventional oxyacetylene, air-carbon and plasma-arc torches

The "MagnumFusion" torch uses special plasma tubes to generate a 10,000-degree ionized particle stream capable of quickly vaporizing any solid material, including rock and cement.

"You can remove 1 linear foot of 3/4-in. weld in 12 seconds," says the company. "You can pierce 24-in. thick steel in 5 minutes, pins in 15 minutes. Bore a 24-in. linear hole through rock or cement in 15 minutes."

The system's tubes bend or extend for access into tight places, and produce no toxic gas, carbon, smoke, noise or arc flash. Using the system requires no surface preparation, eliminates collateral heat damage to surfaces, requires no power source (it runs on oxygen and the consumable tube) or compressors and

is maintenance-free, having only one moving part.

Portable and shop models are available. They sell for \$549 and \$1,049, respectively, including complementary plasma tubes. Replacement tubes range from 92 cents to \$3.50 per tube.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Magnum Manufacturing Incorporated, 11030 Arrow Route # 103, Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. 91730 (ph 909 484-0985; fax 0785; website www.MagnumUSA.com).



Torch has only one moving part.

"SideWinder" tucks under frame with door closed (left) and lowers when door opens.

Pickup Step Drops Down When Door Opens

The problem with add-on steps for pickups is that they reduce ground clearance and change the look of the truck.

Not so with this new powered "drop-down" step that automatically lowers or retracts when you open or close the door.

The SideWinder step has an 11 by 5-in. tread plate that's lifted up and down by a parallel set of arms. Designed to support up to 350 lbs., it's controlled by a small electric motor that the step activates by the light switch on the door. When the door opens, the step drops down 7 in. When the door closes, the step tucks up under the side of vehicle.

Available for most pickups and sport utility vehicles. Choice of black or aluminum tread plate.

Sells for \$149.95 plus \$15 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kwikee



The components of the system.

Products Inc., 230 Davidson Ave., Cottage Grove, Ore. 97424 (ph 800 962-2881 or 541 942-6044; fax 5515).

"Sit & Scoot" Mechanics Chair

"It's the best thing I ever built," says James D. Teeter about a "sit & scoot" mechanics chair he built out of scrap iron.

The chair's 16 in. sq. platform is made of feederhouse bars off an old International 1460 combine. Each corner is fitted with a 2 1/2-in. dia. rubberized caster wheel.

Teeter bent a feederhouse bar into a U-shape and mounted it at a 90-degree angle on the platform for unobstructed operator foot movement. A seat off an old mechanical tobacco transplanter mounts on the U-shaped bar for the operator to sit on.

"You ride 16 to 18 in. off the ground, ideal for working on engines," Teeter says.

For fun, the final touch was adding a sticker off a Yamaha motorcycle to the back of the seat. It advises anyone who operates it to "wear a helmet".

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, James



Operator rides 16 to 18 in. off the floor, the ideal height for working on engines.

D. Teeter, 944 Rollins Dr., Clarksville, Tenn. 37040 (ph 931 645-9895).

He Sidedresses Manure Onto Soybeans

Sidedressing manure onto soybeans is a good way to get rid of liquid manure during the growing season and the extra nutrients boost yields, Minnesota farmer Doug Pohlman recently told *Soybean Digest*.

Pohlman started the unusual process several years ago when he ran out of corn ground on which to apply the liquid manure from his hog barns. If he doesn't spread some of the manure during the growing season, his pits overflow before the crops come off in the fall.

He ridge-tills on 30-in. rows. He extended the axles on his 3,000 gal. manure tank so the wheels would run between rows. When beans reach about 1 ft. tall, he starts injecting manure between rows. So far he hasn't

seen any major detrimental effects, although the caustic liquid will burn off leaves if it splashes onto the crop. But new leaves quickly grow back out.

Pohlman says that although corn makes better use of the nitrogen in the manure, he feels the beans do benefit from the potash and phosphate even if they don't need all the nitrogen. He applies about 3,000 gal. of manure per acre which represents 125 to 175 lbs. of nitrogen, 75 to 100 lbs. of phosphate, and 70 to 80 lbs. of potash, depending on which building the manure comes from. He regularly conducts soil tests and has a yield monitor on his combine so he can monitor the effects of the manure on the beans. (*Mick Lane in Soybean Digest*)