



Filling Kinze's Twin-Line planter with seed goes a lot faster with Kasco's hydraulic-powered, double cross auger. It mounts permanently on the planter.

## Double Cross Auger Makes Kinze Twin-Line Planters Easy To Fill

Filling the seed boxes on Kinze's popular Twin-Line planters has never been an easy job. You have to fill one row of boxes, then move over to the other side of the planter and fill the boxes on the other row. A new hydraulic-powered double cross auger mounts permanently on the planter and automatically does the job for you.

"It saves a lot of labor and time," says Phil Kaster, Kasco Mfg. Co., Shelbyville, Ind., who introduced the unit at the recent Ohio Farm Science Review show near London, Ohio. "It takes only about 10 minutes to fill the seed boxes compared to a half hour or so without the augers. The problem is that you can't reach far enough to fill both rows of seed boxes from one side of the planter."

The system consists of two 6-in. dia. bristle augers mounted on a steel frame that bolts onto the planter. Each auger is equipped with a hopper at one end as well as lengths of flexible tubing that run down to each seed box.

The augers are powered by independent hydraulic motors that plug into hydraulic outlets on the planter's control box and are activated by opening a valve. You flip a switch in the tractor cab to activate the hydraulics, then go back to open one of the control valves and start one of the augers. It fills the boxes one at a time. When all the boxes in one row are full you shut that auger off and start up the other one.

"We built it in response to requests from farmers," says Kaster. "Each auger is equipped with two flexible joints that allow it to flex with the planter according to the terrain. So far it's available for Kinze 2600 and 3600 12-row Twin-Line planters, but we plan to also make a system to fit 16-row planters."

Sells for \$5,500.

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Horse-pulled rig uses gangs of ground-driven reel mowers attached to a single support arm and operating lever. Mower can also be pulled by an ATV or garden tractor.

## Reel Mower Runs On "Real" Horsepower

Omar Fisher says you can use a 10 hp or larger garden tractor or ATV to pull his new reel mower, but he had real horses in mind when he designed the unit.

"I didn't want a mower with an engine on it," says Fisher, owner of Mascot Sharpening and Sales. "People with horses like the idea. They want to exercise their horses by mowing around the farm."

On the 60-in. model, three 21-in. ground-driven reel mowers are attached to a single support arm and operating lever. Simply releasing the lever drops the mowers to ground

level. Up to five units have been ganged together under larger platforms for an 8-ft. cut.

Steel wheels attach to a frame made from 1-in. sq. steel tubing with welded mesh for the operator's platform. Shields hang from the front and back of the mower units for both appearance and safety. Rubber wheels are also available at no extra cost.

The unique design allows the rider to steer the front wheel from side to side with his feet when moving around fence posts or alongside uneven barriers. Slipping a pin into a shaft allows it to be pulled in-line behind a



Eugene Storla says he can mow this 30-ft. high bank without working up a sweat.

## Hillside Mower Pulled Up And Down By Rope

After reading a story in FARM SHOW about a mower that telescopes out to the side of a tractor to mow ditches and the edges of ponds, Eugene Storla, Moscow, Idaho, called to tell us about his unusual hillside mower.

"I've got a hillside on my place that's 30 ft. high and very steep, but I can mow it all without even working up a sweat," says Storla.

His hillside mower consists of a "walking pole" that extends up the hill. The pole is fitted with a rope that pulls a 21-in. mower up and down the hill.

At the base of the "walking pole", Storla mounted a rototiller—with the tines removed—on the deck of a push mower frame. The rope on the walking pole wraps around a steel drum and bearing that he mounted on the rototiller shaft.

A 2-wheeled, A-frame "dolly" with a pulley mounts at the upper end of the walking pole. The rope runs over the pulley and down to a bracket on the mower deck which has the handle removed.

A steel rod runs up to the dolly on the hill. After each cut, Storla simply pulls the dolly ahead 21 in. and makes another cut.

"A lot of people stop to take photos of it. One time a city engineer happened to drive by and backed up to get a closer look. He could hardly believe it," says Storla.

"I use the rototiller's throttle to control the rope drum speed. In heavy grass I let the mower just creep up or down real slow. If the mower gets into an extra heavy bunch of grass I put the throttle in idle and stop the mower immediately. I've mowed grass up to a foot high.

"The hillside extends along the road for about 1/8 mile and ranges from 10 to 30 ft. high. If I have someone helping me it doesn't take much more than an hour to mow all of it. One person pulls the dolly over and the other one pushes the rototiller. It keeps the mower going up or down all the time so it really goes fast. However, most of the time I have to do all the cutting by myself which takes longer. I have to let go of the rototiller



Rototiller, with the tines removed, mounts on the deck of a push mower frame. The rope on the walking pole wraps around a steel drum and bearing that Storla mounted on the rototiller shaft.



Two-wheeled "dolly" with a pulley mounts at upper end of walking pole. Rope runs over pulley and down to mower deck.

handles, grab the rod and move the dolly over 21 in., then go back and shove the rototiller ahead.

"The walking pole telescopes out or in as needed, depending on the height of the hill. As long as the pipe is long enough, it doesn't matter how high the hill is. But you have to use a mower that uses mixed oil and gas. Otherwise the motor could burn out.

"To make it easier to move the dolly I've considered mounting a hydraulic pump on the rototiller and running a hose from it up to a hydraulic motor on the dolly, which would be used to chain-drive one of the dolly wheels."

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tractor or ATV. The locked position is also used to allow the unit to trail smoothly in transit behind a horse or to trail behind a horse cart.

Since introducing the new horse drawn unit last year, Fisher has sold 110 of them to folks from Missouri to New England. Most of his customers are people with large lawns to mow. The ground-driven systems are also

finding favor on golf courses, baseball fields and for mowing trails. Three-mower units sell for \$1,290.

Mascot offers a full line of gang mowers and trail mowers.

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