Big Grain Cart Unloads 1,050 Bu. In 95 Seconds

This new 1,050-bu. grain cart can empty out a full load in just 95 seconds, says Unverferth Mfg., Kalida, Ohio.

The Brent Avalanche 1084 is a dual auger grain cart equipped with a 20-in. dia. fold-out unloading auger on front and a horizontal auger at the bottom of the cart. Grain can also be dumped through a hydraulically-operated bottom door.

The cart can be mounted on high flotation single or dual wheels, or on an Unverferth-designed undercarriage equipped with rubber tracks. An optional video camera can be mounted on front of the cart and used to focus on the unloading auger. A second camera can be mounted at the rear of the cart so the driver can see traffic coming from behind.

The pivoting base of the fold-out auger can be hydraulically controlled, allowing an unloading height from 11 to 16 1/2 ft. Brakes - an industry first, according to the company - are optional.

Sells for $30,010 and up.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Unverferth Mfg. Co., Inc., Box 357, Kalida, Ohio 45853 (ph 419 532-3121; fax 2468).

Dual-auger cart is equipped with a 20-in. dia. fold-out unloading auger on front and a horizontal auger at bottom.

Bolt-On "Plastic Posts" Won't Rot Underground

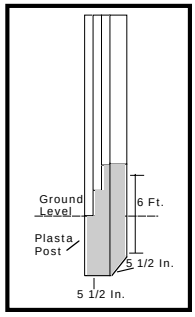
"When you buy treated wood posts nowadays, you really don't know how long they're going to last. That's why we came up with our Plasta Posts which will last virtually forever with no rotting and no wicking up of groundwater," says Bill Kurtz of St. Croix Falls, Wis.

He invented and now manufactures 6-ft. long Plasta Posts which are made from solid recycled plastic. The 5 1/2-in. sq. posts have a stair-step design on top that's designed to bolt to three 2 by 6 boards.

"You make your own posts by putting three 2 by 6's together and bolting them to the top of the Plasta Post. Then you put the Plasta Post in the ground," explains Kurtz.

The poles are ideal for any pole-type shed as well as decks or other structures built on posts. They can be sawed, drilled or nailed just like wood.

Kurtz, who also farms, came up with the idea after discovering that modern treated lumber is not built to last the way older, creosoted lumber did. "Creosote is not allowed in the ground any more so they use strychnine or formaldehyde, which does not last as long. I've also had problems with wood posts wicking up water from the ground into the walls of buildings.



"Plasta posts" have a stair-step design on top designed to bolt to three 2 by 6 boards.

"One benefit of constructing a building this way is that if you ever need to move the building, you can simply unbolt it from the Plasta Posts. And in addition to being totally impervious to water, termites and other pests will not bother them and hogs and horses cannot damage them," notes Kurtz.

Plasta Posts are comparable in price to treated posts.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bill Kurtz, 2187 State Rd. 87, St. Croix Falls, Wis. 54024 (ph 715 483-3866).

By mounting a liquid nitrogen applicator on an 8-row cultivator, Walton can do two jobs at once and save a pass through the field.

Liquid Nitrogen Applicator Mounts On Row Crop Cultivator

"I use it whenever I cultivate. It lets me do two jobs at once and saves a pass through the field," says Robert Walton, Rosebush, Mich., about the 28 percent liquid nitrogen applicator that he mounted on an 8-row cultivator.

He bought four sets of Redball monitors for $400 and mounted them on a homemade bracket that clamps onto the cultivator toolbar. He removed the sweeps on the shanks next to each row and replaced them with straight spikes positioned 6 in. on either side of the row. He duct taped 4-in. lengths of 3/4-in. dia. plastic water line to the back sides of the shanks and threaded the nitrogen hoses through them.

The hoses are equipped with restrictor nozzles that apply the nitrogen in a narrow stream that penetrates the ground. Nitrogen is carried in saddle tanks on the tractor and is pumped to the cultivator by a conventional hydraulic spray pump.

"It's simple to use and didn't cost much to set up," says Walton. "Instead of just applying nitrogen I'm also killing weeds. I spent $70 for all the nozzle bodies and restrictors. My biggest expense was for the Redball monitors.

"I band herbicides so I already had the saddle tanks on the tractor. Because I band herbicides I don't have to cultivate real close to the row while applying the nitrogen, which reduces cultivator blight. I always thought that I could also use the same tanks to apply 28 percent nitrogen, but I was told that I'd need a squeeze pump in order to compensate for different tractor speeds. However, I've found that if I have to drive slow in small corn it isn't a problem because usually that corn needs extra nitrogen anyway. If I want to put only half as much nitrogen on I simply dilute the nitrogen with water so that I don't have to bother changing nozzles or restrictors.

"I think the hydraulic spray pump works better than a squeeze pump because it shoots the nitrogen out under pressure. Last year I had 200 gallons left to apply when my hydraulic pump failed. I borrowed an applicator from my fertilizer company and found that I had to go slower and it didn't apply the material as evenly.

"The Redball monitors provide a backup check in case the sprayer pump's pressure gauge fails. In fact, I can tell if the nozzles are working correctly just by looking at the level of the balls inside the monitor tubes."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robert Walton, 5861 East Rosebush Road, Rosebush, Mich. 48878 (ph 517 433-2925).

How To Load 71 Bales On A 1/2-Ton Pickup

Take a guess - how many bales do you think you could safely haul on a conventional 1/2-ton pickup? Victor Somerville of New Brunswick, Canada, has figured out how to haul 71 bales at a time without losing a bale.

"It eliminates the need for a wagon and means a lot fewer trips back to the farm," says Victor's wife, Barbara. "We've used this idea for 15 years on two different 1/2-ton pickups - a 1982 GM 1500 and a 1980 Ford F-150. Normally there are about 40 small square bales per ton so we're carrying a 1 3/4-ton load, but with heavier bales a full load would weigh more than 2 tons. If the hay is heavy, we leave the top layer off. Haying is seasonal work, so we don't work the pickups this hard every day."

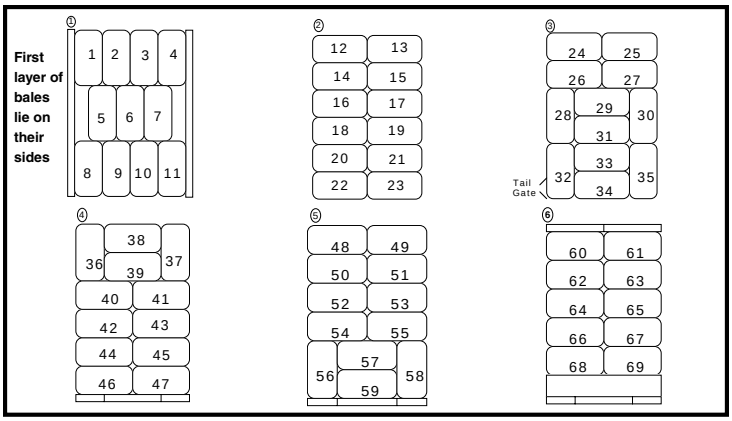
A removeable steel rack, mounted directly behind and above the cab, provides a vertical support for the front of the load as well as a place to put the front part of the fourth layer of bales. The rack extends about 10 in. above the cab roof and has a 10-in. overhang. It drops into stake holes in the sides of the bed. "At first we used a wooden rack, but after many years of use it wore out so Victor replaced it with a steel rack that he made from 2 by 2 posts and mesh. We usually leave it in place all year long as it doesn't seem to get in the way."

Barbara says it's easiest to explain the loading process layer by layer (see diagrams), but that's not the best way to do the job. "It's much easier to work from the front toward the back, leaving a place on the bed where the person who's loading can stand for as long as possible."

Loading up to 71 bales onto the pickup eliminates the need for a wagon, says Somerville.

Removeable steel rack, mounted directly behind and above cab, provides support for front of load.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Victor and Barbara Somerville, Box 52, Juniper, N.B. E0J 1P0 (ph 506 246-5583).



Drawings show layer by layer pattern used to load bales into 1/2-ton pickup bed.