



Hydraulic-operated "seed belt" distributor eliminates the need to drag seed vac hoses from seed box to seed box. There's just one fill point for each row of boxes.

## Quick-Fill Seed Distributor For Row Crop Planters

Visitors to the recent Farm Progress Show crowded around this new hydraulic-operated "seed belt" distributor for row crop planters.

"It eliminates the need to fill individual boxes by hand or the need to drag seed vac hoses from seed box to seed box. There's just one fill point for each row of boxes," says inventor Al Burke, LeClaire, Iowa.

A fill hopper mounts at one end of each rectangular-shaped conveyor tube. A hydraulic motor at the other end of each tube drives the rubber belts, which are equipped with 2-in. high rubber cleats. Seed falls from the belt through clear flexible tubes down to the planter's seed boxes. The hoppers are filled one by one down the line. When the last box in each row is about half full, the operator shuts off the supply of grain coming into the fill hopper.

"It saves a lot of time and labor and also virtually eliminates seed damage," says Burke. "On a 15-row, 15-in. planter it takes

only about three minutes to fill each row of hoppers. So far we have only one model, which is designed to fit Kinze's center pivot planters. However, models for folding planters made by other companies will be available soon. We plan to install sensors that will automatically shut off the grain going into the fill hopper.

"To install the clear flexible seed tubes, you cut a hole in each seed box and install a bracket. The bottom part of the tube telescopes, which allows you to fill the boxes only partially full if you're near the end of a field.

So far Burke offers three models for 15, 23, and 31-row Kinze planters. A 15-row sells for \$4,500; 23-row sells for \$5,000; and 31-row sells for \$5,500.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Al Burke, Canel Shore Marketing, 762 Canal Shore Dr., LeClaire, Iowa 52753 (ph 563 289-3645; fax 563 289-3248).

## Post Driver Holds Wood Posts In Place

"We wanted a way to hold a post in place while we drive it," says Michael Malone, Malone Engineering, Claremorris, Ireland.

Malone's new wood post driver has a driving plate fitted with two small spikes on the bottom. An 800-lb. hammer slams down on top of the plate. The hammer is raised by a cable that runs up over a pulley on top of the mast. The chain is controlled by a one-way hydraulic cylinder.

"We think it's the best wood post driver on the market and would like to find an importer into North America," says Malone.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Malone Engineering, Ballyglass, Claremorris, Co. Mayo, Ireland (ph & Fax 011 353 94 60500).



Wood post driver is equipped with an 800-lb. hammer (above). Driving plate (left) is fitted with two small spikes that grab post.



## Add-On Device Wraps Bales On-The-Go

If you like the idea of wrapping bales with plastic but you don't want to make a second trip through the field, you'll like this new add-on attachment. It lets you wrap round bales with plastic film right inside the baler, without using any twine or net wrap.

"Binder-Wrap" fits most conventional round balers. It was introduced at the recent Ohio Farm Science Review by farmer David Olsen of Warsaw, Ohio, who imports the device from Denmark.

It mounts on front of the baler and holds a single roll of plastic stretch film. Once the bale is made, the wrapper automatically drops down and feeds film into the bale chamber, riding on top of hay as it's picked up. The unit slides from side to side to make sure the film extends out to the edges of the bale, and to keep the film tight along the entire width of the bale.

After the bale has been wrapped, the unit moves back up which causes the stretch film to break.

A computer in the tractor cab is used to adjust the number of layers of plastic film. The bale normally gets two to three layers of plastic.

According to Olsen, the Binder-Wrap system works nearly as fast as wrapping a bale with net wrap but is much less expensive. "Net wrap sells for about \$300 per roll whereas a roll of plastic sells for only about \$72. You can wrap 45 4 by 5-ft. bales with one roll of plastic. At that price it costs \$2 to \$3 to wrap each bale with net wrap compared to only about \$1.30 for plastic.

"Using the Binder Wrap system it takes only about 10 seconds to wrap a bale with two layers of plastic. It works better than using a tractor-mounted wrapping system because you don't have to spend a lot of time wrapping bales in a separate operation. I came up with the idea after I lost about \$1,500 worth of round bales due to spoilage. I tried using a tractor-mounted system to wrap bales but it cost too much money and took too much time.

"Another advantage is that the bales are easier to feed than bales with net wrap or twine. All you have to do is make one cut across the face of the plastic and pull it off the bale."



"Binder-Wrap" mounts on front of baler and holds a single roll of plastic stretch film. It lets you wrap round bales with plastic film right inside the baler, without using any twine or net wrap.



Unit tightly wraps plastic film along entire width of bale.

"At least one manufacturer of round balers offers an attachment designed to wrap the bale with either net wrap or plastic. However, the Binder Wrap is the only system that bypasses the rollers and belts and gets the plastic on tight all the way to the edges of the bales."

Sells for about \$6,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Olsen, Binder Wrap NA, Inc., 19448 Co. Rd. 80, Warsaw, Ohio 43844 (ph 740 327-7502; fax 740 327-6702; E-mail: olsendg1@cris.com; Website: www.binderwrap.com).



John Sale was chopping corn stalks when his mower caught on fire.

## Ever Seen A Mower Fire?

By C.F. Marley

Combine fires are relatively common but have you ever heard of a mower fire?

I was driving down a country road recently near Raymond, Ill., when I spotted a farmer coming in from the field with his mower ablaze. John Sale had been chopping cornstalks when he noticed the flames. He used his cell phone to call the nearby Raymond-Harvel Fire Department and then

headed back to the farm.

I offered him the use of my car fire extinguisher but he figured the fire department would be there in minutes. They were and they put the fire out in a jiffy.

Sale assumes it was a hot bearing that set off the fire in the dry trash that builds up on top of the mower.