"Row tiller" chisel plows and disks just ahead of Souslin's Deere planter.

Simple "Row-Till" Rig Plows, Disks, And Plants In One Pass

Roger Souslin, Johnstown, Ohio, wanted the benefits of no-till without having to spend the money for a no-till planter. He solved the problem by building his own 3-pt. mounted "row tiller" that chisel plows and disks just ahead of his Deere 7000 4-row, 30-in. planter.

The unit consists of a 4-in. sq. toolbar equipped with chisel shanks and discs that till a strip about 12 in. wide ahead of each planter row unit. The tillage components include a 17-in. dia. wavy coulter followed by a 12-in. wide sweep mounted on a chisel tooth shank. That's followed by a pair of 14-in. dia. angled discs that throw dirt into the middle of the row. The seed is placed in the 2-in. high mound of fluffed up soil.

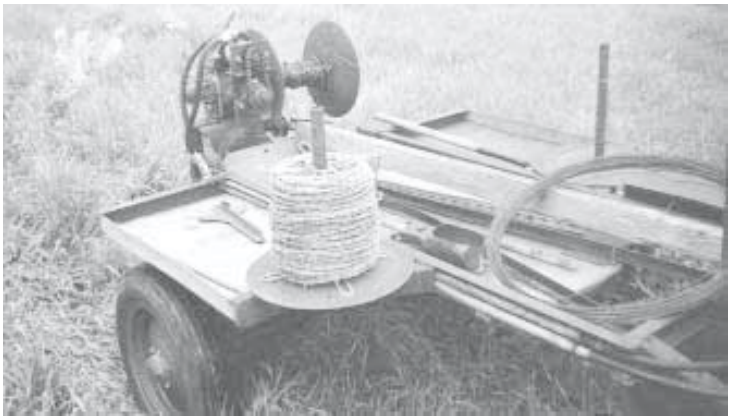
The planter is pulled by a drawbar that attaches to the 3-pt. mounted toolbar.

"It lets me plant in about one fourth the time, saving on fuel and labor," says Souslin. "I use it mainly to plant corn but I think the idea could be used to plant any row crop. I haven't tried it on soybeans because I already had a no-till drill.

Planter is pulled by a drawbar that attaches to 3-pt. mounted toolbar.

"It leaves residue between the rows like a no-till planter, but it makes a nicer seedbed. The planter row units follow in the tilled zone as long as the rows don't curve more than 35 degrees."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roger Souslin, 5300 Bennington Chapel Rd. N.W., Johnstown, Ohio 43031 (ph 740 892-3197; E-mail: rowtiller@hotmail.com).



Grabinski mounted a small gearbox at back of a trailer that he made out of the running gear from a grain elevator.

Trailer-Mounted Wire Winder

Anyone who has a lot of fence to put up or take down will be interested in this trailer-mounted wire winder put together by South Dakota farmer Francis Grabinski.

He mounted a small gearbox off an old combine at the back of a trailer that he made out of the running gear from a grain elevator. A hydraulic motor chain-drives the gearbox. Home built spools – made with 1-in.dia.pipe and concave disc blades – roll up wire.

There are several spool holders on the trailer and plenty of room for posts and tools. Grabinski pulls the trailer behind a tractor, running hydraulic hose back to quick couplers on the wire winder.

"I can roll up to 1/2 mile of wire per spool. Makes fence work easy and much quicker," says Grabinski.

A hydraulic motor chain-drives gearbox.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Francis Grabinski, 36247 170th St., Rockham, S. Dak. 57470.

A 3-ft. wide sickle blade on front of 4-wheeled mower. Rear wheels and axle came off a 10 hp Sears riding mower.

Walk-Behind "Sickle Mower"

"It works great for mowing along fence rows and between the trees in my orchard," says Johnny Self, Hartselle, Ala., about his home-built walk-behind sickle mower.

"I built it just for the challenge, but it really comes in handy in my orchards," says Self. "I have 48 trees in one orchard and 12 in another. The orchards are alongside a busy road and people often stop to see what I'm doing. The big wheels make it easy to push. My brother-in-law gave me a walk-behind sickle mower many years ago. I used the mower's sickle blade, gearbox and pitman. It took me a long time to find all the other parts that I needed to make it work."

"Big wheels make my walk-behind mower easy to push," says Self.

The four-wheeled mower carries the 3-ft. wide sickle blade on front. The 18-in. high rear wheels and axle came off a 10 hp Sears riding mower. Power is supplied by a 2 hp Briggs & Stratton gas engine. The engine chain-drives a gearbox that's connected to a long wooden arm, which operates a pitman that drives the sickle blades back and forth. The rig is equipped with two belt-driven manual transmissions, both off Sears riding mowers. The main transmission mounts on a steel frame behind the rear wheels, while the other transmission mounts directly below the engine and is connected to the axle.

Three control levers mount on the handle ahead of the operator. One is used to engage the gearbox that drives the sickles, another is used to put the main transmission in gear, and the third is used to go forward or reverse.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Johnny W. Self, 1638 Penn Rd. S.W., Hartselle, Ala. 35640 (ph 256 773-0677).

Do-It-Yourself Roll-Over Tarp

You can make your own roll-over tarp for grain carts and hoppers on combines, says Randy Reifschneider, Hubbard, Iowa.

He fastened a tarp to one side of the hopper on his grain cart, and rolls the tarp up onto a piece of pipe. He put a cross piece on each end of the pipe to keep it aligned with the top of the hopper.

He also made a lightweight frame out of 1-in. dia. electrical conduit that fits across the top of the cart. Rubber bungie straps hold the tarp open or closed.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Randy Reifschneider, 10293 609th Ave., Hubbard, Iowa 50122 (ph 515 487-7503).

Reifschneider fastened a tarp to one side of hopper on his grain cart and rolls tarp up onto a piece of pipe.