

Grain Cart's Front-Folding Auger "More Visible, Safer To Use"

J & M Manufacturing says the new front-folding auger on its latest line of grain carts provides the operator with a better view from the tractor cab during unloading. It also virtually eliminates the possibility of damaging the auger as it's put away for transport.

Introduced at the recent Farm Progress Show near Cantrall, Ill., the patented auger stores in front of the cart, not along the side.

"The biggest complaint about grain carts equipped with side-unloading augers is that the operator can't see the auger as it's folded back," says Chuck Wolf. "As a result, the auger can catch against the back corner of a semi trailer or wagon and get damaged. Another problem is that the auger doesn't always get lowered all the way down into the saddle and later gets damaged by all the bouncing up and down during transport. With our design, the operator has full visibility of the auger both during unloading and fold-up and doesn't have to turn his head back all the time. Another advantage is that the auger doesn't use up tank space like a side-unloading auger does."

The auger is equipped with the company's hydraulic-driven flow control spout, which swings forward or backward hydraulically to compensate for a trailer that's too close or too far away. It's available on all the company's grain carts which range from 435 to 1,075 bu. capacity. Auger diameter ranges from 14 to 22 in. "The 22-in. dia. auger is the biggest on the market and can unload 650 bu. per minute," notes Wolf.

The cart is available with a red or green finish, graphite interior, light kit, weigh scale, and roll tarp and can also be equipped with tracks.

Wolf says the cart is priced competitively with side-unloading auger carts offered by other companies.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, J & M

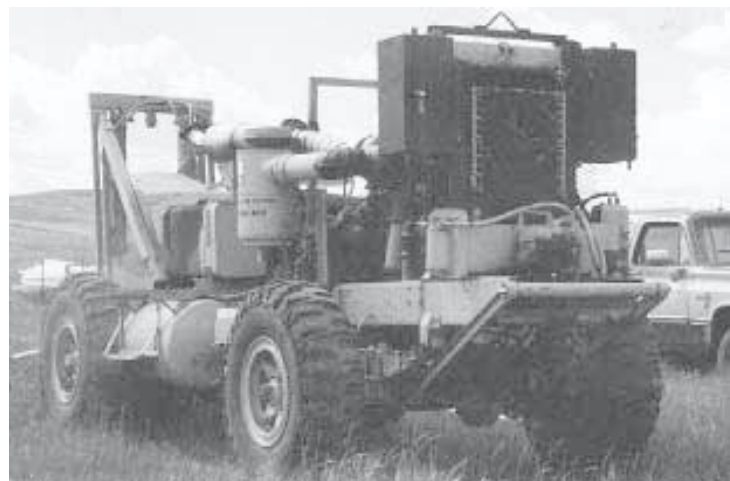


Auger mounts on front of cart where tractor driver has full visibility during unloading and fold-up.



Front-folding auger takes up less space than side-unloading augers, according to J & M.

Manufacturing Co., Inc., 284 Railroad St., Box 547, Fort Recovery, Ohio 45846 (ph 419 375-2376; Website: www.jm-inc.com).



Machine can trench 600 to 700 ft. an hour on average. Its frame and axles came from an old highway department snowplow truck.

"Super Chain Trencher" Digs 8 Ft. Deep

For years, Merle Vig wanted a trencher capable of covering a lot of ground, but he could never justify the \$200,000 to \$300,000 it was going to take to buy one.

Finally, the Faith, South Dakota cattleman and construction company owner decided to build one. Now, after years of trial and error building, tearing down, reinforcing and rebuilding, he finally has what he says is a state-of-the-art machine. He spent a total of

about \$50,000. "I had two different shops turning out parts for me at one time," he says.

"On the average, we can trench 600 to 700 ft. an hour with this," he says. "In harder ground, it's a little slower, but in soft ground, we're covering 15 to 18 ft. per minute, or 900 to 1,100 ft. per hour."

The original frame and axles for his trencher came from an old highway department snowplow truck. The frame has



The 23-ft. long trailer uses a pair of 10-in. steel I-beams to carry the main load, with 2-in. oak planks bolted crosswise to form floor.

Home-Built Tandem Axle "Tilt Trailer"

"We use it for a lot of different jobs," says John Aaron Rissler, New Enterprise, Pa., about his home-built 23-ft. long tandem axle "tilt trailer".

The trailer's tandem axles were purchased from a commercial wagon manufacturer. A pair of 10-in. steel I-beams are used to carry the main load, with 2-in. oak planks bolted crosswise to form the floor. The I-beams are welded to the axle so the load's weight pivots on the tandem pivots. A pair of 8-in. channel irons extend forward from the tandem axles to form a V-shaped hitch. The trailer is tilted by a 4-ft. long, 4-in. dia. hydraulic cylinder attached to a steel A-frame welded at the front end of the trailer.

"It makes a handy all-around trailer," says Rissler. "We originally designed it to haul round bales and also to haul the tractor used to load bales onto the trailer. We have farms spaced several miles apart so it saves a lot of time. To load the tractors we simply tilt the

trailer back and drive on. Once in the field we set two bales on their ends onto the back of the trailer to keep the other bales from rolling off. Then we stack the rest of the bales onto the trailer two high. It can hold about 22 4-ft. dia. bales. Back at the barn we tip the back two bales off by hand, then tilt the trailer and pull forward to roll the rest of the bales off.

"We also use it during the spring for hauling fertilizer, seed, and chemicals. The only thing that would make it better would be if it was licensed and had brakes. Our total cost was about \$3,000 including labor and heavy duty tires."

Rissler says he's willing to make plans for a fee, or build the trailer for anyone who's interested.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Aaron Rissler, 3409 Brumbaugh Rd., New Enterprise, Pa. 16664 (ph 814 766-2117).



Trailer is tilted by a 4-ft. long, 4-in. dia. hydraulic cylinder attached to a steel A-frame welded at front end of trailer.

been modified, lengthened, and reinforced so much it barely resembles what he started with.

The 300 hp Cummins engine was salvaged from an old truck. He equipped the trencher with a hydrostatic transmission coupled to a standard 5-speed transmission, so he can maintain full power to the trencher while creeping forward. "We travel at speeds from 60 to 1500 ft. per hour while trenching. On the road, it will run about 11 miles per hour," he says.

The cutting chain runs off an 18-in. sprocket, driven by the final drive salvaged from an old TD-18 IH crawler tractor. The 22-ft. cutting chain itself has a breaking strength of 160,000 lbs. "We started out using 12 rubber belts to power the trencher

drive, but later switched to Kevlar belts, which last longer," he says.

Merle's trencher digs down to 8 ft. deep. "We're often laying water lines at 7 ft. or deeper because the frost goes so deep here," he says. He can lay anything from waterlines of 1.5 in. dia. up to large field tile mains.

At 63, Merle is approaching retirement, but says he'd be happy to advise or work with anyone who'd like to build a similar machine. "I've spent a lot of hours in the shop in my life, and I've built a number of other machines I use in our construction business," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Merle Vig, Box 115, Faith, S. Dak. 57626 (ph 605 967-2357).