



Kinnard mounted 24-ft. rear unloading silage box on 1973 GMC 72-passenger bus.

## "WORKS GREAT FOR UNLOADING SILAGE INTO OUR BUNKER SILO"

# School Bus Turned Into Self-Unloading Wagon

Rod Kinnard has been turning school buses into self-unloading wagons for over 25 years. His latest self-propelled wagon was built from a 1973 GMC 72-passenger bus equipped with a 5-speed transmission. He mounted a 24-ft. rear unloading H & S silage box on it.

He drives the rig over 15 miles between farms, traveling at speeds up to 45 mph. "We use it mostly to haul corn silage and haylage from the field to our bunker silo," says Kinnard, a dairyman who made the conversion last spring. "It's much faster than pulling a wagon behind a tractor and is much safer because you can see traffic behind you on the road. The wagon holds about 10 tons of silage. We put up 5,000 to 6,000 tons per year. It's much less expensive than buying a truck. I paid \$800 for the bus and expect it to last 10 to 15 years.

"We pull a high-lift dump box behind our chopper and dump the load over the side of the school bus wagon. The rear-unloading apron is powered by a hydraulic motor

that's driven by a 37 gpm hydraulic pump. The pump runs off a pto shaft that I mounted on the bus transmission. I also mounted a valve and hydraulic oil reservoir beside the seat. To unload the wagon, I depress the clutch, put the pto in gear, and open the valve. As the apron moves backward, silage pushes the door open at the back. It takes only 1 to 1 1/2 minutes to unload compared to about 7 minutes for side-unload models.

"It works good, but I wish it had a 2-speed rear end instead of a 5-speed transmission for going up hills and through muddy fields."

Kinnard stripped the bus down to the frame, leaving the cab, engine, and axles. He cut off the body of the bus behind the driver's seat and made an enclosed cab by cutting off a 2-ft. section at the back of the bus and welding it to the front part of the body. He then bolted the wagon box onto the rear frame.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rod Kinnard, N7990 Oak Road, Casco, Wis. 54205 (ph 414 837-7478).

## LETS YOU PLANT CORN AND BEANS WITH THE SAME MACHINE

# Kit Turns Deere 750 Drill Into Corn Planter

If you've got a Deere 750 no-till drill, you can convert it into a no-till corn planter with a new bolt-on kit made by Crary Co., West Fargo, N. Dak.

The kit consists of a transmission to drive the Deere Max-Emerge planter units and a hydraulic-driven air delivery system.

"It lets you get more use out of an expensive piece of equipment and eliminates the need for a row crop planter," says Jay Wik, marketing manager. "It uses planter boxes off your existing planter. The great thing about this conversion is that you can side-dress fertilizer onto rows of corn using the extra disc openers on the drill.

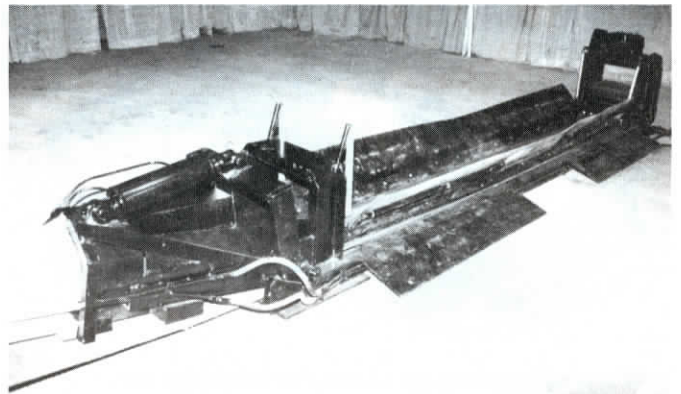
"The Deere 750 no-till drill is ideal for this conversion because its openers have the most planter-like depth control and seed placement of any grain drill. However, we also plan to test the idea on other brands of drills.

"The seed metering units on the planter boxes are ground wheel-driven. A jackshaft assembly and chain is used to connect the drill drive system with the planter drive. It takes less than 15 minutes to switch back and forth from drilling beans to planting corn. You leave the planter boxes in place while planting beans."

When planting corn, the drill's front gang of openers is used to lay down fertilizer while seed is delivered to the rear gang by a special-designed Crary air system modified to adapt to conventional Max-Emerge planter boxes.

Estimated cost is \$800 to \$1,000 per row (not including planter boxes).

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Crary Co., 237 Northwest 12th St., Box 849, West Fargo, N. Dak. 58075 (ph 701 282-5520).



Hopper's spring-loaded sides flatten out when you drive over them, then snap back up into position.

## ELIMINATES NEED TO BACK UP TO DUMP LOAD OF GRAIN

# Belt "Auger" Fitted With Drive-Over Hopper

"Our new grain-moving "belt auger" is equipped with a drive-over hopper that eliminates the need to back up trucks to hoppers," says Ross Stonehouse, D & R Mfg., Fiske, Sask.

The drive-over conveyor-belt hopper has spring-loaded sides that flatten out when you drive over them, then snap back up into position. A pair of small steel ramps are positioned in front of the hopper.

The 14-in. wide rubber belt runs up a 10-in. dia. auger tube. "We designed the belt to provide fast, gentle handling for specialty crops, but it'll work on any crop or even fertilizer," says Stonehouse. "It sells for only about \$500 more than a conventional auger of the same length. We make belt

augers ranging in length from 65 to 80 ft. A 75-ft. long belt has a capacity of over 100 bu. per min. which is comparable to a 10-in. dia. screw auger. We plan to offer a 16-in. dia. tube enclosing a 24-in. wide belt that will have a capacity of 300 to 400 bu. per min. Our belt augers work efficiently up to a 30 degree angle."

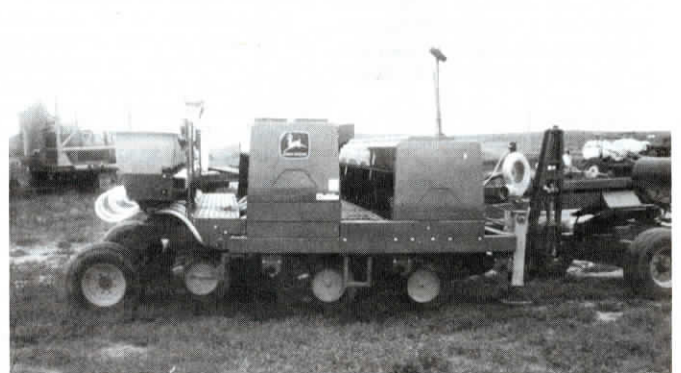
The conveyor belt auger is pto-operated and is raised and lowered from the tractor seat. For transport, both the hopper and belt raise hydraulically.

Sells for \$8,500 (Canada).

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, D & R Mfg., Box 64, Fiske, Sask., Canada S0L 1C0 (ph 306 377-4433).



Seed is delivered to drill's rear gang by special-designed Crary air system modified to adapt to conventional Max-Emerge planter boxes.



When planting corn, drill lays down fertilizer on either side of corn rows.