

# FARM SHOW

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## UP-FRONT FLAIL CHOPPER REMOVES RESIDUE AHEAD OF PLANTER

### "Up & Over" Chop-Planter

By Mark Newhall, Editor



Chop-planter works its way through 4-ft. tall crop residue and weeds (top photo). Speeded-up flail chopper throws the heavy residue up and over rear-mounted planter. In bottom photo, Monty double-crops soybeans into a harvested wheat field.

"I couldn't buy the machine I wanted so I built my own," says Charles Monty, Jr., Clarksdale, Miss., who built a first-of-its-kind "Chop-Planter" with an up-front flail chopper that throws chopped-up crop residue up and over a rear-mounted planter and back out on top of the ground. The mulch protects the seed, which is planted into relatively clean ground beneath the chopper deflector guard.

Monty has used the Chop-Planter for the past two seasons to double-crop soybeans after wheat and to plant beans directly into heavy cotton residue in the spring. He says he's been able to eliminate many of the problems with no-till by getting rid of the crop residue as he plants.

"You don't have to cut through so much residue and the herbicide, which we apply with the planter, goes directly onto the ground. Once the seed is planted, the mulch is put back over the top to preserve moisture," says Monty.

An older plate-type, ground-driven IH 386 4-row planter and a Mathews flail chopper were used to build the Chop-Planter but Monty says any chopper and planter can be used if a

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