Crary's Air Reel fan is mechanically driven with a two-stage pulley drive from the combine's sickle drive.

PREVENT GRAIN SHATTERING AND ELIMINATE REEL WRAPPING PROBLEMS

Popular Air Systems Replace Combine Reels

Using forced air instead of a reel to feed small grains, alfalfa seed lentils, and other crops into the header — an Australian concept first featured in FARM SHOW's Vol. 7, No. 1 issue — is catching on fast.

Joe Crary, vice president of Crary Co., Fargo, N. Dak., manufacturer of the Air Reel, says "Sales have been fabulous. More than 3,000 combine users have switched to the Air Reel."

There's also been a great deal of interest in the Airway system from Keho Products, Barons, Alb., according to Barbara Gullickson, promotions manager. This is the first year on the market for the Airway system.

Manufacturers of both systems cite the following key advantages: less crop waste, faster combine speeds, better visibility, less driver fatigue, elimination of rocks being fed into the header, no reel wrapping problems, and ground speed isn't limited by reel speed.

The systems are quite similar in that they use air from a fan powered off the sickle drive shaft. This air goes through a flex-tube into a manifold mounted on the reel arms and out nozzles spaced 10-in. apart. The curtain of air pushes the crop and kernals into the header.

On Crary's Air Reel system, the fan is mechanically driven with a two-stage pulley. The fan runs between 4400 and 5800 rpms, depending on manifold size and the crop. Crary says some farmers use an optional second fan for added performance in heavier yielding crops, and for combines with wider platforms.

Options to the Air Reel are electric actuators (to adjust tube angle to the sickle) and on-the-go air flow control.

Keho's Airway system runs at 4,700 to 5,500 rpms. The manifold mounts to the reel and air is provided by a backward curve centrifugal blower. Gullickson says this provides more airflow with less energy. The manifold and nozzles are made of aluminium while Crary's are steel.

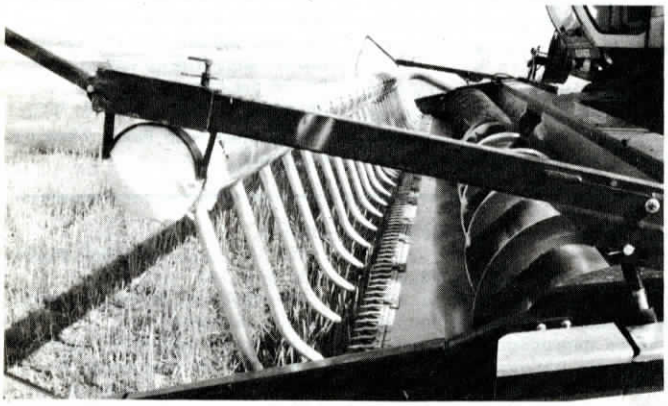
Crary Air Reels are available for 10-30 ft. headers. A kit for a 20-ft. unit sells for $2,354.

Keho's Airway system is available for 18-30 ft. headers. A kit for a 20-ft. head sells for $2,600 (Canadian dollars).

Both kits take about five hours to install. Once installed, they take just minutes to remove.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Crary Co., Box 1779, Fargo, N. Dak. 58107 (ph toll free 800 362-3145; in N. Dak. 800 732-2422, ext. 151).

Or, FARM SHOW Followup, Keho Products, Box 70, Barons, Alb., Can. TOL OGO (ph 403 757-2444).



The operator of this A-C Gleaner combine, equipped with a 30 in. Airway system, harvested 10 bu. per acre wheat at 9 mph.

MOVES UP AND DOWN, BACK AND FORTH FOR WIDE ANGLE REAR VIEWING

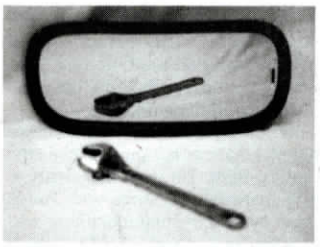
New "Full-Vision" Rear View Tractor Mirror

"We think it's the first rear view tractor mirror that truly gives full rear vision," says Harvey Waliczek, Palatine, Ill., about his new "full vision" rear tractor mirror that's designed to eliminate neck and back strain caused by constantly turning around when operating field equipment.

"Unlike other convex mirrors, this mirror is crystal clear. It's only slightly convex so the natural eye can't detect the slight distortion," notes Waliczek.

In addition to the wide viewing angle, the mirror is mounted on a sliding mounting bracket that lets you move the mirror as much as 10 in. back and forth, and 10 in. up and down, to position it where needed. When you don't need to see out the rear, the mirror folds neatly out of the way up against the ceiling of the cab.

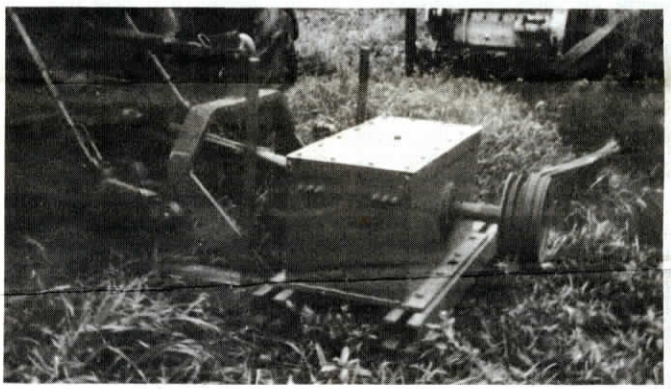
"Once a farmer gets used to looking in the mirror rather than turning around, it makes plowing, disking, cultivating and other chores much more enjoyable. One farmer told us his aging father can now plow longer because he doesn't get a stiff neck anymore," says Waliczek.



Mirror amplifies without distortion to provide 65 ft. wide view directly behind cab.

The mirror has a universal mounting bracket that fits most tractor cabs. It sells for $44.95, plus $4 shipping.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pneu-Con Corp., P.O. Box 61, Palatine, Ill. 60067 (ph 312 438-8127).



Portable belt drive power unit mounts on tractor's 3-pt. and is pto-powered.

REPLACES ELECTRIC MOTORS

Pto-Powered Belt Drive Power Unit

"It'll handle any job that normally would require an internal combustion power unit or electric motor," says Dennis A. Wyant, North Liberty, Ind., who's developed a portable power unit that mounts on the tractor 3-pt. and is pto-powered.

Wyant originally built it to replace old gas engine power units that ran various sized floor pumps on his farm. "It's much cheaper than buying a new engine and clutch of adequate size, and makes use of idle tractors in rainy weather to power it," he notes.

The pto "porta-drive" mounts on the 3-pt. and runs in 90-lb. gear oil, powered by double 80 chain and sprocket. It's designed for a 1,000 rpm pto only and mounts on a Cat I or II 3-pt. hitch. It requires a 100 hp. or less tractor and puts out approximately 1,850 rpm's running in the opposite direction of the tractor pto. The unit has a sliding gearbox that lets you adjust belt tension without moving the tractor. It hooks up to the tractor in just seconds and can be hooked up in line or on side load applications.

Wyant has over 300 hrs. on his prototype and would like to compare notes with manufacturers interested in producing it commercially.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dennis Wyant, 30005 Madison Rd., North Liberty, Ind. 46554 (ph 219 656-3280).