

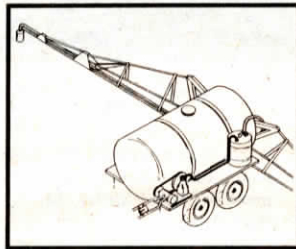
Schematic of system

## Homemade Foam Marker For Sprayers

"Commercial foam markers can cost \$900 to \$1,000. I built my own out of mostly spare parts for under \$200," reports Steve Dowell, Lamont, Okl.

The marker, which fits on his 40 ft. sprayer for covering wheat ground, consists of a hydraulic motor (bought new) which plugs into tractor hydraulics and powers an air compressor salvaged from a car air conditioning unit. An air line runs to the foaming solution tank. Foam bubbles out of the tank and through a 1-in. hose to a collector at the end of the boom.

Dowell made the collector out of an old tractor oil filter. He emptied out the inside and installed a nylon screen. Foam builds up on the screen and, when enough's accumulated, it falls through to the ground. Distance between foam marks



can be adjusted by varying hydraulic pump speed.

Since Dowell's spray pattern is around the field, not back and forth, he has the marker on just one side of the boom. However, he notes that the system can easily be rigged with foam markers on each side.

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## Hitch Makes 16-Row Planter Out Of Two 8-Row Machines

Dennis DeHaan, Platte, S. Dak., cuts his corn planting time in half by hooking two 8-row Deere Max Emerge planters (36 in. row spacing) side by side using a specially-built hitch.

The hitch pulls the two planters side by side for planting and has them hinged together at the toolbars with a 1½-in. by 3-ft. pin. The two planter toolbars are in turn attached to the hitch DeHaan designed. The tractor pulls this hitch off a tongue which is centered between the two planters. Four 12L by 15 pivoting wheels help carry hitch weight.

To switch to the transport position, DeHaan unhooks from the hitch, unhinges the planters and hooks up to a transport tongue attached to the back of one planter (see drawing). As he pulls ahead with the tractor, the second planter automatically falls into position behind the first planter. He then locks the tires on the hitch in the straight position. The transport tongue pivots off the front of the planter

so it can swing up and out of the way when planting.

Going back to the planting position involves unhooking from the transport tongue, hooking up to the hitch tongue, unlocking the wheels, driving ahead and then inserting the hinge pin.

DeHaan points out that the pin/hinge linkage system allows flex between the planters so he can plant on rolling ground, plus it allows him to plant end rows with one planter out of the ground. He notes that despite its width in the planting configuration he can turn on a dime. In the transport position, he can take 90° corners without any problems. In the transport mode, the planter combo is about 45 ft. long.

The hitch is made of 7-in. steel tubing. The only modification to planters is that 4-in. was cut off the toolbars and new home-built markers were added. DeHaan says total cost for the hitch was about \$7,000. An added advantage he feels, is



## Bumper-Mounted Bale Unroller

You'll like this simple round bale handler that mounts on a pickup bumper and lets you haul and unroll any size round bale.

Invented by Alfred Ezekiel, Wilburton, Okl., the bale handler's steel tube and angle iron frame fastens with two pins to hinges mounted at the base of the bumper.

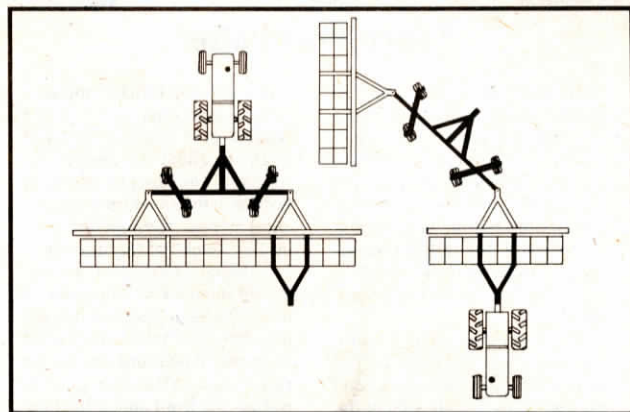
To pick up a bale, the bale hauler simply lowers backwards over the bale until the two corners of the bale handler frame are at the center of the bale. Metal pins about 1½ ft. long are then hand-inserted into the bale and a winch — mounted in the pickup box and fastened to a hook welded to the top end of the bale hauler frame — cranks the bale off the ground. To unroll, you simply cut the twine, lower the bale to the ground, and drive forward.

"It weighs just 150 lbs. and you can also hook it to a tractor 3-pt.," says Ezekiel, who notes



that one advantage of his design over commercial units is that you can leave the tailgate on the pickup and still pull a trailer even with the bale handler on. The rig can be removed in seconds by pulling a couple pins.

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that the resale value of two eight-rows will be better than one 16-row.

Meyerink Welding and Farm Supply built much of the hitch for DeHaan. Dave Meyerink notes that the firm will custom build hitches on order, and that

the hitches could be modified for both smaller and larger planters.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dave Meyerink, Rt. 1, Box 219, Platte, S. Dak. 57369 (ph 605 337-3134).