



Seeds Rye In Standing Corn

That Rube Goldberg type invention shown in the accompanying photo is a forage harvester converted to a seeder for sowing rye in standing corn.

Developed in Lebanon County, Pa., it's the "brainstorm" of Karl Hellerick, SCS District Conservationist, Newton Bair County Agent, Ron Bower, Vo-Ag teacher, and Donald Bollinger, farmer and SCS district director. A 50 gal. drum serves as the seed hopper, and a rubber ball on a wire through the bung hole makes a simple shutoff valve. The blower spreads seed effectively for a 60 ft. width. Thus, by seeding from each edge, a 120 ft. wide contour strip can be seeded. A small block of wood fastened to the side of the discharge snout end causes seed to drop near the blower and results in even distribution.

Rye is a good choice as a cover crop in standing corn because it's not affected by herbicides, the inventors point out. Seeding rye as a winter cover crop to protect and enrich the land after the

corn is harvested gives it too late a start to do any good. To solve the problem, the inventors developed the new-style seeder so they could seed rye in standing corn.

Here are other construction "tips" from the inventors:

Cut the bottom out of a 50 gal. drum, by either chiseling or burning.

Mount the drum on a forage harvester or blower. Put it bung down so that the seed flowing through the control valve is pulled into the blower. Fasten it securely with bolts and angle iron braces.

Control the seed flow by using standard 1½-in. bushings on a 2 in. bung opening. A rubber ball attached to a rope, threaded through the hole over a pulley to the tractor seat, makes a simple on-off valve.

If you'd like a set of plans for the new-style seeder, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lebanon Co. Extension Service, 400 S. 8th St., Lebanon, Pa. 17042 (ph. 717-273-3748).

Roller-Loader For Big Bales

"It will carry big bales anywhere, then unroll them on the ground in any amount wanted without waste," explains T. C. Gray, I.V.A. S. C., inventor of what he calls the Roller-Loader. It attaches to the tractor's front-end loader and can be removed from the tractor in 20 min. by loosening several bolts.

"This machine will pick up large round bales of hay up to one ton, load them on trucks, trailers, or upstairs in barns if needed," according to Gray. "It can also be adjusted to pick up small square bales, small round bales, and many other items that you want to move."

Only one man does the entire job. He never gets off the tractor in picking up, loading or feeding the hay. "If he has to haul the hay long distances, he can load the hay on the hauling rig

himself, get off his tractor and drive the hay transport, then return for another load," Gray points out. "The Roller-Loader is not being manufactured commercially but we are looking for an interested manufacturer."

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, T. C. Gray, Route 3, Box 31, Iva, S.C. 29655 (ph. 803-348-6506).



Sprinkler Irrigates Steep Side Slopes

"I designed it myself and have tested it for 8 years. I know it works," says Alton Filan, Waitsburg, Wash., farmer-irrigator and inventor of the side slope traveling irrigation system.

The diesel-powered slope water rig is self-propelled and works unattended as it travels a programmed route and rate of speed. It applies ½ in. of water at 700 gpm on 60 acres per day. It irrigates slopes up to 45° and automatically levels itself for uneven terrain. It also shuts itself off automatically at the end of the run. You simply start it, leave it to attend to other jobs, then return at the end of the run. When the run is completed, you simply throw a lever to eject all water back to the main line. This allows moving the Slope Water rig without any additional equipment. It irrigates almost any crop, to any growing height, and on almost any soil, according to Filan.

He notes that the Slope Water can't bog down because it al-

ways runs on dry ground. The sprinkler head can be set to leave a "wedge" of dry land in front of the machine. The winch is synchronized to the wheel for maximum pull — enough to move the machine over most any terrain. It is easily adjusted for any part of a circle from 30 to 330°, and can also be set for full circle coverage. Fast reverse action eliminates excessive watering near the sprinkler.

"A lot of people have expressed an interest in this kind of system. I've had visitors from as far away as South America and Australia looking at it," Filan told FARM SHOW. He is evaluating various alternatives for getting his invention into commercial production and would welcome inquiries from interested manufacturers, dealers and irrigation farmers.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alton Filan, Pres., Filan Mfg., Route 1, Box 69, Waitsburg, Wash. 99361 (ph. 509-337-6590).

