

## Grain Cart Equipped With Engine

Keith Eckel, of Olney, Ill., re-powered his 400 bu. grain cart with an auxiliary engine so he could move it through mud, snow and other "impossible" conditions with his 4-WD Steiger 225 Bearcat tractor.

When he discovered it would cost about \$10,000 to have his Steiger equipped with a pto, he opted for a lower-cost alternative. He bought a new 37-hp., air-cooled Wisconsin engine which, complete with clutch, cost right at \$3,000 to have mounted on his 400 bu. Harris and Thrush "Big 12" grain cart. It came factory-equipped with a horizontal and vertical auger.

The auxiliary engine powers the

vertical auger and a hydraulic motor, powered by the tractor's hydraulics, run the horizontal auger. (Eckel notes that his 225 Steiger, like most 4-WD tractors commonly used throughout the Corn Belt, doesn't have sufficient hydraulic capacity to power big augers on big grain carts.)

Separate controls let Eckel operate the augers independently, a key feature which makes for less stress on equipment, especially with the 400-bu. cart full of wet corn. The vertical auger can be started and allowed to clear before the horizontal auger is engaged, thus minimizing wear and tear on the auxiliary engine and clutch.

## Handy Seed, Fertilizer Screen

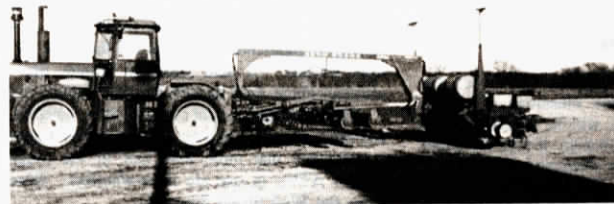
"I came up with this idea a couple years ago when we had to remove lumps from bulk fertilizer we had purchased," says C.M. Bolinger, Frankfort, Ind. who came up with a simple way to make a heavy-duty funnel screen for fertilizer or for cleaning foreign particles out of grains.

"You just cut the bead flange from one side of an auto or truck wheel along with 1 or 2 in. of rim, slicing the wheel all around its circumference. This produces an angle-shaped snap ring which you insert in the opposite side of the wheel to tightly hold a piece of stretched wire screen or hardware cloth in place. You can easily



change the screen for different size material," Bolinger explains.

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## Gooseneck "One Trip" Planter

"We plant in one trip," says George Janecek, Washington, Iowa, who, along with his two sons, built a gooseneck hitch to pull his trailing Deere planter behind a 3-pt. field cultivator and 3 gangs of rolling baskets.

The gooseneck, built from 5 by 7-in. sq. tubing, attaches to the planter with the same 8 bolts that hold the original tongue on the planter. The original tongue can be remounted at any time in about 30 min. for conventional operation.

Hydraulic lines, made from 1/2-in. pipe, run through the gooseneck as do plastic spray hoses. A 15-ft. wide field cultivator mounts on the 3-pt. and the rolling baskets - in 5-ft. wide gangs that weigh 400 lbs. each - follow immediately behind. Because of the weight on the 3-pt., Janecek has to have a full set of front weights when he pulls the rig with a 2-wheel tractor. He sprays herbi-cides either in front of the field cultivator or behind the planter, depending on ground conditions.

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Harold M. Johnson, Editorial Director

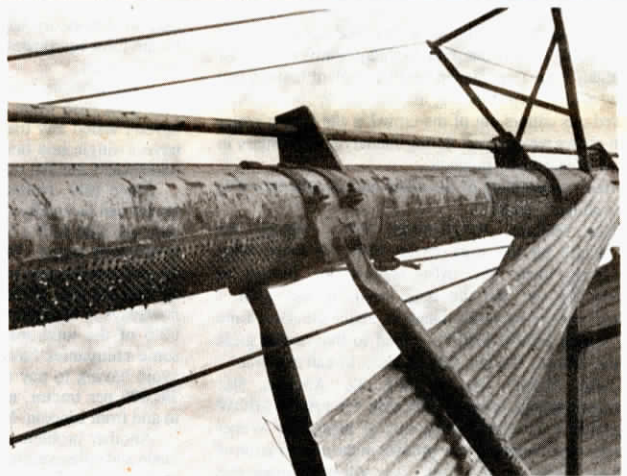


Photo courtesy Iowa Farmer Today

## Modified Auger Cleans Grain On Way To Bin

Ralph Schenk, and son Randy, of Mt. Union, Iowa, modified their 58 ft. long grain auger so fines are removed from corn as it's augered into the bin. With the fines out, Schenk notes that grain is easier to ventilate and the danger of spoilage is greatly reduced.

Key to the modification are the three 14-in. wide, 2-ft. long hammermill screens welded to the auger tubing. "First, we found screens that had 1/8-in. dia. holes. Then, we had the screens rolled to fit the configuration of our 7 1/2-in. dia. auger," says Ralph, noting that screens with 3/16-in. holes would also work.

The men cut out three sections of tubing, then welded on the three

screens about 1/3rd of the way up the auger.

Ralph notes that, by mounting the screens higher up on the auger, fines get a chance to separate from the corn, so they clean out better. A tin aluminum chute funnels fines into a wagon underneath the auger. Last fall, Ralph notes that they got about 75 bu. of fines from 7,500 bu. of corn.

When augering soybeans, the Schenks take stove pipe tin and strap it tightly around the tubing so no crop is lost.

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