

Add-On Sensors Get Hopper Loads Right

You can eliminate overloading or underloading big trailers with Leading Edge's Load Judge. The hopper-mounted sensors capture a clear image of material as it is loaded into the trailer, day or night, dust or not.

"I got tired of climbing on and off to check on a trailer being loaded," says Shawn Gengerke, Leading Edge Industries. "Cameras in dust or on a dewy morning don't work either. If you don't know how a trailer is loading, you can be off by 10,000 lbs."

The Load Judge is the solution from this innovative farmer, who also developed the Harvest Sweep (Vol. 39, No. 2). Kits consist of 6 lighted sensors and a moisture sensor mounted in the hopper trailer. The lighted sensors operate on a special frequency to scan the grain profile as it builds inside the trailer.

"The scan gives very good accuracy, even with dirty sensors," says Gengerke. "They could be covered with 1/2-in. of dirt and still be sensitive." The software self-calibrates as conditions change."

Proximity data from the sensors is run

through an algorithm that calculates shape and size of the pile. This is transmitted by wireless to an app on the driver's smartphone or other electronic device in the cab.

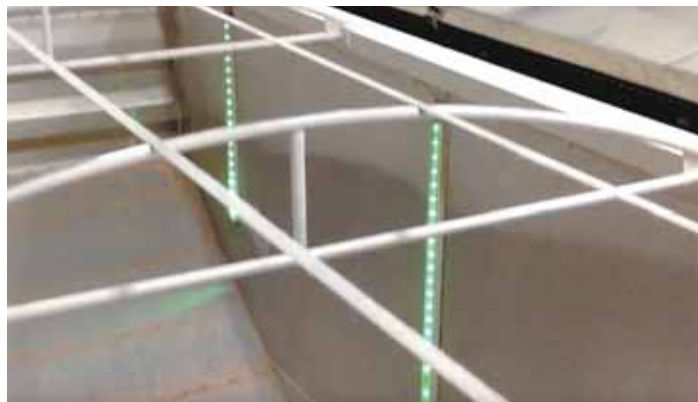
The app displays not only the profile of the grain and a preset end target profile, but also the estimated weight and bushels. The operator simply moves forward or backward as needed to fill to the optimum load.

"Load Judge makes it easy for the operator to load the truck consistently and correctly," says Gengerke. "It is adaptable to corn, wheat or any grain type."

Although he sells through dealers, he also sells direct. He designed the kits for do-it-yourself installation. They are priced based on the size of the trailer.

Purchased direct from the manufacturer, they range in price from \$5,000 for a single hopper pup trailer to \$9,500 for a 3-hopper, single trailer. A 4-hopper, Super B trailer requires 2 kits and is priced at \$13,000 ordered direct.

Additional moisture sensors are \$500 from Leading Edge. The website store asks for type



Lighted sensors scan the grain as it builds up inside trailer. Data from sensors is transmitted by wireless to an app on driver's smartphone.

of trailer and specification, including brand of trailer, sidewall height, number of hoppers, and trailer length.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,

Leading Edge Industries, 12702 406th Ave., Grotton, S. Dak. 57445 (ph 605 397-2020; support@loadjudge.com; www.loadjudge.com).

Hydraulic Jack Tilts Trailer Back

"It eliminates the need for someone to hold the back of the trailer down as vehicles are driven on and off. It also eliminates the need for ramps," says Harvey Nielsen, Melfort, Sask., about the "tilt trailer" he recently built.

He uses it to haul his utility vehicle as well as a home-built portable brush cutter and 1975 Cushman Trackster, an amphibious tracked ATV.

The 2-wheeled trailer measures 10 ft. long and has a plywood floor with a metal "stone guard" on front. The trailer tongue is hinged where it connects to the deck frame. Nielsen bolted a 24-in. long hydraulic jack onto the tongue and connected it to a metal bracket that's bolted to the bottom of the stone guard.

The top of the jack is connected to a clevis that's pinned to the bracket.

Nielsen unlatches a metal tab to release the front end of the trailer from the tongue, then pumps the jack all the way up to raise the front end of the trailer until the back end touches the ground.

He used 2 by 2 and 2 by 4 tubing to build the trailer's frame and cross members and seamless pipe to build the axle. The wheel hubs and springs are new. The stone guard is built out of sheet metal and pipe and is protected by the belt off an old gravel crusher.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harvey Nielsen, P.O. Box 1032, Melfort, Sask., Canada S0E 1A0 (ph 306 752-9253).



Hydraulic jack bolts onto trailer's hinged tongue. Nielsen unlatches a metal tab to release front end of trailer from tongue, then pumps jack up until trailer's back end touches the ground.

Extra Large Toolbox For Deere Combines

Sloan Express recently introduced an extra large step-on toolbox that fits Deere STS and S series combines. It's painted Deere green and comes with traction tape on top.

"Farmers told us these Deere combines didn't offer enough tool storage and asked if we could make bigger ones," says Nick Brazel. "We started making them about a year ago and they've been quite popular."

The toolbox comes with a pair of built-in support arms that bolt on underneath the combine frame.

"You just remove the original step and bolt the toolbox in its place by drilling four holes in the combine frame," says Brazel. "You still have access to the combine's side panels."

The toolbox sells for \$499.89 plus S&H. Customers in some areas may be eligible for free shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sloan Express, 120 N. Business 51, Assumption, Ill. 62510 (ph 800 934-9777; nbrazel@sloans.com; www.sloanex.com).



Step-on toolbox has a pair of built-in support arms that bolt on in place of combine's original step.

Horse Scratching Tool Has Lots Of Uses

"Our new handheld scratching tool is designed for horses but also works great on barnyard, domestic, and zoo animals. It's designed so you don't have to bend over when scratching the animal and is a must-have tool for every barn," says Cynthia Garry, inventor of the Scratch Me Silly scratching tool.

The 1-lb., 32-in. long yellow tool is made from fiberglass-impregnated plastic. It has a slightly curved shape with a scratching pad made from a thermoplastic elastomer at each end. One pad is larger for bigger animals, and the other is designed for smaller animals. The 32-in. length allows the user to stand upright and scratch the belly of the horse, while remaining at a safe distance from its hind legs. A video on the company website shows the tool being used to scratch a horse's belly and between its front legs, and to loosen caked-on dirt on the animal's legs. In cases of colic, after the vet has been called, it can

be used to help stimulate the gut.

"Not only does the tool work great for scratching, it can also be used to shampoo the horse's belly and to safely apply medication by saturating a cloth with medication and placing it over the pad," says Garry.

She says the tool works great for physically challenged individuals to safely stay away from the animal and scratch its belly, and for anyone suffering from PTSD who wants to gain confidence by connecting with animals. It can also be used by people with poor blood circulation to the feet, because they can massage them without having to bend over.

Scratch Me Silly is made in the U.S. Sells for \$32.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Scratch 'N All, P.O. Box 92, Dillsburg, Penn. 17019 (ph 888 972-7282; scratchnall@gmail.com; www.scratchnall.com).



Made from fiberglass-impregnated plastic, Scratch Me Silly tool is designed so you don't have to bend over when scratching the animal.