

# Header Designed To Bust Up Corn Borer

Kemper's Stalkbuster header option breaks up the crop stubble where European corn borers overwinter. The Agritechnica Gold Award winner is now available on a new CNH corn header in the U.K. and Europe, as well as on multiple other brands of forage harvesters. It is not available in North America, even though the corn borer is a yield threat for non-GMO growers in the U.S. and Canada.

"We do not have plans to bring this header option to North America due to lack of customer interest," reported Aimee Culbert, CNH.

This past fall, CNH's New Holland Agriculture introduced the Stalkbuster on a new 8-row header. It was developed by CNH's header supplier Kemper as a "groundbreaking solution for controlling the corn borer without pesticides or biological plant protection agents".

The Stalkbuster is a multi-benefit tool. It smashes stubble into small pieces, destroying the overwintering habitat for European corn borers. It also reduces fusarium risk and speeds breakdown of harvest residue.

The Stalkbuster is integrated into the base frame of the rotary 8-row corn header.

It breaks up the stubble before it can be flattened by the wheels of the harvester.

A specially shaped "buster" flail breaks up each row of stubble individually. A swinging gearbox with integrated ratchet clutch drives the flail. The swinging gearbox, combined with a pneumatic pressure system, enables the flail to follow ground contours.

The flail is made of highly wear-resistant material for a long service life. Polygon gearing allows the flail to be easily and quickly replaced without special tools. When the header shuts down, the flails freewheel for a soft runout. If the combine shifts into reverse, the Stalkbuster units automatically lift to prevent damage.

The cost-effective Stalkbuster eliminates out-of-pocket and environmentally costly inputs for controlling corn borer. Each row unit is estimated to require only 4 hp.

Check out the video at [farmshow.com](http://farmshow.com).

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Stalkbuster header option is available on CNH's new rotary corn header. A specially shaped "buster" flail breaks up each row of stubble individually to destroy the overwintering habitat of European corn borers.



Prongs on front of Rollavator loosen the soil surface, followed by intersecting triangle-shaped tines on steel rollers which leave a fine seedbed.

## Rolling Tines Out-Perform Conventional Rotary Hoes

The Australian-built Wiking Rollavator works up the soil surface without inverting the topsoil. Prongs at the front of the machine loosen the surface, which is then worked over by intersecting triangular-shaped tines on multiple rollers.

"This action provides the positive benefits of tilling to control weeds and allows soil amendments like lime to be incorporated," says Bill Peterson, Wiking Rollavator. "At the same time, it aerates the soil without bringing subsoil to the surface or harming earthworms below."

Instead of pegs, it has offset triangular tines on steel rollers set in a steel frame. As they roll across the surface of a field, tines from one roller intersect with tines on neighboring rollers, leaving behind a fine seedbed. The offset design prevents debris from building up on the rollers.

"Traditional tillage methods can be highly destructive to the microbiology of the topsoil that contains important microorganisms, nutrients and organic matter essential for healthy plant growth," notes Peterson. "The design of the Rollavator preserves the valuable structure of the topsoil and organisms that dwell within the vital humus and below the surface. It allows effective

aeration, moisture absorption and weed control."

Peterson points out that in addition to protecting the soil better than other tillage tools, the Wiking Rollavator can travel at speeds up to 4 times the ground speed of a rotary hoe. He estimates the faster speed and low power requirement could save up to 75 percent of fuel consumption.

"The ground-driven design means fewer moving parts, less wear and tear and reduced noise levels for greater cost efficiency," says Peterson. "The scalloped effect of the tines opens up the soil surface, reducing runoff and increasing water absorption."

To date, Peterson has built and sold several machines to area farmers and a researcher. While prototypes have been used on smaller size tractors, Peterson points out that the design could be scaled up or down.

"It does not require a pto to operate it, and it could be made light enough to be pulled, even by water buffalo in Third World countries," says Peterson.

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## Forklift "Extender Forks"

Matt Studer and his dad Ken operate a metal roofing business in rural Ohio, where they install "standing seam" roofs on houses and farm buildings. He recently sent FARM SHOW photos of 2 home-built, forklift-mounted extender forks. They're designed to handle big 2,000-lb. steel coils which are the raw material for their business.

One extender fork measures 8 ft. long and was built from scratch by Daniel Zbydniewski, plant manager with steel supplier Sheffield Metals in Sheffield Village, Ohio.

"The company cuts big master coils down to a size we can use in our shop and loads them onto pallets. Then they use a forklift to load the pallets on back of our 12-ft. trailer," says Matt. "They had been using a 4 by 4 wooden post to push the pallets by hand toward the front of the trailer in order to make more room, but it was a lot of work and not very safe. Using the extender fork with a forklift makes it easy to push the coils forward."

To load the coils, Ken built a single 4-ft. long fork that's welded onto a pair of boxed-in channel irons. The fork sticks out about 2 ft. They tip the coil over on its side, then use the fork to pick up the coil and load it onto their roll former.

"The 2 slots and the single fork are welded together as one unit, which provides a lot of strength and keeps the fork from bending under the heavy load," says Matt.

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This forklift-mounted, 8-ft. long extender fork is used at the factory to push pallets loaded with 2,000-lb. steel coils toward the front of a trailer.



The Studers use this add-on 4-ft. long fork to load coils of steel.

## Easy Way To Send Your Ideas

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