



Ridge planting attachment flexes up and down on a parallel linkage.

NEW ATTACHMENT LETS YOU "TOOL UP" FOR ONLY \$500/ROW

Ridge Plant With Your Conventional Planter

By Ralph Watkins

Conventional corn-soybean planters can be equipped for ridge planting, thanks to special add-on attachments invented by Harvey and Brady Jass, Odin, Minn.

The father-son farming team are ridge enthusiasts, raising top yields of both corn and soybeans with their 30-in. system, and conserving soil at the same time.

"The major advantage of our new planter attachment is that you don't have to buy a whole new till-plant planter to switch to ridge farming," explains Brady. The ridging attachment he and his father developed is primarily designed to fit the Deere 7100 Max-Emerge planter, but can be adapted to other makes and models of toolbar planters.

The top of the ridge built the previous summer is shaved off by the attachment's opposing disk blades, depositing root clumps, clods and other debris into the valleys between the rows. "A beautiful, moist seedbed several inches wide, that's never been compacted by a tractor wheel, is left on top the ridge," says Harvey. "You couldn't prepare a finer seedbed if you tried."

Operating in a conventional manner, the planter then places the seed for the new crop right in the same spot as the old row, on top of the ridge. The Jass attachment's stabilizing wheel which runs ahead of the disk blades, helps keep the planter up on the ridges.

"The tractor wheels run down in the valleys between the ridges, and

the planter is mounted. Thus, it's no trouble at all staying on the ridges and planting where you want to," notes Harvey.

The attachment, mounted with parallel linkage, flexes up and down independent of the planter unit. The 14-in disks have large tapered bearings, and are suited to sustained use in heavy cornstalks and on rocky ground, say the inventors.

Price of the unit is \$500 per row.

The Jasses themselves ridge-plant several hundred acres a year, using the attachments on an 8-row 30 in. Deere planter. They've set up a small manufacturing company to make and sell their new ridging attachment.

"We'll ship them anywhere. The units are easily installed and can be supplied with shovel-type ridge sweeps rather than disks," notes Harvey. "We also offer optional hydraulic lifts so that the ridge attachment can be lifted quickly, permitting conventional non-ridge planting. The hydraulic capability is particularly handy if you want to plant end rows non-ridged, which some ridge farmers like to do for ease of combining. If you're trying ridge farming for the first time, you'll need some way to build ridges the first time, and then a way to rebuild them at cultivation," Harvey points out.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, B & H Mfg., Inc., Rt. 1, Box 127, Odin, Minn. 56160 (ph 507 639-2320, or 736-4151).

GUARANTEES PROPER MILK AGITATION

New Device Ensures Accurate Milk Sampling

"Whenever a milk hauler takes a milk sample before the milk is well mixed, the chances are very good that the sample will not be accurate," points out Rob Johnson, developer of the new "Pro-Legal Milk Transfer System" which, he says, solves the problem.

Johnson, president of Liquid Sampling Systems, Inc., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, explains that, "the Pro-Legal system is a series of interlocks that connect the agitator with the milk transfer pump, ensuring that milk isn't pumped out of the tank until the milk has been agitated for the preset time."

Key to the patented system is a control box which mounts either in the milk truck on the pump motor cabinet, or in the milk house. The control box has a timer inside which is activated when the pump cord is plugged into the outlet at the farm and the agitator turned on. The outlet, in turn, is wired into a relay box, installed in the milk house. The relay box connects to the agitator starter switch.

After the milk hauler measures the milk, he turns on the agitator. At the preset time, a red light on the box will come on indicating that it's time to take the sample and pumping can begin. A green light on the box indicates the system is on.

The timer can be set for any time between 1 and 10 minutes in 20 second increments. For longer mixing times, another timer is available.

The agitator stays on until the transfer pump is shut off. The system resets automatically so, if the pump is shut off before the milk is pumped out, the hauler will have to repeat the cycle. If the system malfunctions there is a bypass system in the relay box. The box can be padlocked shut to prevent tampering.

The relay box sells for \$18.50. The control box sells for \$350, which includes the timer and connecting cables.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Liquid Sampling Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 165, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406 (ph 319 365-2259).

Dairyman Invents His Own Agitator Control System

Merton Russell, Endeavor, Wis., invented his own central system which prevents milk samples being taken before the tank is properly agitated. His system is different enough from the Pro-Legal system that there is a patent pending on his invention.

"I'm a dairy farmer," explains Russell, "and it seems I get a new milk pickup driver every month or so. They never seem to have enough time to agitate my milk a full five minutes before sampling and pumping the milk out."

"To solve the problem, I've invented a control device which locks out the transfer pump until agitation is complete. It works like this:

"The milk hauler plugs the cord from the truck into the wall box outlet. After measuring the milk, he pushes the start button on a control box mounted on the milkhouse wall to start the agitator motor. After the set time the agitator stops and the control allows a 2 minute pause for butterfat sampling. After 2 min-

utes, the control box automatically starts the pump on the truck. One hour after the pump is shut off, the device automatically resets for the next day.

"The milk hauler can shut the transfer pump off before the milk is completely pumped out and then restart the pump again without going through the complete agitation cycle again. A stop button on the panel allows you to shut the system off.

"There is a manual by-pass in case something does go wrong but that's inside the control box which can be locked.

"I now have peace of mind knowing the hauler has no manual control over agitating time or the pump-out motor," Russell explains. "I would be happy to talk to any interested FARM SHOW readers. We hope to have it in commercial production soon."

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Merton Russell, Box 319, Endeavor, Wis. 53930 (ph 608 587-2712).