

Cornhead is fitted with unique rubber-paddled down corn "picker upper". Hasenkamp also put sickle sections on gathering chains to help cut off stalks.

Header "Paddlewheel" Picks Up Down Corn

"An engineer friend of mine who worked for Deere told me it's the best design he'd ever seen for picking up down corn," says Kansas farmer Bob Hasenkamp about the header "paddlewheel" he built last fall to pick up down corn.

He came up with the idea to help a neighbor whose crop was down. "It was such a mess you couldn't even see the rows," he says. "When I started helping him combine, I had to stop every 25 yards to clear the head."

That's when Hasenkamp and a local machinist devised their unique solution.

Similar in concept to "spider wheel" type down corn "picker uppers" that have been featured in FARM SHOW has over the years, the new paddlewheel has some advantages over other units.

The paddles turn at a slow, 10 rpm's which helps prevent wrapping.

To build the paddlewheel, Hasenkamp used parts off a junked Massey combine.

Paddles were cut from 1/2-in thick rubber conveyor belt and are 8 in. wide by 2 ft. long. They bolt to metal brackets made from 8-in. wide flat metal plate and pieces of 1 1/2-in dia. pipe mounted on a 1 3/8-in. pipe that runs the width of the head.

The paddlewheel is belt-driven from a 10-in. dia. pulley fitted to the cross auger's drive shaft.

The paddles rotate in a 4-ft. circumference, with four just brushing the snouts of the Massey four-row (30-in.) header. The other four rotate just above the row.

"With two paddles per row everything feeds nicely into the cross auger," Hasenkamp notes.

For added pulling power, Hasenkamp put new splash links on the combine's gathering chains and welded serrated sickle bar sections on each side of the outer rows. The sections extend halfway out over the middle of the row with the back side of the sickle section butting up against the splash links. "That way, whatever comes up either gets fed through or cut off and pushed out the snap rollers," he says.

"I cut 66 acres of the badly down corn with the paddlewheel," Hasenkamp says. "It was still slow going, but I never had to get out of the combine once to clear the head."

The invention, in which he invested about \$150, is adaptable to any head and row spacing, he notes. He's looking into patenting the attachment and would like to find a manufacturer to produce it.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Hasenkamp, Box 880, Soldier, Kan. 66540 (ph 913 868-2441).



Auger Clears Trash Off Moldboard Plow

"When those old-style low-clearance moldboard plows plug up with crop residue, they're not much fun to clear," says Jerry DeMuth.

So last spring the Winthrop, Iowa, farmer made an on-the-go plow cleaner for his Deere four bottom 16-in. plow.

"I don't know of anyone else who's done this before," he says. "It works great to keep crop residue flowing evenly through the plow."

It consists of a piece of 4-in. dia. grain auger flighting he had around the farm that runs the length of the 15-ft. long plow, mounted just beneath the "backbone" of the plow on hanger brackets. The ends of the auger fit into a short section of water pipe that supports it and permits it to rotate.

The auger is driven from the front by a hydraulic motor off an old Massey combine. Driven by tractor hydraulics,

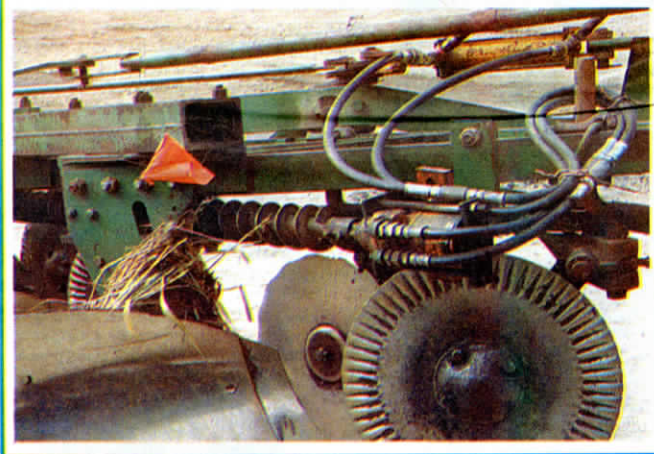
the auger can be operated continuously in high residue situations or as it's needed in lower residue conditions. DeMuth lubricates the auger through a grease zerk he put on the front.

"The only problem I've had is that foxtail wraps in the auger kind of easily," DeMuth notes. "When it does, you just have to stop, get out your knife and cut it off."

Because DeMuth already had the auger and hydraulic motor on hand, he estimates he has only about \$50 invested in his invention.

It worked so well on his moldboard plow this year, DeMuth's thinking of building a similar cleaner for his chisel plow for next season.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jerry DeMuth, 424 1st St. South, Winthrop, Iowa 50682 (ph 319 935-3931).



Simple Home-Built "Bale Bunch" Cart

By C.F. Marley

It's simple but it works, says John Poirot, Nashville, Ill., who figures he saved himself a lot of money by building his own bale bunch cart to leave small square bales in groups of six in the field.

The buncher is simply a manually-dumped small flatbed on a single axle. A piece of channel iron along one side is spaced so that 3 bales ride side by side on the cart. One man riding on the front of the cart guides bales onto the flatbed, and

then dumps the trailer with a hand lever when it's full. They slide off the back.

Once the bales are bunched in the field, Poirot never has to touch them by hand again. He uses a commercial-built Farmhand bale grab to handle all six bales at once to load them onto wagons or into stacks.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Poirot, RR, Nashville, Ill. 62263 (ph 618 493-6139).

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