

ELIMINATES HASSLE OF HAVING TO HAUL SEED GRAIN TO TOWN

Custom Seed Cleaning Right On Your Farm

If you're looking for a new sideline to keep yourself busy during the off-season for farming, maybe you should take a look at custom seed cleaning.

FARM SHOW has tracked down several firms who've had a year or more experience going farm to farm with portable seed cleaning rigs. For farmer-customers, a job that used to take a day or two and several trips to town is reduced to a phone call for making an appointment. The custom rig comes out and does the job without even needing your help. You just show them where the grain bin is and give them your cleaning instructions.

South Dakota

"We've really been busy and plan to have a third truck in service later this spring to keep up with growing farmer demand," reports Mark Adams, manager of the South Dakota Seed Cleaning Service, headquartered in Sioux Falls.

In addition to cleaning, the firm also offers custom seed bagging, treating and sizing. "Seed sizing is catching on fast with soybean growers," Mark points out. "We not only clean the seed a soybean farmer plans to plant, but are able to size it so the entire lot is of one uniform size or grade. This allows him to get uniform spacing of the seeds when he plants and assures getting the desired plant population."

Mark, together with his father Gerald who launched and owns the business, will be running three custom rigs in South Dakota from Dec. to June, and in Oklahoma from June to early fall to custom clean winter wheat on farms. Their largest machine will clean and size soybeans at the rate of 250 bu./hr. (180 bu. if the seed is being bagged). It's equipped with a four-screen Clipper mill, mounted on a 27 ft. gooseneck trailer, and pulled farm to farm with a pickup.

"We designed and equipped the units ourselves. A key feature is that all augers are brush type to minimize seed damage," says Mark.

The going rate for custom cleaning is 1¢ per lb. for soybeans and oats, and 50¢ per bu. for wheat.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, South Dakota Seed Cleaning Service, 401 Glendale, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. 57104 (ph 605 336-1826).

Canada

Business is booming for Mobile Seed Cleaning Service Limited, headquartered at Kleinburg, Ont. Just entering its second full season, the firm operates two large custom rigs that custom clean both for farmers and smaller country elevators.

"Our rates are about the same as a farmer would pay to have his seed cleaned in town — if indeed the ser-

vice is even available locally. The big advantage is that we do the job for him without any hassle on his part," notes Ian Kennedy, co-owner.

Capacity of the portable rigs is right at 350 bu. of wheat per hr. They meet or exceed government certification standards and can be programmed to give the farmer-customer exactly what he wants in terms of cleaning, deabarding, scalping, treating and germination testing.

The self-contained mobile units are mounted on semi-trailers, have their own power plants and are equipped with vacuum systems for moving grain out of the farmer's bin and into the cleaner.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mobile Seed Cleaning Ltd., P.O. Box 309, Kleinburg, Ont. L0J 1C0 (ph 416 775-6994).

Kansas

Kansas farmer Gordon Morrison, of Concordia, has been growing certified seed wheat for seven years and always had a "hassle" hauling his 3,000 to 4,000 bushels into the elevator and back out to the farm. To solve the problem, he designed and built a monster portable machine that earns its keep by doing custom cleaning for area farmers. "We're thinking about taking it to Oklahoma this summer to do custom cleaning on farms and at country elevators," Morrison told FARM SHOW.

He hired Charles Korte and Kevin Reding to help build the portable rig which handles up to 500 bu. of wheat per hour. The cleaner itself is a used Clipper that stands 11 ft. tall, 14 ft. long, 6 ft. wide and weighs 5,000 lbs. The cleaner, two elevator legs that stand 25 and 30 ft. tall, and all other components are mounted on a 34 ft. gooseneck trailer.

"We plan to go farm to farm to clean large seed lots for registered and certified growers," says Morrison. The going rate is 45 cents per bushel for registered or certified seed, and 35 cents for regular winter wheat. We can also treat seed as it's being cleaned but we don't have a bagger on the machine. For farmers who don't have enough seed to make it feasible for us to come to their farm, we go to a central location, such as a country elevator that doesn't offer seed cleaning, where farmers can bring their seed to us. Instead of having to haul seed 75 or 100 miles, they only have to drive 5 or 10 miles to get the job done. To minimize seed damage, we designed the machine so there are no augers to move seed — only elevator legs and belt-type conveyors."

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Morrison's, Seed Cleaning Service, c/o Gordon Morrison, 323 West 16th St., Concordia, Kan. 66901 (ph 913 243-3833).

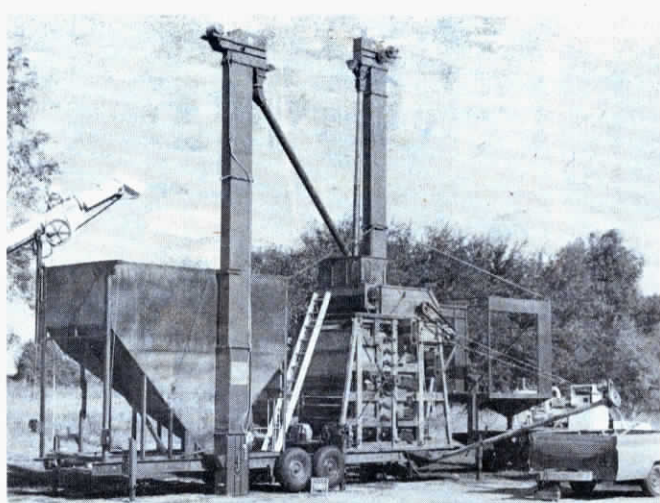
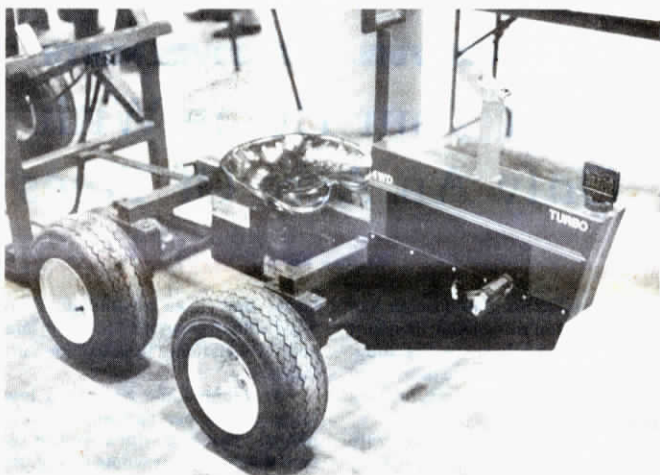


Photo courtesy Grass and Grain Magazine

On the Morrison rig, a 353 Detroit diesel generator powers six electric motors totaling 20.5 hp. The elevator legs fold down for highway travel.



New-style 'pedal pusher' features one gear that drives all four wheels.

GREAT CROWD PLEASER FOR SHOWS, FAIRS

New 4-Wheel Drive "Pedal" Tractors

When Brant Koller, general manager of Cheney Weeder Inc., Spokane, Wash., saw an article in FARM SHOW last fall on pedal-powered mini-tractors, he set out to build his own.

New Koller-built "pedal pushers" were unveiled at the recent Spokane Ag Expo where show goers were invited to give them a try.

The simplified 4-WD tractors are equipped with trailer tires. The seat is adjustable to accommodate everyone from kids to adults, and there's a grip bar for extra pull in place of a steering wheel. There's just one gear on the chain drive which propels the 4 wheels.

The weight box is driven by two rear wheels on the sled. A sprocket on the axle of the rear wheels drives a chain which pulls the weight box up

an incline and puts pressure on a skid plate running along the floor. The higher the box gets, the more pressure on the skid plate and the more resistance to the operator. Different amounts of weight can be added, depending on the size and strength of the competitors.

"Pedal pulling can be a great event for shows, fairs and other local events," Koller told FARM SHOW. He plans to make his tractors available to community groups. He'll also build additional tractors for interested buyers.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brant Koller, Cheney Weeder, Inc., P.O. Box 232, Spokane, Wash. 99210 (ph 800 541-5880 toll free, or 800 572-5600 in Wash.)