

Smorgasbörd



Harold Johnson
Editor

Remember that first-of-its kind, rear-folding toolbar we told you about in FARM SHOW early this year? It folds to a narrow 14 ft. width for road transport, handles anywhere from 8 to 36 rows, and accommodates most makes of planter units. Booming farmer demand for the popular new toolbar, and Deere Max-Emerge planter units to go with it, has triggered some interesting new developments.

Several months ago, Kinze Mfg. and its president, Jon Kinzenbaw, filed suit against Deere and Co., and one of its dealers, for allegedly not selling its Max-Emerge planter units unless a customer also bought Deere's toolbar. Although most other makes of planter units will work on the rear-folding Kinze toolbar, Max-Emerge planters are far and away the most popular choice, according to Kinze Mfg. In filing the suit, the firm claimed it had sustained \$2 million in cancelled orders and other losses as a result of Deere's alleged refusal to sell Max-Emerge planter units for use on Kinze toolbars.

We're told that the suit has been settled and that Max-Emerge planter units are available for use on Kinze toolbars — without having to buy Deere's toolbar. If you can't get them through your local John Deere dealer, check with Kinze Mfg., Williamsburg, Iowa 52361 (ph. 319 688-1300).

Had an interesting note from Ralph Woodward, of Carlisle, Ind., explaining how he uses corn or wheat to "puncture proof" tires on his rotary mower and other equipment which isn't moved very often, or equipment used where thorns are a problem.

Here's the idea: You fill the tire with grain, then soak it in water, causing the grain to sprout and swell up to solidly seat the tire onto the rim. You take the tire out of the water when it's hard enough to suit you.

"The secret is to get all the grain into the tire you can and still be able to get the tire bead back on the rim," says Ralph. He finds it works best to fill a child's wading pool or similar container with grain so you can bury the rim and tire in the grain as you poke grain inside the tire. If you lay the tire on a concrete floor and try to fill it, grain will leak out one side as fast as you can poke it in the other.

Ralph suggests breaking down the upper bead of the tire only. "Filling a tire with enough grain is difficult until you get the hang of it," he points out. He adds that his grain-filled "puncture proof" tires last indefinitely. One day, out of curiosity, he cut one open after three years to see what the grain looks like. It was in good shape — had a silage odor and looked like any other corn coming out of airtight storage. Be sure to plug the valve stem hole, and watch the tire when soaking it so it doesn't get

too hard and cause the tire casing to split. Ralph has used only corn and wheat but thinks other grains would work just as well.

Did you hear about Ole the Swede who was considering the use of one of those rain-making machines? He was skeptical so the salesman gave him a handful of cloud-seeding pellets to take home while he thought about it. Ole stuffed the pellets in his pocket — and wet his pants three times on the way home (Stolen from Farm Building News).

Popularity of one-man loose hay stacking systems has faded fast in South Texas. "You can buy these systems for below dealer cost," reports O.K. Fuller, of Fuller Tractor Co., Beeville. Here's how he sizes up current trends:

"The quality hay is being baled by the conventional baler and stored in barns. Where labor and storage is a factor, the one-man stacking system was very popular for about two years. However, due to our wet winters when this feed is needed, the waste was too great. The large round baler has taken the place of the loose stack system for several reasons. There is less waste with the round bale, the bales are easier to move, and equipment cost is less. Large quantities of hay are still being handled by one man using a conventional baler, and an automatic bale wagon and unloader for placing them in a barn without having to touch or lift a single bale."

Fuller emphasizes that he's only reporting what's taking place in his South Texas area: "I'm sure trends here will conflict with areas having different weather conditions," he points out.

FARM SHOW salutes the Robert Turners, of Chester, Mont., for promoting their most important product. Accompanying their check for a FARM SHOW subscription was a printed reminder that "payment of this bill was made possible through the sale of beef." Their personalized check had three pictures on it — one showing the head of a beef animal and "mug shots" of themselves with their ID number underneath.

Our promise of publishing something of interest in every issue of FARM SHOW, for all farmers, regardless of how small or how big your operation, isn't just an idle boast. Here, for farmers still farming with "live" horsepower, is a "hot tip" answer to your most-asked question: Where can I buy new horse-drawn equipment?

We searched high and low to find the only such manufacturer we know of: D. A. Hochstetler and Sons, Rt. 2, Topeka, Ind. 46571. They offer a spanking new Riding Plow (14 or 16 in.) and steel wheel wagon running gear (6 ton capacity). As demand increases, they expect to enlarge their line, with walking plows, harrows and cultivators heading the priority list. Prices run about \$575 for a 14 or 16 in. single bottom sulky plow, and \$360 for a steel wheel farm wagon (\$445 with brake attachment). "Our steel wheeled wagon is one of the few on the market today with a 5 ft. track," boasts a literature piece on the Model SW 68 6-ton horse-drawn wagon.

Some pesticide advertisements in farm magazines and on TV are "bugging" a lot of farmers, including Terrance Kerber, of Sigourney, Iowa. "I think these ads are an insult to farmers, especially the ones showing a farmer pouring out herbicide with his hands, arms and eyes exposed, or spraying his fields in extremely high winds," he reports in Agri Marketing magazine. "We're required to take certification tests to prove we can handle these products responsibly, yet according to these ads, farmers seem to have no regard for their own health or welfare, or the environment." If it were at all possible, says Kerber, he'd avoid buying from companies whose advertising insults the intelligence of farmers.

Had lunch the other day with a neighbor — Angus Sorensen, president of Electronic Distributing Co., and inventor-manufacturer of a popular new system that uses radar to protect schools, office buildings, factories and even homes against fire and burglars. It's equipped with a transmitter which lets local police know, by radio, the second a sensor in the building detects fire, smoke or intruders.

In telling me about it, Angus said he's devised a low-cost system a farmer or rancher could use to trap a thief he suspects is stealing gas, grain or whatever. The "trap" is a small alarm that goes off when the unsuspecting victim runs into an invisible fish line strung across his path to the gas tank or grain bin. The instant he trips the line, bells ring, lights go on or a horn sounds. You can rig it up for one or all of the various alarms. "We make them up as a kit for \$100. Anybody who can change a light bulb can figure out how to wire it up," says Angus. "Additional costs for wire running back to the house and other accessories wouldn't amount to more than \$25." For more details, drop him a line at Sedco Electronic Distributing Co., Angus Sorensen, Pres., 20775 Hollins Ave., Lakeville, Minn. (ph. 612 469-2697).

Seven years ago, Clarence Ecklund, Roseau, Minn. farmer, spotted a different looking wheat in his field of rye. The heads were long and full of kernels and beardless. He left the wheat in the field and threshed it by hand. The following summer, he planted the wheat in rows in his garden, repeating the process until he had enough seed to plant four-tenths of an acre. That small planting yielded the equivalent of more than 90 bu. per acre.

Last year, farmer friends prevailed on Ecklund for some seed of his "super" wheat on the condition he could buy seed back. They were astounded with up to 56 bu. per acre return. Overall, the new wheat averaged 40 bu. per acre, which was considered excellent in view of the area's growing conditions. Ecklund shared some 25,000 bu. of his new wheat for planting last fall. Everyone is eagerly awaiting the results. (From Co-op Country News, published by Cenex and GTA, St. Paul, Minn.).

Ford Tractor recently announced plans to enter the large 4-wheel drive farm tractor market. Ford dealers will market a new line of four models initially, and later a total of 5 models ranging from 210 to 450 hp. The new tractors are being produced for Ford by Steiger Tractor, based in Fargo, N.D.

You'll soon be able to do some wild and wonderful things with your telephone. For example, suppose you need to visit a neighbor but are expecting an important phone call. You'll be able to pick up your phone before you leave and dial your neighbor's number, along with a "call forwarding" code. Any incoming calls will be switched automatically to the number where you can be reached.

You'll also be able to use your phone to relay instructions to equipment and appliances. For instance, you'll be able to phone your irrigation engine, crop dryer or other equipment to turn it on or off. If you're driving back from an extended trip, you can phone your furnace to make sure the house will be warm when you arrive.

Check your health!

Hold this paper to your face and blow on this square.



- If it turns green, call your physician.
- If it turns brown, see your dentist.
- If it turns purple, see your psychiatrist.
- If it turns red, see your banker.
- If it turns black, call your lawyer and make a will.
- If it remains the same color, you are in good health and there is no reason on earth why you should not be in church next Sunday morning.