



Rebuilt Drill Uses Kinze Brush Meters

"It lets me plant narrow row, no-till beans with the accuracy of the best row crop planters on the market," says Bob Kepple, Greene, Iowa, who mounted Kinze brush metering units on a rebuilt Tye 20-ft. grain drill that's also equipped with a home-built coulter cart.

Kepple bought the used drill five years ago equipped with 10-in. row units and skip row spacing. The first year he used the drill as it was. The next year he switched to no-till by building a coulter cart from scratch. It consists of a 4-in. sq. 20-ft. toolbar fitted with wavy coulters. The toolbar hangs from a bridge hitch frame made from 4 by 4 and 4 by 6-in. tubing. He also mounted a 2-bar drag (off an old field cultivator) behind the drill. In addition, he replaced the original disc openers with new-style disc openers and added 1 by 10 press wheels and heavier springs.

Two years ago he removed the drill box and made a bigger 60-bu. one, adding Kinze brush meters. The box is built in two sections, each equipped with its own

ground-driven shaft. Kepple's cousin helped make a new aluminum housing so the brush meters could be mounted in-line on each shaft.

"It plants much more accurately than the original drill," says Kepple. "I wasn't happy with the original drill because whenever I changed soybean varieties I was never sure how many seeds I was planting. The Kinze brush meters are foolproof. They let me set the drill to plant at exactly the desired population regardless of seed size. If I want four soybeans per foot, that's what I get. I change seed population by changing sprocket sizes at the end of each shaft. The sprockets chain-drive a jackshaft that chain-drives the brush meters. A sprocket that's one tooth bigger or smaller changes the seed population by 10,000 per acre.

"I use a dual wheel semi-truck axle that's operated by a pair of hydraulic cylinders to raise or lower the drill. Another cylinder controls depth of the coulter cart."

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Add-On "Catwalk" For Deere Tractors

"I used steel grating to make 2-ft. long, 13-in. wide catwalks for my Deere 4755 and 4640 2-WD tractors. Makes it a lot easier to fuel up," says Gerald Oloske, Edmonton, Alberta.

Oloske welded a steel frame onto the grating which bolts to the side of the tractor.

"These tractors have long wheelbases, making it hard to reach the fuel tank from the cab," says Oloske. "In the past I had

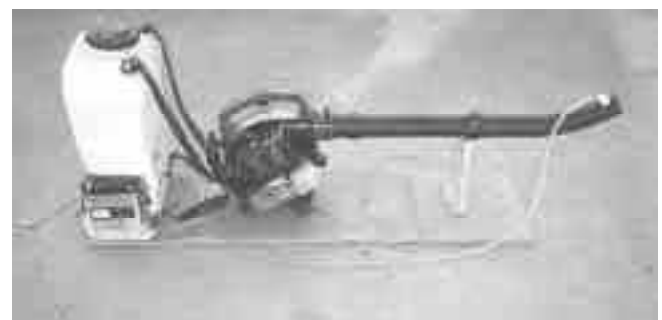
to put one foot on the battery case and the other on the front axle which was a long stretch. Now I can put one foot on the catwalk and the other on the tractor's front axle. The grating works better than a steel plate because dirt and water drop through."

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Some of the best new products we hear about are "made it myself" innovations born in farmer's workshops. If you've got a new invention or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so, where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors? (Send to FARM SHOW, Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044)

Mark Newhall, Editor



"Leaf Blower" Fly Sprayer

Hog producer Lavern Heller, Atkinson, Neb., made a low-cost fly sprayer out of an old leaf blower and a backpack sprayer.

"I wear it like a backpack and use it to control flies in our nursery and finishing barns. I spent less than \$300 to put it together. Comparable commercial sprayers sell for \$450 to \$500 and don't work as well," says Heller.

The backpack sprayer was originally equipped with a pump handle on one side to pressurize the tank. Heller removed the handle and mounted a small liquid pump and a 12-volt motorcycle battery onto a 1/4-in. thick plastic plate that he attached to the bottom of the tank. He then ran a small hose from the pump to a spray nozzle in-

serted into the end of the leaf blower pipe. A by-pass valve on the intake side of the pump is used to control the flow of liquid from the spray tank.

"I use the sprayer twice a week during the summer. It really works good," says Heller. "I fill the tank with a mixture of water and concentrated fly spray. It takes only about 15 minutes to spray one barn. I can set it to spray anything from droplets to a fine mist. The blower delivers air at 150 mph and has enough velocity that the spray reaches the top of the barn where flies seem to settle the most."

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