

Stretchable Bin Sealant "Will Never Crack"

"Our new 'Stretch-A-Seal' bin sealant stretches without cracking as the bin expands from grain pressure, creating an airtight seal at the bottom of the bin to keep out moisture and prevent grain from spoiling," says Ken Landgaard, president, Stretch-A-Seal, Maple Grove, Minn.

The product, a combination of urethane and liquid rubber, is applied in a 3-step process. First you use a brush to apply a primary top coat, then apply caulking and another top coat.

"It's easy to apply and always stays soft and pliable," says Landgaard. "Another advantage is that it helps keep the bottom of the bin from rusting. It also improves the efficiency of electric drying fans by keeping grain dry around the bottom.

We've been using it to seal grain bins in the Fargo area for the last few years. Now we're going nationwide. Urethane foam alone is much more expensive and tar doesn't have ultraviolet resistance so it dries out and cracks.

"The top coat is a gray/silver color to match the grain bins. The product can also be used at any thickness to fill cracks in floor. It cures 'tacky free' in about four hours."

Sold in 1-gal. pails, the product costs about 75 cents per foot when applied in an 8-in. wide strip around the bin.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Stretch-A-Seal, 9560 85th Ave. N., Maple Grove, Minn. 55428 (ph 800 669-9314 or 612 391-7830).

New Cutting Torch Makes Its Own Oxygen

"Our new cutting torch uses sodium chlorate pellets to produce its own oxygen. It costs only pennies per minute to operate," says B. K. "Buzz" Polhill, vice president of sales for Solid Ox Mfg., Freeport, Ill.

The system consists of an oxygen storage tank (you can use one or two tanks at a time), a pressure relief valve, propane tank, torch set with dual knob control and safety check valve, four specially designed braze/weld tips, and sodium chlorate pellets. A pellet is lit and placed in the oxygen tank with the plastic cap secured. The burning sodium chlorate produces oxygen. After pressure inside the tank reaches 8 lbs. per sq. inch, which takes only about 8 seconds, color coded propane and oxygen valves on the torch handle are adjusted to regulate flame size.

"It eliminates the need for heavy, high-pressure oxygen cylinders," says Polhill. "It's also very cost effective. Oxygen costs 4 to 7 cents per minute compared to up to 60 cents per minute for conventional bottled oxygen. Each pellet produces about



System operates for pennies per minute.

40 liters of oxygen."

A single tank model sells for \$265; a double tank model for \$365.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, B.K. "Buzz" Polhill, Solid Ox Mfg., Inc., 115 E. Washington St., Freeport, Ill. 61032 (ph 815 235-0055).

"Snag-Free" Ear Tag

"Our new snag-free ear tag fits tight against the back of the cow's ear so it won't snag and rip out," says Don Hicks, inventor.

"With other ear tags there's about 1/4 in. between the ear and button that holds the tag on, so when the animal reaches through a fence and pulls her head back, the wire can get caught and rip the tag out, leaving you with an injured, unmarked

animal," notes Hicks.

Snag-free tags come in four sizes and a variety of colors. They sell for from 66 to 90 cents depending on size.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, K-Products Group, Perma-Flex Division, 724 Commerce St., Aberdeen, S. Dak. 57401 (ph 800 843-1660) or Donald D. Hicks, Box 321, Geraldine, Montana 59446 (ph 406 737-4291).

KEEPS SEED FROM BOUNCING OUT OF SEED TRENCH

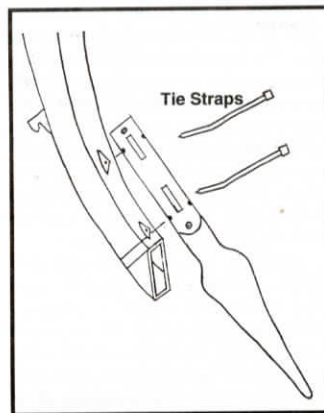
Add-On Seed "Tender"

"It stops seed from bouncing out of the furrow," says Paul Schaffert, Schaffert Mfg., Indianola, Neb., about his new "seed tender" attachment for row crop planters.

It consists of a 12-in. long curved poly "paddle" that fastens onto the back of the seed tube with two nylon tie straps. As seed comes out of the tube, it's "trapped" in the bottom of the trench by the plastic strip which has a concave depression in the center of it.

"It doesn't put any pressure on the seed so there's no scuffing or scratching of the seed coating," says Schaffert. "Some seed firmers on the market push the seed down too far, resulting in uneven emergence. They also tend to widen out the bottom of the furrow.

"The paddle is a little narrower than the seed trench so it doesn't disturb the sidewall or drag seeds. It also doesn't make a flat bottom trench or create air pockets. It works well when used with our furrow seed closer that mounts ahead of the planter's press wheels. Farmers who tested it last spring told us they were able to plant faster without worrying about seed bounce."

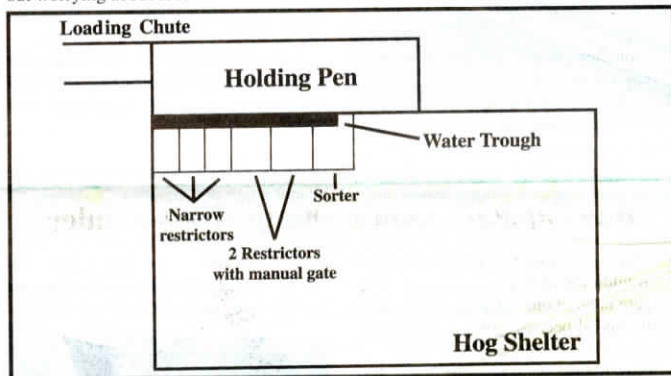


The 12-in. poly "paddles" fasten onto back of seed tube to prevent seed bounce.

Fits Deere, Kinze, Yetter, and White planters.

Sells for about \$20 per row.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Schaffert Mfg. Co., Inc., Rt. 1, Box 157, Indianola, Neb. 69034 (ph 800 382-2607).



On shipping day, the operator leaves the sorter stall open and closes off the other two large stalls, so the bigger hogs have to go into the sorter stall to drink.

SYSTEM AUTOMATICALLY SEPARATES HOGS

Automatic Hog Sorter

The job of sorting out market weight hogs is a lot easier with this new computerized hog sorter that uses a scale to weigh hogs, then automatically sends market weight animals into a holding pen.

The "Hog o' Matic" sorter consists of a series of six stalls arranged side by side, starting with 3 narrow stalls followed by two wider ones and then a "hog sorter" stall that's equipped with a weigh scale and an entrance and exit gate. The gates are operated by an electric motor that's controlled by a computer. The two stalls adjacent to the sorter stall are of the same width as the sorter stall and are equipped with a manually-operated gate in back that covers both stalls.

Each stall has a water trough inside. Hogs enter the stalls to drink and back out after having had their fill. Small hogs can drink from all seven stalls, but market weight and close-to-market-weight hogs can only get into the two larger stalls and the sorter stall. On shipping day, the operator simply leaves the sorter stall open and closes off the other two large stalls, so

that the bigger hogs have to go into the sorter stall to drink. If the hog matches or exceeds the target weight you've entered into the computer, the entrance gate automatically drops down and the exit gate opens up, forcing the hog into a small holding pen.

"The stalls are the only access to water in the building so they have to use them," says Lepage. "You set up the sorter three to four hours before you're ready to leave for market. You don't even have to be there while the hogs are being sorted.

"The sorter keeps a running total of the number of hogs sorted and their cumulative weight. It can also be programmed to shut down after it has sorted the number of hogs that your trailer or truck will hold. The target weight can be changed any time to whatever weight you desire."

Sells for \$5,760 (Canadian).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Louis LePage, Frontier Business Centre, Box 285, Vonda, Sask., Canada S0K 4N0 (ph 800 361-1163 or 306 258-2134).