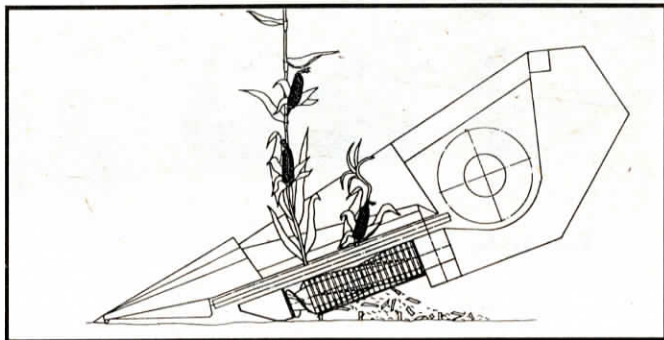


New Ideas From Europe

(Continued from previous page)



"Second Generation" Cornhead Shredder

European manufacturers are working fast and furious to develop cornhead shredders that shred cornstalk residue on the go as the corn is harvested. Early designs used a row of rotating blades mounted on the underside of the head.

Now a French manufacturer has come up with shredding rollers that replace the snapper rollers on cornheads and both pick the ear and shred the stalk at the same time, requiring 30% less power than other blade-type shredders, according to the manufacturer.

At first glance the shredder-rollers look like snapper rollers. The difference is that they're fitted with rows of blunt cutting teeth with square slots between them that "comb" through a solid-mounted set of narrow teeth that fit through slots in the teeth. The rollers mount below the gathering chains. When they grab hold of the stalk, they shred it as it's pulled down through the teeth. Since the ear can't feed into the narrow teeth, it's snapped off and pulled on up into the

combine.

"It's far superior to other systems that have been developed for shredding stalks because it requires no new mechanical drive systems and no change in the way you normally operate the combine. It's compatible with the design of existing cornheads," company representative D. Poiteaux told FARM SHOW. He notes the new rollers cannot, however, be fitted to existing cornheads due to tooling changes required to make room for the shredders. The shredder rollers are only available on the company's new corn and sunflower harvesting head.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Agram, 238 Bld. Anatole France, 93207 Saint-Denis, Cedex 1, France (ph 48 20 63 45).

A German company also makes new roller-type cornhead shredders. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Geieringhoff GMBH & Co., 4730 Ahlen, West Germany (ph 0 23 82 54 45).

Massey "Cruise Control" Tractor

Massey Ferguson became the first company to offer a tractor with a complete "cruise control" automatic drive system when it introduced its new 3000 and 3600 series tractors at SIMA.

"It's the first Massey Ferguson tractor that's 100% designed and built in France," says export manager Michel Borges, about the new tractor line, which ranges in size from 80 to 150 hp.

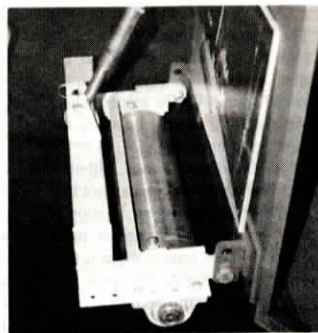
The all-new electronic cruise control system controls engine speed and the transmission. When you get to a desired field operating speed and rpm's, you simply press a button to maintain it. Electronics automatically gear up and down as needed to maintain constant engine speed. You can put a desired speed into the memory.

Depth Control Wheel

A new heavy-duty depth control wheel mounts on big combine heads to keep the ends from digging into the ground.

The 2 1/2-ft. wide, 8-in. dia., steel wheel mounts behind either end of the head. Height can be adjusted up and down. A company spokesman says the wide steel wheel doesn't bounce like a rubber wheel and won't vary its position in any way. The added width of the wheel provides rolling stability. Wheels sell for \$800 apiece.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Franquet, Route De Prouvais, B.P. 9, 02190 Guignicourt, France.



Bolt-On Crop Lifters

Bolt-on crop lifters designed to get under downed or tangled crops attracted crowds at the recent SIMA show.

The wedge-shaped lifters bolt to sickle guards, attaching beneath the platform. There's a hinge-point where the lifters attach to the cutterbar and at the center point of the lifts so their height can be raised or lowered as needed by adjusting a spacer bolt that rests against the top side of the sickle guard.

Unlike other crop lifters, the company says the new 20-in. long lifters won't dig in because of the way they hinge up and down to float independently. Also, the tip of the lifters curves slightly upward. Farmers lower the height of the lifters when harvesting badly damaged or particularly tangled crops that require as low an approach as possible. The lifters were designed with all smooth edges to help prevent shattering of bean or pea



Pods. They sell for about \$35 apiece.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rabaud S.A., Bellevue, 85110 Sainte-Cecile, France, (ph 51 40 20 67).

Grain Platform Roller Feeders

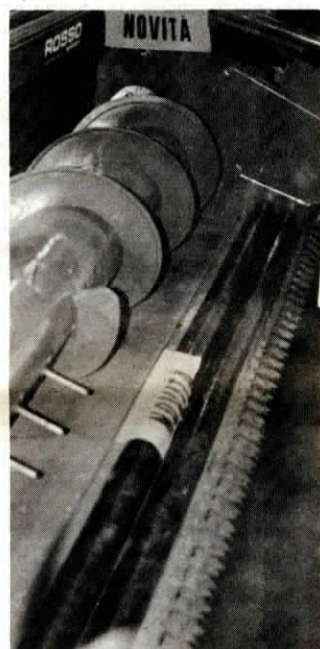
"They feed the crop faster and more evenly into the header, increasing capacity and preventing plug-ups," says Giuseppe Rosso, sales manager for Rosso Systems, manufacturer of new roller feeders for grain platforms.

Two 4-in. dia. rubber-coated rollers mount just behind the cutterbar on any combine grain head. The reel remains in place.

As the crop is cut, it falls onto the rollers and is carried back to the feeder auger. The rollers spin at rpm's 3 to 6 times faster than the reel. They're especially good at carrying short stalks and loose grain into the header. This material might otherwise fall back over the edge of the platform or cause a build-up.

"We've tested the roller kit in most crops. They work great under all conditions, keeping grain from balling up under the header and saving grain that might otherwise be lost," says Rosso. The rollers are chain-driven by a sprocket mounted on the end of the feeder auger. You set roller speed by changing sprockets at the ends of the rollers. Rollers should spin faster in wheat as compared to rice, for example, due to the increased weight of the crop.

A roller feeder kit sells for \$1,550. The company has already sold several units in Texas for use in rice fields.



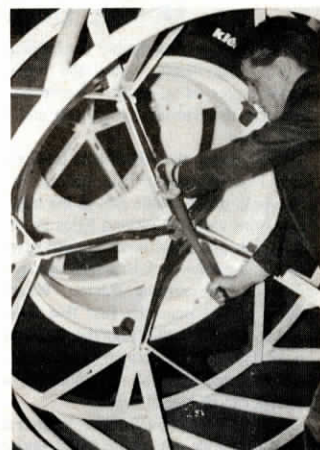
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rosso System, 13030 Larizzate, Verclli, Italy (ph 0161 392284).

"Turn On" Tractor Duals

French farmers have caught on fast to a new hand-cranked clamp-on tractor dual system that requires no tools.

The hand crank attaches to a star-shaped angle iron frame welded to the inside of the wheel on the outer dual. It's got five arms that connect to five small brackets that weld to the inside lip of the tractor-mounted wheel. To mount the dual, you simply position it alongside the tractor wheel and slip the five connecting arms inside the tractor-mounted brackets and then turn the hand crank. The hand crank either extends through the axle opening in the wheel hub or the frame of the crank replaces the wheel hub altogether. It depends on the style of wheel. Many French farmers make use of a cage-type metal wheel as the outer dual.

The manufacturer, Alpas-Molcon, says the wheel clamps can be added to any size or style of wheel. "It's easier to connect these clamps than to line up bolt holes," notes a company representative.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alpas-Molcon, Delfosse S.A., Marquellise, 60490 Ressons-sur-Matz, France (ph 16 4 442 54 21).