



Corn Chopper Snowblower

Corn choppers make great snowblowers, says Walt Bentzinger, Jerome, Idaho, who along with his brother LeRoy mounted a 9-ft. wide blower unit on a Deere 5460 self-propelled forage harvester powered by a 225 hp. engine. They use the king-size blower to clear city streets.

The Bentzinger brothers run a custom harvest and manure hauling service. Walt says they first put the big blower unit on a 150 hp. Deere 4640 tractor but it didn't have enough horsepower and wouldn't go slow enough. When they clear streets with the blower on the chopper they blow into a truck driven along side the chopper. The blower's so powerful, Bentzinger says they can load a 20-ft. truck in about a minute. Hydrostatic drive makes ground speed infinitely variable.

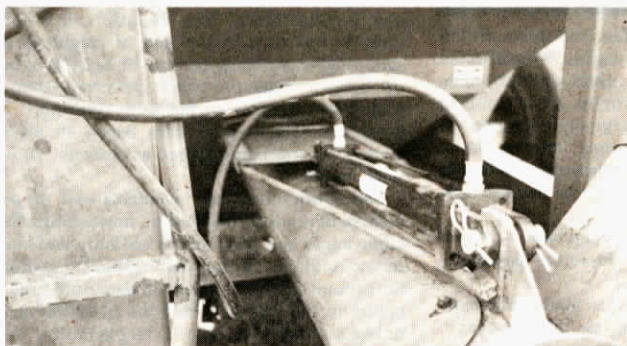
He mounted the blower to the chopper with the help of an adapter kit built by Fair Mfg.

Co., Menno, S. Dak. The mounting kit consists of a mounting frame and reverse-drive gearbox. The gearbox is belt-driven off the chopper and an output shaft drives the blower.

Ron Fisher, at Fair Mfg. Co., says the advantage of the adapter kit is that it can be easily removed by pulling a few pins to let you mount it back on the tractor 3-pt. "We used to build "left hand" blowers for mounting on choppers that couldn't be used on anything else," he says.

Fair Mfg. makes the snowblower to adapt any pto blower to Deere 5000 series choppers. Fisher says the company will work with farmers to adapt the kit to other chopper makes. Kit sells for \$3,015.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Fair Mfg. Co., Box 306, Menno, S. Dak. 57045 (ph 605 387-2389).



Grain Wagon Shut-Off Slide

"It solves the problem of jammed augers on older-style grain wagons," says Wayne Meerdink, Orange City, Iowa, inventor-manufacturer of a hydraulic-cylinder operated slide that allows the auger to clear before grain gravity feeds into it.

Designed primarily for Deere

121 and 1210A, and Wetmore 400 grain wagons, the slide is operated by a 2 by 20-in. cylinder. Sells as a kit, with installation instructions, for \$275 (\$375 with cylinder).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wayne Meerdink, Orange City, Iowa 51041 (ph 712 722-1077).

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Some of the best new products we hear about are "made it myself" innovations born in farmers' 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, MN 55044).

Harold M. Johnson, Editorial Director



School Bus Converted Into A Grain Hauler

"Works as well as any conventional grain truck and it's a lot cheaper," says Iowa farmer Ben Greene, of Webb, who built a 350 bu. grain hauler from an old school bus and two used gravity boxes. The rig cost him only \$400 — \$300 for the bus and \$100 for the wagons.

Greene started with a 1964 48-passenger Chevrolet bus equipped with a 292 engine. He stripped the bus to the frame from the driver's seat back and added a tag axle. He mounted the two gravity boxes on the 20 ft. long frame and left the rest of the bus unchanged.

Greene replaced wooden

bolsters on the gravity wagons with angle iron so the boxes would slide right onto the bus frame. They're secured to the frame with chains. Both gravity boxes dump to the same side of the bus.

In the future, Greene hopes to also use the bus as a livestock hauler. "I have a 40-ft., double-deck livestock trailer that I plan to cut down to 22 ft. long so it will fit on the frame in place of the gravity boxes. The rig should be able to haul 100 market-size hogs," he notes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ben Greene, Webb, Iowa 51366.