

Drill consists of up-front field cultivator, built-from-scratch center section that consists of double disc openers and packer wheels, and trailing air seeder tank.

## COMBO PLANTING MACHINE MADE FROM DRILLS, AIR SEEDER AND CULTIVATOR

# Air Seeder "Better Than Anything On The Market"

Using the best parts from both commercially-built press drills and a brand new air seeder, Brockton, Montana farmer Wayne Deubner designed what he thinks is a world class planting machine that gives him the best features of both drills and air seeders without any of the drawbacks.

Last winter Deubner took his ideas to Harlow Strandlund at Strandlund Welding & Machine Works in Homestead, Mont., who helped put the machine together in his shop.

Deubner's ideas for the machine grew out of his experiences with both types of seeders. Several years ago he switched from drills to an early Prasco air seeder mounted on a heavy-duty field cultivator. Not satisfied with the results, he switched back to conventional press drills. The problem with the drills was the difficulty in moving ganged drills from field to field and the limited seed capacity.

Once he got the idea of combining the best features of both machines, Deubner bought four used Deere double disc drills and a brand new Deere 787 air seeder which came complete with stands, electronics, and so on. At that point, he started consulting with Strandlund Welding & Machine Works.

The drill they built consists of three main components - the up-front field cultivator, a built-from-scratch center section that consists of double disc openers and packer wheels, and the trailing air seeder tank. The drill is 42 ft. wide with 7-in. row spacing, meaning there are 72 runs in all.

The frame for the center planting section is made out of heavy 4 by 8-in. tubing with 1/2-in. thick sidewalls. The heavy framework provides the needed strength and also the weight necessary to provide the packing action. Disk openers mount across the front, mounted on angle iron framework from the parent drills. Packer wheels mount in a row behind. Each of the solid packer wheels was recapped with angled rings and the centers were replaced with self-aligning ball-bearings to fit 1 1/2-in. shafting. An oscillating framework was made for each section of eight wheels. They, in turn, mount to the main framework which is in three sections. Wings are folded by two 5 by 36-in. lift cylinders. Front depth control dolly wheels were taken from IH grain drill carriers. Rear wheels are for transport only and are each fitted with an oscillating axle and a hydraulic cylinder.

"It's easy to use. When you pull out of the

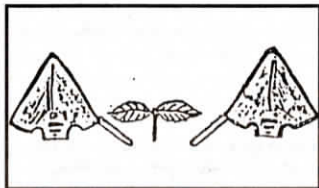
## WEEDS CAN'T SLIDE AROUND IT

# "Get Close" Blade For Cultivator Shovels

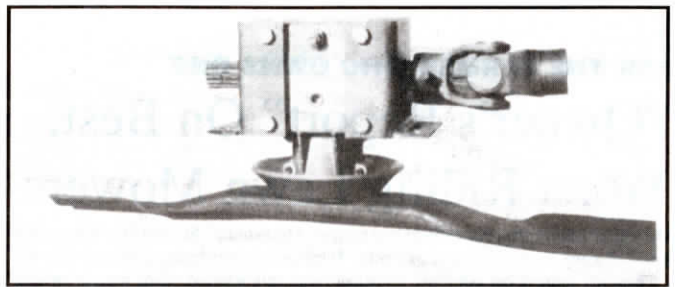
Weeds can't slide around this cultivator shovel which is equipped with a serrated "saw" blade on the row side of the shovel that sticks out like a finger. As the shovel pushes the weed over, the "saw" blade finishes it off.

"It doesn't throw dirt so you can cultivate close to the row when the crop is small," says Perry Heard, inventor. "The blade screws onto the shovel and can be changed whenever it gets dull."

Heard, who uses sections of standard jig-saw blade, welds a bracket onto one corner of the shovel to hold the blade. Blades last



several days before needing replacement. The modified shovel and blade sell for \$9. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Perry Heard, Farm World, 2733 79th St., Lubbock, Texas 79423 (ph 806 745-3330).



## LOW-HORSEPOWER ROTO CHOPPER USES HORIZONTAL CUTTING BLADES

# Chop Stalks As You Combine

Equipping your combine corn head with a Roto Chopper lets you chop stalks as you combine. When you're done combining, you're done chopping stalks, eliminating the need for a chopper, tractor and driver.

Three key features distinguish the Roto Chopper, according to Harold Fratzke, inventor:

•**Low horsepower** — Mechanically-driven horizontal blades, one per row, provide the chopping action. "They only require 4 to 5 horsepower per row," says Fratzke.

•**Low maintenance** - The horizontal blades, driven by a high speed Superior oil bath gear box and roller chain, never need greasing. Power comes from the combine jackshaft. Blades last up to 1,000 or more acres and can be sharpened in place. New

blades install in seconds by removing one shear bolt.

•**Convenience** — The Roto Chopper doesn't interfere with normal operation of the corn head, and doesn't add extra time to mount or dismount the header. "It doesn't stir up dust. Its special design eliminates wrapping and windrowing," says Fratzke.

He notes that the Roto Chopper, slated for only limited production this fall, will be available for most major makes of combines for the 1994 harvest season. "It'll be available for headers up to 12 rows wide at a cost of \$900 to \$1,000 per row. Headers with up to 6 rows use one gear box; 8 through 12 row headers require two."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, K and M Manufacturing, Box 409, Renville, Minn. 56284 (ph 612 329-3301).

field, you wing up the cultivator and drill unit with a single lever since they're plumbed into the same hydraulic circuit. Transport wheels lift the entire drill to about 6 in. of clearance and the cultivator and drill are the same width and height," says Strandlund. "Other than connecting plumbing and the heavy-duty hitch, the cultivator is not altered and can simply be unhooked to use alone.

"Any type of air seeder could be used and it could be pulled between the cultivator and drill or pulled directly behind the tractor with everything else pulled behind it. Hitches are designed so the tractor, cultivator, drill and seed tank can be turned in a radius no larger than if you were pulling a gang of drills the same width.

"Every part of this combo drill is proven. The components are just put together a different way. Packer wheels provide a firm packing action, which is missing from most air drills, and because there were beefed up they will work for many years without wearing out. One big benefit is that the entire seeder is built low, compact and neat yet all components are easy to see and service.

"We could build a similar unit, minus the cultivator, for about \$45,000. It could be more or less depending on what percentage of new or used parts we used."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harlow Strandlund, Strandlund Welding & Machine Works, 552 County Line, Homestead, Mont. 59242 (ph 406 963-2574).

## Post Puller "Selling Like Hotcakes"

"I patented this T-post puller in 1992 and made a few units in my shop. I soon discovered there was a much greater demand for it than I first thought so I began to devote full time to building and marketing them," says Larry Freeman who founded U.S. Lever Industries, Newalla, Okla. He has since sold more than a thousand units.

"The puller weighs only 20 lbs. but produces over 1,000 lbs. of pulling power. It will not damage the post in any way and the puller is warranted against bending or breakage for as long as you own it. Operation isn't affected by sand, dirt or mud.

"Suggested retail is \$69 but retailers sell it for as little as \$49. We only sell to dealers direct - no distributors or brokers."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry W. Freeman, U.S. Lever Industries, Box 329, Newalla, Okla. 74857 (ph 405 391-5603).

