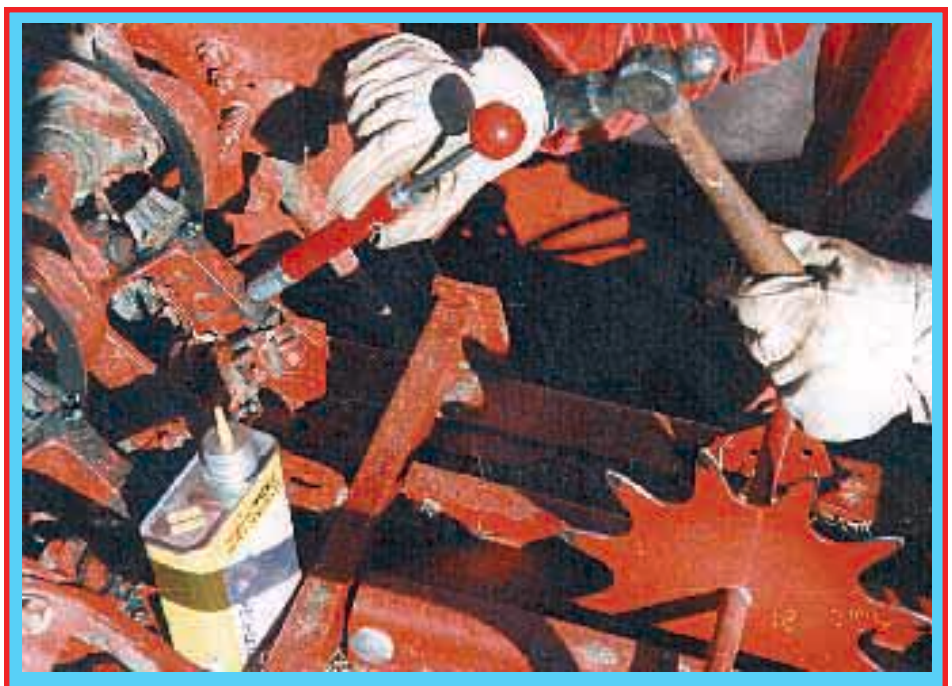


"Grease Buster" Loosens Up Frozen Fittings

This might be the handiest new tool to come along since the adjustable wrench.

The "Grease Buster" is a small cylinder with a piston inside and a grease gun-type nozzle on the end that fits over a grease fitting. To free up a frozen fitting, you fill the cylinder with an oil solvent, then hit the knob on the piston shaft with your hand or tap it with a hammer. It'll force solvent into the fitting and/or bearing.

Ordinarily, the fitting will either free up instantly, or you can repeat the process after the solvent has had time to work, says inventor-manufacturer Paul Michener. Once solvent flows freely into the fitting, you can then inject grease with a gun to displace the solvent.

Michener is a custom hay baler who came up with the idea last fall as a way to solve problems with grease fittings on knotters. "Plugged grease fittings are probably more common with farm equipment than with any other type of machinery because of the conditions it operates under and because it often sits idle so long," he notes.

Sells for $19, including postage and handling. Michener is looking for dealers and distributors.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Grease Buster, T-J Tools, 5565 Lytle Road, P.O. Box 120, Waynesville, Ohio 45068 (ph 513 897-5142).

Row cleaning wheels have a concave shape and are equipped with slanted teeth that brush heavy trash out of the way.

NEW "NEVER PLUG" DESIGN

Self-Cleaning "Trash Discs"

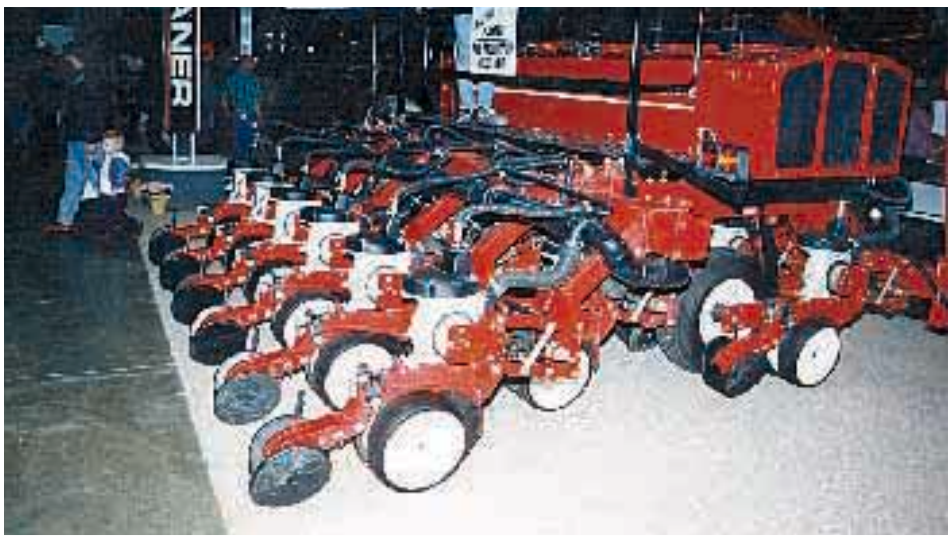
New "Trash Disc" row cleaning wheels allow trash to flow away from the seedbed while tilling it for better seed germination, says Sunco Marketing, North Platte, Neb.

The row cleaning wheels have a concave shape and are equipped with slanted teeth that brush heavy trash out of the way. One disc is positioned slightly ahead of the other.

"They reduce plugging in heavy trash conditions," says Larry Kuhlmann. "The unique saber tooth design along with the concavity of the discs allows trash to flow out of the seedbed area and releases it in the center of the row without plugging. The depth position dictates how much material is moved and is easily adjusted with an adjustment pin. They can be mounted directly to the planter or on front of the company's Nutrimate II discs designed for placement of starter fertilizer.

Sells for $220 per row including mounting bracket.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sunco Marketing, Box 2036, North Platte, Neb. 69103 (ph 308 532-2146).



There are three rows of planter units on the new AGCO air planter. Both back rows can be removed to switch from 10-in. spacing to 30-in.

ROW SPACING VARIES FROM 10 TO 30 IN.

New AGCO Air Planter Handles Corn, Beans, Wheat

One of the show-stoppers at the recent National Farm Machinery Show at Louisville, Ky., was this new-style center-fill air planter unveiled by AGCO, Duluth, Ga. It's designed to plant corn, soybeans and wheat in rows spaced 10 to 30 in. apart.

"It offers the precise seed placement and depth control of a conventional planter with the narrow-row capability of a grain drill," says sales engineer Gary Hamilton. "It eliminates the need to own both a planter and a drill."

Key to success is the planter's detachable "interplant bar," Hamilton notes. It attaches in 10 or 15 minutes to the base (30-in.) planter to plant corn, soybeans, wheat and other crops in 10-in. rows.

The planter units are hydraulically driven offering an infinitely variable seed adjustment. Rates can be adjusted up or down by 20% on-the-go.

The planter has two air blowers - one for seed delivery from the 35 bu. hopper to the row units and the other to run the metering system.

One key feature is that the air systems operate on positive air pressure, requiring much less hydraulic power to operate than other air metering systems, he adds.

The planters feature a 7 in. sq. mainframe, dual "walking beam" wheels, and electronic in-cab seed monitoring.

Options include dual angled rubber or cast press wheels and tillage coulters for the row units. Also, liquid or granular fertilizer attachments for row units and on-board brush auger.

Two models available. Model 6818 6-row (30-in.) with 18-row (10-in.) interplant capability. Model 6824 8-row with 24-row interplant capability.

Base 6818 starts in the mid $30,000's. Base 6824 starts in mid $40,000's.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, AGCO, 4830 River Green Parkway, Duluth, Ga. 30136-2584 (ph 770 813-9200; fax 6158).

Low-Cost "Wheel Rim" Cultipacker

George "Franky" Norris, Jr., was never satisfied with the job done by his 8-ft. disk alone to prepare a seedbed for soybeans. So the Montross, Va., farmer built a cultipacker out of old car wheel rims that he says does a lot better job when pulled behind the disk.

"It's great for breaking up clods and getting the ground nice and level. I'm able to save at least one pass this way," Norris says. "What's more, it cost less than $100 to build because I already had the wheel rims."

Norris used 15 14-in. dia. rims welded together in a row. He made a frame out of 3 1/2-in. angle iron and fitted it with an A-frame tongue out of 1 1/2-in. dia. plumbing pipe. Overall width of the tool is 12 ft. and it's 10 ft. long with the tongue.

He welded a 14-in. dia. 1/4-in. thick plate to the rim on each end. He welded a 2 1/2 in. dia. bushing and 4-in. long pin from a backhoe boom to the plate for the unit to turn on.

He used another piece of angle iron mounted on the frame 1 in. ahead of the rims as a scraper.

Norris pulls the cultipacker, which weighs 500 lbs., with a Farmall H. He places concrete blocks on the tongue for added weight.

Contact: George "Franky" Norris, Jr., Rt. 1, Box 1942, Montross, Va. 22520 (ph 804 493-9604).