



Folding Home-Built Grain Drill

"We needed a seeder that would transport easily because our fields are widely spread out," says Richard Nelson, Consul, Sask., who built his own 42-ft. folding grain drill.

"We built our wing-type seeder from all new material except the boxes, which we modified from discer seed boxes. It takes about 6 min. to go from seeding to transport position and it'll travel at 20 mph. We rolled our own metal press wheels on a roller machine we made in our shop.

"The center section of the drill slides ahead when the wings are raised to give the wing boxes room to raise. In seeding position, the boxes are all in line. Seeding depth is controlled by the press wheels

which oscillate to follow the contour of the soil.

"We built seed shaft monitors using micro switches for control. The drill has five separate hydraulic circuits using flow directors to enable a 3-spool circuit to be used. We can seed with any of the wing sections down at widths of 14, 28 or 42 ft. The drill is very maneuverable. We can back it up to the truck for filling and can turn it in its own width. It has excellent trash clearance.

"We've had very good success with this machine for the last three years seeding about 1,800 acres of wheat per year."

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Wet Bin For Corn

"I made a wet bin for my continuous flow dryer using two old Parker gravity boxes that had hauled too much starter fertilizer," says Marvin Miller, Mt. Union, Iowa.

"I set each gravity box on end, facing each other on the ground," explains Miller. "Between the two wagons, I put eight 12 ft., 2 in. by 4 in. boards in the stake pockets, nailed car siding to the three exposed sides, and cut the legs and runner off the top box. Next, I had the unit tipped up, using a boom truck, and put car siding on the fourth side.

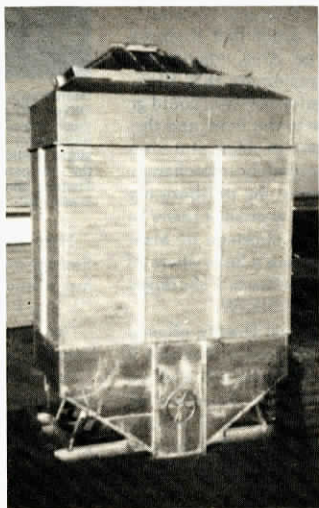
"I welded 2-in. channel iron on the sides and 3-in. angle iron on the corners for support. I used ½ in. tie rods — four through the sides, two through the ends and four diagonally through the corner angle irons — to provide internal support.

"Finally, I welded the extra legs and runner from the top wagon to the bottom wagon for more stability, then sprayed the entire bin with aluminum paint.

"The bin holds about 700 bu. of corn, stands 18 ft. high and

cost about \$390 to build. I intend to add four port holes to tell how full the bin is — so I won't have to climb a ladder and tap the side of the bin."

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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 704, Lakeville, MN 55044).

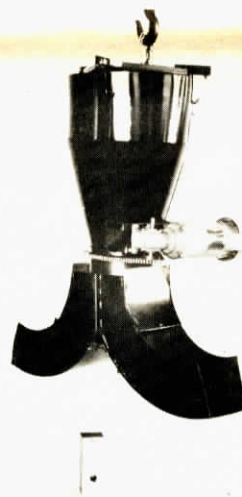
Harold M. Johnson, Editor

"Level Best" Grain Spreader

"It works better than any spreader now on the market," says Robert J. Kennedy, president of an Indiana-based design firm that has come up with the new "Level Best" grain spreader that's designed to work as well in an 18-ft. dia. bin as in a 90-ft. bin.

The Level Best is not only designed to handle varying bin sizes but also flow rates that vary from 500 to 3,000 bu. per hour. Using remote control that allows the operator to control the speed of the spreader from ground level, the diameter of the spreader's spreading pattern can be changed instantly to even out grain levels in the bin. The inventors also say that the Level Best is the first spreader that'll evenly distribute fines, avoiding hot spots that often develop directly below spreaders.

"Once installed, the Level Best requires no further adjustments but can be varied continuously from ground level with remote control," says Kennedy. "The speed of the flowing grain itself is used to distribute the grain evenly in the bin. Most spreaders spin at a high speed to throw grain to the outside of the bin, often with damage to the grain. Additionally, the high speed of the spinning platform tends to throw off fines which fall to the center of the bin, creating hot spots. Also, most adjustments are made on a trial



and error basis with no variable speed control."

Kennedy's company, Indiana Design Consortium, is looking for a manufacturer for the new spreader. Kennedy expects the 500 to 3,000 bu. per hr. model to sell for \$400 to \$600, and the larger 3,000 to 5,000 bu. per hr. model to sell for \$800 to \$1,200. Hand-built prototypes are already available, but at a higher price.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Indiana Design Consortium, 310 Main Street, P.O. Box 180, Lafayette, Ind. 47901 (ph 317 423-5469).