



New "Brush Cultivator" Sweeps Weeds Away Without Chemicals

Latest new development for controlling weeds in corn, soybeans and other row crops without chemicals is the "Ausputzer" rotating brush cultivator. Individual 20 in. dia. round brushes with nylon bristles rotate to sweep weeds away in and between the rows. Softer-bristled brushes can be used next to the rows to minimize damage to newly-emerged crops, the manufacturer points out.

Individual brushes can be adjusted to accommodate different row spacings. They automatically adjust vertically to provide

uniform sweeping action on uneven terrain. Travel speed, depending on stage of the crop and severity of the weed problem, is right at 3 to 5 mph. In Europe, an 18.5 ft. wide model equipped with 10 brushes sells for right at \$24,000. The manufacturer says that in trials to date, wrapping of viny weeds hasn't been a problem for the self-cleaning brushes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, DR-System Paul, Zur Wilde 8, 3590 Bad Wildungen, Germany (ph 05621 3565).

Automatic PTO Coupler

An Austrian farmer has developed one of the first commercially-available (only in Europe, at present) automatic pto hookups for farm tractors.

Without leaving the safety and comfort of the tractor seat, the operator can quickly couple and uncouple the pto shaft on front or rear mounted 3 pt. equipment.

To make the connection, an A-shaped coupler frame on the tractor is driven into a similar A-shaped guiding frame on the machine, then raised hydraulically. As it raises, the solid-mounted male pto shaft on the machine automatically slips into the revamped and strategically placed female pto coupler on the tractor.

Precision driving isn't required to make the mechanical pto hookup, says inventor-manufacturer Josef Steiner: "Even an inexperienced driver can complete a front or rear hookup after a few minutes of practice."

In Europe, the adapter and pto shaft mounted on the front or rear of the tractor sells for right at \$900. The matching hookup mounted on the machine sells for about \$500. The automatic pto hookup is available for all category 3 pt. hitches.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joseph Steiner, Kollmitzberg 119, 3321 Ardagger, Austria (ph 07479 504).



Slick New Way To Fold Equipment For Transport

A Swedish firm specializing in land rollers has engineered an interesting new "X" configuration for folding wide equipment for transport.

In field position, the two sections cover an operating width of 13.5 ft. For transport, they fold and raise at the center. The folded vertical sections criss-cross, reducing total transport width to right at 7.5 ft. "Its low center of gravity makes our new X-Roller safe and easy to transport," notes Bengt Olsson, co-developer of the concept. "We

plan to adapt it to a wider 20 ft. roller."

A single-acting hydraulic cylinder (4 by 24 in.) controls the fold-up action "on the go" right from the tractor seat. Hitching can be to the lower links of a 3 pt., or to a standard drawbar. The rollers, made of 76 rings (18 in. in dia.), have a total weight of 3,100 lbs. which is spread over the full width.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ranflo Forsaljnings AB, Box 47, Kvanum, Sweden S-535 00 (ph 46 512 929 40).

Best New Ideas From Europe

FARM SHOW editors cover all major shows in the United States, Canada and foreign countries to keep you and other readers posted on latest new products. Featured here are just a few "best of the show" ideas which caught Publisher Harold Johnson's eye at last month's DLG show in Frankfurt, Germany, and the Smithfield show in London, England. More than 100,000 visitors showed up to view more than 1,000 exhibits at the two shows.

Spray Tank Flushing Nozzle

New from Scotland is a plastic "Rotaflush" nozzle designed for fast, complete flushing of sprayer tanks with a relatively small amount of water.

Developed by Ag Engineer Bill Jeffrey, the nozzle is ribbed and rotates vigorously when water runs through it, creating a forceful splashing-rinsing jet effect. Jeffrey recommends using two nozzles in smaller tanks (one at each end at the top of the tank) and three or possibly four in large tanks.

"With the Rotaflush nozzle, you only need about 10% of the tank's capacity for a thorough washing out, leaving a lot less rinse water to dispose of than with conventional rinsing," Jeffrey points out. He welcomes the opportunity to compare notes with chemical and spray-equipment companies interested in making the Rotaflush nozzle and kit available to farmer-customers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bill Jeffrey, Mechanization and Buildings Dept., SCAE, Bush Estate, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH260PH, Scotland (ph 031 445 2147).

