

You Asked For It

Who manufactures or supplies waste-oil burning furnaces? (*L.J. Torske, Torske Farm, Inc., Box 186, Hardin, Mont. 59034.*)

Kutrieb Corp. waste-oil burning furnace provides "free" heat for your farm shop or livestock buildings. It'll burn cleanly and efficiently "as is" without any processing or treatment. Nearly any type of waste oil can be used, including transmission, crankcase, brake and hydraulic oils. The oil drains through a 100 mesh screen as it's poured in - no other filtering or processing of the oil is required. According to the manufacturer, waste oil is equal, gallon for gallon, with fuel oil in terms of energy output. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kutrieb Corp., 430 Phillip St., Chetek, Wis. 54728 (ph 715 924-4871). Other waste-oil burning furnaces include the "Clean Burn" furnace. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Clean Burn, Inc., 83 South Groffdale Road, Leola, Pennsylvania 17540 (ph 717 656-2011). The Sunfire furnace also burns waste oil. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sunfire Mfg., 65 Union St., Elmira, Ontario, Canada N3B 2Y3.

Where can I buy a cultivator mirror for 4-WD tractors or other tractors with tanks that make it difficult to see the cultivator? (Roger Dreeszen, Box 105, Cushing, Iowa 51018).

In Vol. 12, No. 2, FARM SHOW featured a tractor mirror invented by Illinois farmer Paul Pierce. Made from PVC pipe, the mirror mounts on the side of a tractor and helps the operator keep an eye on cultivators and see around grain wagons, carts and other towed equipment. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pierce Mfg., Rt. 1, Box 110, Sullivan, Ill. 61951 (ph 217 752-6728). A tractor-mounted mirror called "Culti-Vision" is especially popular with ridge till operators to keep planters and cultivators centered on the row, and with beet growers for helping the operator keep the lifter on the row to prevent beet damage. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Klingler Mfg., Box 442, New Ulm, Minn. 56073 (ph 507 359-9849).

I can't find the issue of FARM SHOW in which you told about a farmer who used a rotary brush cutter as a hay mower. (*David Weber, Rt. 1, Hedrick, Iowa 52563.*)

Paul Leavengood, Fresno, Ohio (featured in Vol. 12, No. 5), uses his Woods 72-in. rotary mower to cut hay. He removed one side of the big mower so the cut hay gets thrown to the side. Leavengood says the rotary mower mows and conditions so well that hay dries faster than with any other machine on the market.

I'm looking for add-on rubber tracks to help my combine through muddy conditions. Can you help me? (Larry Mills, Mantua, Ohio).

Martin Research, Inc., (Vol. 11, No. 6) makes "goanywhere" rubber tracks for tractors and combines. The tracks, which bolt in place like a spare tire, use 6-in. wide rubber cleats in place of steel grousers. The self-cleaning cleats flex like a tire to grip the ground more like a tire, doing less damage to fields than grousers, which tend to dig in more, says the company. Contact: Martin Research, Inc., 1701-D North Congress St., New Port Richey, Fl. 34653 (ph 813 845-0466).

Several years ago you published an article about a farmer who remanufactured batteries. Can I get his name and address? (Gary Wolfe, Linn, Mo.)

In Vol. 9, No. 4, FARM SHOW featured Ron Kent, Bolivar, Mo., who got into the battery business after leaving the farm. Kent makes and sells his batteries out of a main street shop he calls the Battery Barn. He uses the identical raw materials, casings and molds used by battery manufacturers and says he can duplicate any 4 to 24 volt battery on the market. He offers the same warranties as commercial manufacturers, including a 5-year warranty on his Diehard look-alike. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ron Kent, Battery Barn, 205 E. Jackson, Bolivar, Mo. 65613 (ph 417 326-3008).

Where can I buy replacement flighting to repair

augers around the farm? (*H. Johnson, Vermilion, S. Dak.*)

A Nebraska company makes flighting to fit augers ranging in size from 3 to 24 in. dia. on combines, grain augers, mixers, driers, and virtually any other application. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Replacement Flighting Supply, Box 311, Aurora, Neb. 68818 (ph 402 694-6536).

How do I get a copy of the book advertised in FARM SHOW a couple years ago that described how to adjust New Holland TR Series rotary combines for optimum performance? (*E. Vasquez, Greenville, S. C.*)

Written by the late Harry Weeks, who also manufactured performance-enhancing products for New Holland combines, the book discusses rotor speed settings, concave settings, modifying fans, updating the clean grain elevator, and respacing deflectors. "On all TR's in all conditions, the concaves must be square to the rotor . . . Part of the thumping that owners complain about comes from the concaves being set in a wedge shape, with the inside being down and the outside, next to the doors, being up," says Weeks in his discussion of concave settings. Copies of the book are still available for \$13. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gingway Products, Inc., 9900 Plain City, Georgesville Rd., Plain City, Ohio 43064 (ph 800 848-0188).



Strohm plants soybeans with a Max-Emerge planter when the rye is about 15 in. tall.

He Plants Soybeans Into Rye

Mike Strohm, West Union, Ill., reduces soybean production costs by 20 to 40% by planting soybeans into a standing rye crop and then mowing the rye to act as a mulch to keep soil moisture in and weeds out.

"My no-till soybean yields average 50 to 60 bu. per acre, which is equal to or slightly above my conventional tillage soybean yields," notes Strohm. "At the same time, I've reduced my production costs \$20 to \$30 per acre." He switched to no-till soybeans in 1979. In 1985 he took third place in the Illinois no-till soybean yield contest. He won the statewide contest in 1986, and took top honors for his region in 1987.

Strohm seeds rye in the fall and then plants soybeans into it when it's about 15 in. tall, along with a starter fertilizer. He mows the rye one to three days after planting. After he mows there's often some regrowth in the rye which he controls by applying low rates of a postemergence grass herbicide. He spot treats any emerging broadleaves with a selective postemergence broadleaf herbicide. "Under this weed control plan, I've held weed control costs to \$5 to \$15 per acre," notes Strohm.

In wet years the rye helps dry out the ground for ideal planting conditions. But in dry years such as 1988, the rye can dry out the ground too much, reducing soybean yields, Strohm discovered. "1988 was a

worst case scenario. The rye took a lot of water away from the soybeans, and there were no rains to recharge the soil. If I'd known the dry weather was coming, I'd have killed the foot-tall rye in mid April with a contact herbicide like Gramoxone to reduce water transpiration. That's my plan of attack if we get another dry year."

Rye isn't the only cover crop Strohm uses. He plants his corn into hairy vetch. "The hairy vetch fixes nitrogen, allowing me to reduce my fertilizer application rates," notes Strohm.

On both corn and soybeans he works the ground with a deep-chiseling, winged no-till aerator (featured in FARM SHOW's Vol. 10, No. 1). The postemergence tool consists of 5 toolbar-mounted shanks, each with a trash cutting coupler ahead of it. The shanks are so narrow - 5/8-in. wide - that they leave the surface virtually undisturbed when working at depths of 15 in. A 4 1/2-in. wide horizontally-mounted winged knife is mounted just 2 in. up from the bottom of the shank. It's canted at a 30° angle toward the rear so that as it's worked through the field, it lifts the ground 3 to 4 in., creating a suction that draws oxygen down through the slot as it breaks up the hardpan.

Contact: Mike Strohm, RR 1, Box 98, West Union, Ill. 62477 (ph 217 279-3687).



Strohm mows the rye 1 to 3 days after planting and controls the regrowth of rye with chemicals.

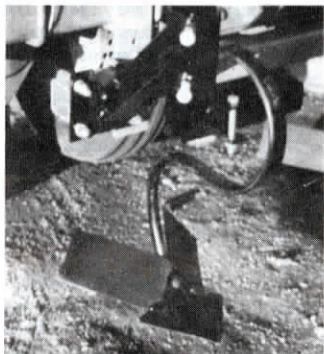
BOLT TO PLANTER'S FERTILIZER BAR

"Clod Sweepers" Push Trash Aside

DeWayne Peters, Mountain Lake, Minn., built spring-loaded "clod sweeper" attachments to push trash aside ahead of row units on Deere and International planters.

The 13-in. wide sweeps bolt onto the fertilizer bar in front of the planter openers. They brush clods and corn roots out of the way to provide a smooth, level seedbed. According to Peters, the "clod sweepers" work particularly well for farmers who chisel plow corn stalks, leaving lots of trash on the surface.

Clod sweepers sell for \$49.95 per row. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Implement Dealer Supply, Mountain Lake, Minn. 56159 (ph 800 523-6227).



The 13-in. wide sweeps bolt to the fertilizer bar at the front of the planter.