



"The Spout" has five all-plastic sections that automatically collapse as box is raised.

INCREASES AUGER CAPACITY

New Spill-Proof Spout For Truck Tail Gates

"It increases auger capacity and virtually eliminates grain spills," says the manufacturer of a new collapsible spout for straight trucks.

Called "The Spout", it's made up of five all-plastic sections which automatically collapse as the box is raised. "You raise the box, open the tail gate wide open, then walk away," the manufacturer points out. "The Spout automatically feeds a full, steady

stream of grain into the auger — without spilling, even if the auger should malfunction."

Available to fit most truck boxes, it sells for \$159.99 (Canadian), including the necessary mounting hardware.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, J.B. Agri Industries, Box 1297, Morden, Man., Canada ROG 1J0 (ph 204 822-5411).

CLAMP-ON HINGE ASSEMBLY JOINS HOPPER AUGER TO MAIN AUGER

"Low Profile" Hopper Makes Unloading Easy

Gerald Stuckey, Martinton, Ill., has come up with a new "low profile" grain hopper that not only lets you unload grain from any wagon without burying the hopper in the ground, but also lets you raise and lower the main auger to any bin height while the hopper remains flat on its base.

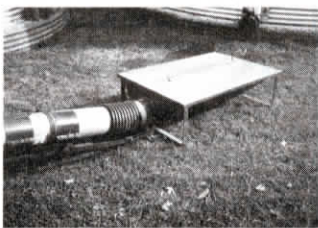
Stuckey's 4-ft. long, 32-in. wide, 1-ft. high hopper is equipped with a 5-ft. long stub auger that hooks up to the main auger. The main auger is equipped with a "universal joint" which serves as a pivot point between the two augers, allowing the main auger to be raised and lowered without affecting the positioning of the hopper. A clamp-on hinge assembly connects the two auger tubes together to keep both augers rigid and in line.

"The hopper auger is driven by the main auger so no other source of power is needed, and it can be quickly disassembled for transport," says Stuckey.

Here's how the hopper works: Stuckey mounted a fixed stub shaft inside one end of the hopper. One end of the 5-ft. long stub auger fits over the stub shaft — the other end of the auger sticks out the end of the hopper and is fitted with a universal joint.

He modified the bottom end of the main auger by inserting an 8-in. stub shaft in the end of the auger. It hooks up to the universal joint on the hopper auger.

A hinging, 2-part steel frame mounts below the junction of the two augers. To install the hopper, Stuckey connects the two



The 4-ft. long hopper has a 5-ft. stub auger inside that hooks up to the main auger.

augers together at the universal joint and then pins the two halves of the supporting steel frame together. A 12-in. long section of flexible plastic drain tile slips over the junction of the two auger tubes, which are cut at an angle to leave a gap on top.

"The gap allows the main auger tube to flex up and down as it's raised," says Stuckey. "The 5-ft. long auger is free to 'telescope' in and out on the stub shaft inside the hopper whenever the main auger is raised. A safety grille and lid is provided. The entire unit can be assembled and installed by one person in as little as 2 min."

Stuckey spent about \$250 to build the hopper assembly. He's looking for a manufacturer and says it could be offered in kit form as an option on new augers or as an update on augers already in service.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gerald Stuckey, RR 1, Box 174, Martinton, Ill. 60951 (ph 815 428-7255).

FARMER STARTED NEW BUSINESS TO IMPORT THE HARD-TO-FIND CROPS

New Zealand Grass Seed Catching On Fast

By Kimberly Somers

Forage grasses are to New Zealand what the automobile and electronics are to Japan — national economic treasures. We're not talking just ordinary grass here. We're talking state-of-the-art varieties developed by the New Zealand government to feed the country's 40 million cows and 70 million sheep which support the biggest share of the small country's economy and, in turn, its 4 million people.

New Zealand's reputation for high quality grasses is worldwide. The country sells hundreds of tons of grass seed yearly to farmers in Great Britain, continental Europe, South America and Australia. Until recently, however, these golden grasses were not available in the U.S. That prompted a Washington state farmer to start his own seed import business.

"I just couldn't find the seed on the local or national market and couldn't interest any seed company in taking steps to import these fantastic forage grasses. So I took the ball and ran with it myself," says John Kaye of Modern Agri-Products. He says response from farmers so far "has been overwhelming".

The three most popular grass varieties the company imports are "Ellett" perennial ryegrass, "Wana" orchard grass, and "Matua" prairie grass.

Kaye explains that the majority of New Zealand pastures are made up of perennial ryegrass and clover, with Ellett being the number one ryegrass choice. Ellett is a profuse tillering, very productive bunch-type grass. Spectacular results have already been attained planting Ellett in Washington, Oregon and Idaho, according to Kaye.

The renowned Carnation Research Dairy Farm in Carnation, Wash., planted Ellett and recently reported record-high yields. Many private dairy farms in the Pacific Northwest are discovering Ellett as well.

Randy Kortus of Lynden, Wash., a world-class Holstein breeder, uses Ellett. One of his cows recently set a production record

and Kortus credits Ellett with at least part of that achievement. Kaye notes that Ellett is the perfect pasture grass for farmers living in temperate climate regions who can irrigate during the summer.

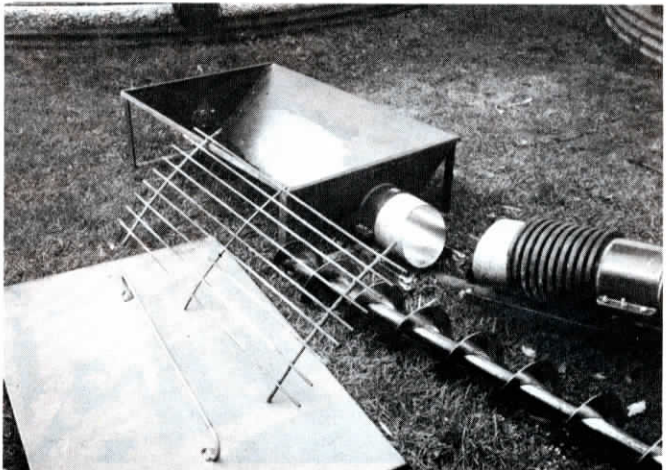
Wana orchard grass originated from a seedline collected in Spain. As a result, it is particularly drought-tolerant. Its dense tillering gives it a unique ability to persist and produce under hard continuous grazing, says Kaye, and its fine long leaves make it more palatable than most orchard grasses. Wana is ideal for non-irrigated pastures grazed by sheep and beef. It will thrive in any area where orchard grass does well. It's a perfect companion for alfalfa, according to Oregon State University researchers who have tested and recommended it.

Matua prairie grass is, according to Kaye, the "most exciting new perennial cool season forage grass of the decade." The results of extensive tests conducted by Pennsylvania State University's Dr. G. Jung and Dr. Pete Ballerstedt of Oregon State University indicate that Matua is both drought and cold tolerant and, with proper management, can be a very high-yielding forage, out-producing both ryegrass and orchard grass. It's very palatable and can be rotationally grazed or cut for hay and silage. Its premier U.S. planting was in Kentucky last year and it provided superb forage even during the blistering heat of this past summer, according to Kaye.

"Because of their production capacity, persistence and nutritional value, we think every livestock farmer should be looking at these imported forage grasses," says Kaye.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Kaye, Modern Agri-Products, 3770 Aldergrove Rd., Ferndale, Wash. 98248 (ph 206 366-4343; fax 206 366-4344).

(Kimberly Somers is editor of *Ag/Northwest*, a monthly newspaper published in Mount Vernon, Wash.)



One end of the 5-ft. long stub auger fits over a stub shaft inside the hopper and the other end sticks out the end of the hopper and is fitted with a universal joint.