Curved 8 1/2-in. long stainless steel tube attaches by means of a plastic fitting to any conventional liquid tube. To mount it you drill a hole through the seed firmer and then rivet a metal tab into place.

LETS YOU APPLY LIQUID FERTILIZER AND INSECTICIDES IN THE FURROW

Liquid Tube Holder For Keeton Seed Firmers

If you've got Keeton seed firmers on your row crop planter or grain drill - or if you've considered trying the popular planter add-on - you'll want to take a close look at these new liquid tube holders that mount directly on top of the seed firmers, allowing you to apply liquid fertilizer or insecticides directly into the furrow.

The "Flo-Rite" is a curved 8 1/2-in. long stainless steel tube that fits the curvature of a Keeton seed firmer and attaches by means of a plastic fitting to any conventional liquid tube. To mount it you drill a hole through the seed firmer and then rivet a metal tab into place.

The Keeton seed firmer presses seed down into the bottom of the furrow to improve seed-to-soil contact (Vol. 18, No. 2). It consists of a 16-in. long abrasion-resistant curved nylon "paddle" that fastens onto the back of the seed tube with two nylon tie straps.

"It lets you apply liquid fertilizer or insecticides right behind the seed in the furrow, ahead of the closing wheels," says inventor Jeff Peters. "One caution - 28% liquid fertilizer should not be applied directly in the furrow because it will kill the crop."

Sells for $9.95 per row plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jeff Peter, Farmer Fabrications, Inc., Rt. 2, Hicksville, Ohio 43526 (ph 419 542-6880 or 419 542-7053).

Kit Converts 15-Ft. Deere 750 Drill To 20-Ft.

"You can convert your 15-ft. Deere 750 no-till drill to 20 ft. by attaching our heavy duty 2 1/2-ft. extension to each side of it. The extra 5 ft. lets you plant 33 percent more acres with each pass," says Joe Whitney, S.I. Distributing, St. Marys, Ohio, which offers the new add-on kit.

The extensions clamp onto each side of the drill with U-bolts and require that you respace the existing row units from 7 1/2 to 10 in. (or if your drill has 10 in. row units you convert them to 13 1/2 in.). You respace the openers as needed and add 2 ft. onto the end seed tubes in order to reach the units mounted on the extensions. (The seed tube extensions are supplied). Three row units are moved to each extension. The kit also includes a catwalk and guard rail extension. Bearings in the extensions are used to absorb up-and-down movement of the drill.

"A good used 15-ft. Deere 750 no-till drill sells for $16,000 to $18,000 while a good used 20-ft. model sells for $28,000 to $30,000. Our extension sells for $1,725 so you can easily save over $10,000 if you want to move up to a 20-ft. drill," notes Whitney. "Soybean yields shouldn't be affected by switching from 7 1/2 to 10-in. rows. However, farmers who use their drills to plant wheat may not want to switch to 10-in. rows. Also, it's not recommended for use with grass seed because the light seed can build up inside the bend that's formed by lengthening the seed tubes."

A 2 1/2-ft. extension clamps onto each side of drill with U-bolts. You respace the openers as needed and add 2 ft. onto end seed tubes in order to reach openers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, S.I. Distributing, 03221 Barber-Werner Road, St. Marys, Ohio 45885 (ph 800 368-7773 or 419 394-2989).

First part of the system is a thresher mounted on a 200 hp tractor. It uses a conventional 20-ft. header and a 1,170 cu. ft. grain box.

ONE MACHINE BRINGS CROP IN FROM FIELD, ANOTHER CLEANS IT

New Harvest System "Eliminates Combines"

"It will revolutionize grain harvesting as we know it," says Bob McLeod about his new two-machine harvesting system that's designed to totally replace conventional combines.

The system promises to reduce equipment cost by 40 percent, cut grain loss by 2 percent, produce cleaner grain, remove chaff and nearly all weed seeds from the field, and mill docked material into livestock feed.

The idea is to use two machines instead of a single combine. The "harvester" mounts on an existing tractor. It removes grain, chaff, and weed seeds from the field, leaving the straw behind. In effect it harvests "dirty" without doing any separating or cleaning. It's equipped with a 20-ft. header and features a large 1,200 cu. ft. grain box compared to the 250 to 300 cu. ft. hoppers on most existing combines, says McLeod. It's designed to collect grain from 9 to 12 acres of grain before unloading.

The second machine is a stationary processing unit that can be located back at the grain storage area. It separates grain from the crop material gathered in the field and cleans it to export standards using new air cleaning technology. It uses a roller mill to crush and compress the collected chaff and weed seeds for use as livestock feed, litter, or for disposal. The processing unit, which has been built and is undergoing testing, is powered by a new-style 30 hp. single-phase electric motor.

"Grain loss out the back of the combine is eliminated, which saves an average of 1 to 2 percent over conventional combining methods. That means a savings of $2,000 for a 700-acre wheat field," says McLeod. "What's more, our harvester will bring weed seeds in from the field, reducing herbicide and tillage requirements the following year. As an extra bonus, the fat and protein content of the crushed weed seeds adds value to the docked material if it's used as livestock feed."

Second component is a fully automated stationary processing plant that uses wind technology to remove dockage from crop.

The prototype field harvesting unit is currently being built and will be tested extensively next year. Initially the system is being developed for small grains, but will also be adapted for use in corn, says McLeod, who expects the cost of the two machines to total about 40 percent less than a conventional self-propelled combine.

McLeod has been working on the new system for three years. He has received funding from various ag research organizations.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob McLeod Inc., 670 Broadway, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3C OX3 (ph 204 772-8650; fax 8827).

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