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HANDLES BINS UP TO 18 FT. IN DIA.

“One Man” Trailer Moves Grain Bins

Nebraska farmer Glenn Kirchoff, of Weeping Water, figures he's moved more than 1,000 grain bins with the “one man” bin-moving trailer he and neighbor Dale Nielsen designed and built 20 years ago.

“We'd purchased some government bins and needed a way to move them without taking them apart. Dale and I came up with this trailer, which has been in constant demand ever since for custom-moving grain bins and corn cribs,” Kirchoff told FARM SHOW.

He gets a flat rate of \$145, plus \$30 per hour spent traveling down the road with the trailer and a bin loaded onto it. Working alone, he can have a bin loaded and on the road in about 1.5 hrs. Unloading the bin and setting it up at the new site takes another 1.5 or 2 hrs.

Designed to handle bins up to 18 ft. in dia. (“anything bigger poses too many problems with power lines and other obstructions”), the trailer is pulled by a 4-WD pickup which carries a pump to supply hydraulics. A series of valves mounted on the trailer tongue control action of the trailer's two large 3-stage truck hoist cylinders.

The first step in moving a bin is to undo the anchor bolts. “Some older bins have the first ring below ground level. I use outriggers on the back of the trailer to raise them up and out of the ground,” notes Kirchoff.

To keep bins from collapsing, he installs three interior support chains, each pulled tight with a come-along clamp. Resembling spokes in a large wheel, the chains are positioned “around the clock” at 9:00/3:00, 10:00/4:00, and 1:00/7:00 o'clock.

Kirchoff backs the trailer up to the bin

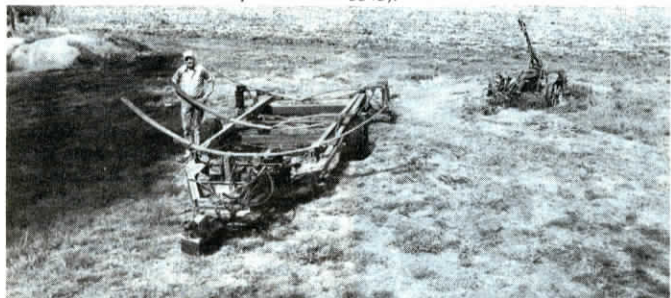


Hydraulics are supplied by a pump carried in Kirchoff's 4-WD truck.

and folds out its three hinged “ribs” which, when folded out and raised vertically, fit tight against the curvature of bin. Cables are pulled up tight around the bin at each “rib” to secure it to the trailer.

To lay the bin down, A hydraulic-driven winch on the trailer tongue starts tipping the trailer and attached bin. When the bin tips past the balancing point, the two large hydraulic cylinders take over and gently lower the bed and bin in the horizontal position for road travel.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Glenn Kirchoff, Rt. 1, Weeping Water, Neb. 68463 (ph 402 267-5345).



Three hinged ribs fold out and, when raised vertically, fit tight against curvature of the bin.

Photo by Alice and Robert Tupper

COLLECT UP TO 30 SAMPLES WITHOUT LEAVING SEAT

Tractor-Mounted Soil Sampler

First on the market with a commercial tractor-mounted soil sampler is Concord of Fargo, N. Dak.

“It's fast, accurate and relatively inexpensive,” says Virg Mahlum, sales manager. “You can collect up to 30 different samples without leaving the seat of your tractor.”

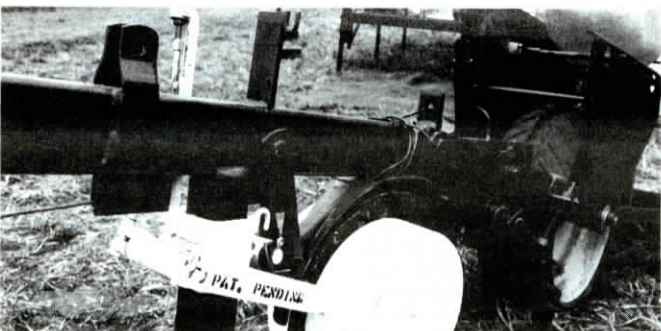
Comes in two models to fit Cat. 1, 11 or 111 hitches: Model 2403 samples to a maximum depth of 24 in. and sells for \$950. Model 4803 samples to a depth of 48 in. and sells for \$1,345. Cycle time to maximum depth is 15 seconds for the 2403, and 50 seconds for the 4803.

Both models come with two probes — one is equipped with a permanent square tip (1/2 in. dia.) for sampling wet soils. The other comes with four replaceable stainless steel tips (1/2, 5/8, 11/16 and 3/4 in. dia.). Soil samples are auto-matically deposited in a 30-sample container affixed to the sampler near ground level.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Concord, 2800 7th Ave. North, Fargo, N. Dak. 58102 (ph 701 280-1260).



Each soil sample is deposited in 30-sample container as it's taken.



Gauge wheels for each row are mounted on a 2 by 2-in. stub welded to planter frame. Cable ties to central “one lever” system for adjusting all row units simultaneously.

MAKE OLDER PLANTERS “GOOD AS NEW”

New Gauge Wheels For Cyclo Planters

“They make older planters good as new,” says Fair Mfg., Menno, S. Dak., of its new gauge wheels for Cyclo planters.

Mounted one on each side of the disk opener, they control depth right at the point where corn is planted, rather than several feet away as is the case on original older Cyclo planters, notes Doug Wentz, sales representative.

“The two gauge wheels on each side of the disk opener work together under spring tension, continually oscillating up and down as they climb over clods and trash to maintain uniform planting depth,” Wentz points out. “You leave the original gauge wheels on but pull a couple pins so they free float.”

Gauge wheels for each row are tied together via an optional cable system for adjusting depth control. If you want to change planting depth, you move the master control lever (manually or with an optional hydrau-

lic cylinder hookup) to simultaneously raise or lower the gauge wheels on all rows.

In addition to providing accurate depth control, the new gauge wheels serve as scrapers to keep the disc openers clean in wet, sticky soils, says Wentz. They're available with steel or rubber-covered surfaces. To install, you weld on a 2 by 2 in. stub piece of tubular steel (about 6 in. long) which serves as a mounting bracket for each row unit.

Retail price, including the weld-on mounting brackets, is \$165 per row. Add \$30 per row for the optional cable assembly for adjusting planting depth of all rows simultaneously.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Fair Mfg., P.O. Box 306, Menno, So. Dak. 57045 (ph 605 387-2389).