

HELP STOP GRAIN LOSS, BOOST CAPACITY

Curved Filler Bars Boost Combine Capacity

Replacement of flat-plate filler bars with curved bars helps stop cob breakage and boosts capacity of Deere combines as much as 25% in corn, says George Kuchar, Carlinville, Ill., who makes a living reworking combines for increased efficiency.

Kuchar, who worked as a custom harvester for 11 years, now works full time reconditioning and modifying combines. One of the best improvements he says he's found for Deere combines in corn is the replacement of filler plates with curved plates.

He says the curved plates require considerably less horsepower because they roll cobs through the cylinder rather than grind them through. "You'll get much less cob breakage. When you stop cob breakage, you stop grain loss," says Kuchar, noting that the curved plates also cut down on rasp bar wear. "You can increase capacity up to 25% and cut down on cob breakage by 10% or more."

Kuchar simply unbolts all the filler plates on any Deere combine built after 1970 and replaces them with his 1/8-in. thick steel curved plates. He also replaces the rubber seal around the cylinder with a steel seal.

"You'll use less fuel, increase production, and there'll be a lot less dust because the modified cylinder tends to suck dust in rather than blow it out like it does with standard filler bars," says Kuchar, who notes that the modification is not needed in small grains.



Kuchar shows off cylinder fitted with both standard flat-plate filler bars and his new curved "grain-saving" filler bars.

In addition to replacing filler plates, Kuchar recommends a number of other combine modifications including changing the auger flighting to angle it toward the direction of travel and removing every other slat on some combine feeder chains to improve feeding. He also reworks rasp bars and concaves, and sells a "load control" combine governor that matches ground speed to the volume of material entering the combine.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, George Kuchar, Kuchar Sales, P.O. Box 595, Carlinville, Ill. 62626 (ph 217 854-9838).

ELECTROMAGNETICALLY COUNTS SEEDS

Seed Tube Monitor "Sees Through Dirt"

"It uses magnetics rather than light to count seeds," says Chris Buente, representative of Pioneer Technology Inc., manufacturer of a new planter monitor with a unique seed tube sensor.

The sensor simply wraps around the seed tube and sends an electromagnetic signal in a flat plane through it. When a seed passes through, the movement is recorded. It's totally insensitive to the buildup of dust and dirt on the seed tube. Even if you pack the inside of a seed tube with dirt, as the company does to demonstrate the unit, it still counts the seeds.

The new planter monitor is also unique in that it uses a sonar ground speed sensor rather than radar. "It's much more accurate and, when combined with our seed tube sensor, gives us the most accurate planter monitor ever," says Buente.

The seed tube sensors and ground

speed sensor send signals to a cab-mounted console, which reads out in plants per acre. A single green light on the console means all tubes are planting. A red light goes on when there's a problem.

"There are less problems with this system because it's heavier-built and less sensitive to sunlight, dust, vibration and other problems. You don't have to continually clean out the seed tubes to keep them working," says Buente, noting that the new electromagnetic sensor is also being adapted to measure the flow of grain through augers — in a project for Massey Ferguson — and the flow of liquids in sprayers.

A 4-row monitor sells for \$1,600. For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pioneer Technology Inc., 617 N. Mary Ave., Sunnyvale, Calif. 94086 (ph 408 737-7010).

TAKES JUST 15 MIN. TO INSTALL

Bushel Meter Mounts On Any Grain Auger

"It's the simplest and most accurate bushel counter yet," says U.S. distributor Charles Corfman who's handling the new Agrofarm bushel counter from Denmark.

The new metering unit takes just 15 min. to install. A metal "flap" mounts at the unloading end of the flighting. As grain is augered out of the auger, it pushes against the flap which sends signals to an electronic monitoring unit. The volume movement of grain against the measuring flap is converted into bushels automatically, and the quantity appears on the LED screen. You have to calibrate it for each auger it's used on by simply running a known quantity of grain through the auger and adjusting the meter.

"Custom applicators who've been using it tell me it's nearly 100% accurate and always within 1 or 2 bushels of the elevator count. We tell people it's always at least 95% accurate," says Corfman.

The DC-powered electric meter is most popular on combine load-out augers but can be used on any auger around the farm. Corfman says it works great for figuring rations when augering grain into grinder-mixers.

Sells for \$270.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Corfman Distributing Co., 9057 State Rd. 83N, Holmesville, Ohio 44633 (ph 216 279-4393).



Portable scale has 200-lb. capacity.

Portable Pig Scale

You can weigh, process and move an entire litter of pigs at one time with the new portable WayPig from Raytec Mfg., Ephrata, Penn.

"In addition to saving valuable time, you also decrease the stress of your hogs through decreased handling — all for about half the cost of other similar scales," notes Raymond Zimmerman, president. "Weighing pigs at birth and 21 days enables you to chart the performance and potential of each sow, and identify the top boar in your herd."

The oversize scale (up to 200 lbs. capacity) displays a clear, precise readout of litter weight. "Its free-floating torque tube design provides weight readings that are accurate to

within 96% — even if the cart is resting on an uneven surface," Zimmerman points out.

An all-metal floor, constructed of galvanized woven wire (5 ga.) is durable, and easy to clean and disinfect. A standard vet tray attachment keeps tools and essential veterinary supplies at your fingertips. Four swivel caster wheels (6 in. dia.) allow you to maneuver WayPig through narrow aisles and tight corners. Overall dimensions are 42 1/2 in. high, 37 in. long and 21 1/2 in. wide.

Sells for \$332.

For more information, contact: Raytec Mfg., Rt. 3, Ephrata, Penn. 17522 (ph toll free 800 233-0198; in Pennsylvania, call 717 354-4301).