

Made It Myself

(Continued from previous page)



Conveyor Belt Grain Bin

"It makes a great bin," says Dewey Long, Pana, Ill., about the temporary storage bin he built using salvaged 3/4 in. thick, 3-ft. wide rubber conveyor belting.

Long got the belting from a nearby company that had previously burned its old belting. They gave it to him free for the hauling. At first he used it for odd jobs and to pad hard or muddy work areas. Then he got the idea for a bin.

To build the 72-ft. dia. structure, Long first put up a circle of 5-ft. posts. Then he attached a ring of 3-ft. wide belting to the top of the posts. Once that was in place he put up a second ring, lapping it a foot over the first ring so it would keep out rain. He used long machine bolts to tie the belting together into a continuous wall, spacing the bolts every 6 to 8 in.

Once the bin was filled, Long covered it with plastic, using one sheet 48 ft. wide and two sheets 32 ft. wide. He taped the



seams inside and out. To hold the plastic in place he first used plastic twine and the suction of a 1 hp. fan. When that failed to hold the cover in place, he covered the plastic with old tires.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dewey Long, Pana, Ill. 62557 (ph 217 226-4203).



Silage Endgate Dumps "On The Go"

The entire framework and lifting mechanism for this dump "on the go" endgate rests on the truck's rub bar frame, leaving the box completely independent and free standing.

Available as a kit for do-it-yourself installation, the hydraulically-operated

endgate can be opened without having to raise the truck box — a feature which comes in handy when the truck is used for jobs other than hauling silage.

The endgate is designed so it can be made "grain tight."

Price tag on the kit, which adapts to



One-Pass Till Planter

"Last year we put just 91 hours on our tractor to do all the fieldwork involved in planting 1,300 acres of corn and beans," says Jim Reeser, Chenoa, Ill., who teamed his Deere Max-Emerge planter up with an Eversman rototiller to build a one-pass planting rig.

Before he put his tiller-planter together, Reeser felt he had too much investment in tractors and tillage equipment. "Now all we own is this tractor, the tiller and the planter. We cut fuel consumption from 5.5 gal. per acre for conventional tillage to just 2/3 gal. per acre now," he notes.

The till-plant rig is 30 ft. wide and plants 12 rows on 30-in. centers. He plants directly into cornstalks and bean residue. In stalks he tills and plants at 4.4 mph and in bean stubble he moves at 6 to 7 mph. He sometimes uses the rig to plant

12 rows of corn alternating with 12 rows of beans by putting beans in 6 planter boxes and corn in the other six.

Reeser says the key to success with his tiller-planter was learning to work the ground shallow. He tills about 3 in. deep and plants 2 in. deep. "That's similar to other no-till and ridge till planters. We get a good mixing job on top that reduces runoff and erosion."

Starter fertilizer is placed with both corn and beans. Reeser notes that he's reduced herbicide rates to just 2/3 of standard recommendations and, in some instances, applies none. He never chisel plows or subsoils and says compaction has been virtually eliminated.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jim Reeser, Chenoa, Ill. 61726 (ph 815 945-7100).

"Safety Rope" Pulley

A shop-built "tow rope" pulley designed by Russell Mauch, Barney, N. Dak., helps reduce wear and tear on tow ropes and won't pull bumpers off trucks.

Mauch, who grows sugarbeets, built two of the heavy duty pulleys 1 1/2 years ago when, during a wet harvest, he went through three ropes at \$175 each. "We had two 300-hp 4-WD tractors pulling 14 trucks full-time. The problem with conventional hookups is that when you turn, the ropes get cut on the tractor drawbars. Also, it scares me to pull 80,000-lb. trucks with 30-ft. ropes stretched out. If the rope breaks, it acts just like a rubber band, snapping the pin back hard enough to kill someone in the cab."

The shop-built "tow rope" pulley eliminates contact with the tractor drawbar and increases the strength of the rope by doubling it up. If the rope does break, its doubled up length is only 15 ft. so the pin won't fly back as high off the ground, Mauch points out.

Mauch's local blacksmith makes the pulleys using 1/2 in. wall, 3-in. pipe, welding each end of the pipe to two disk blades ground down to 8-in. dia. Two iron brackets guide the rope through the pulley. A heavy duty drawbar pin fastens the



Photo courtesy Wahpeton-Breckenridge Daily News

pulley to the tractor drawbar.

A 30 ft. nylon rope, 2 in. in dia., runs between the pulley and two hooks on the truck bumper, one on each side. "The short pulling distance keeps trucks from going into ditches when you're pulling a truck onto a road and you have to make a 90° turn," says Mauch. "This tow rope pulley 'walks' the rope back and forth at two different points on the truck bumper, causing less wear and tear. While you're turning, one rope is shorter than the other, keeping the truck right behind the tractor."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Russell Mauch, Barney, N. Dak. 58008 (ph 701 439-2888).

most any steel or wood truck box, is \$1,600, including two 1.5 by 20 in. lift cylinders.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, F.P. Riester Truck Bodies, Ed McAuliffe, sales manager, 54 Sand Beach Road, Auburn, N.Y. 13021 (ph 315 253-5732).