



KMC Air Seeder measures 32 ft. wide, with 32 shanks on 12-in. centers. Three-section frame is short-coupled, making it easier to hold on hillsides.

All-New Air Seeder Excels On Hilly Ground

A patent-pending new air seeding system that's especially designed to handle hilly or uneven terrain is now on the market.

Designed by Ron Kile of Kile Machine and Mfg. in Rosalia, Washington, the KMC Air Seeder is 32 ft. wide, with 32 shanks on 12-in. centers. The drill's transport width is 14 ft. 9 in., and its transport height is 15 ft. 3 in.

A full row of 20-in. dia. coulters on 12-in. centers, mounted on its own toolbar ahead of the openers, slices through residue for each opener. This allows for residue to travel around each point and reduces or eliminates surface residue dragging. The coulters also provide stability on hillsides by reducing side slip.

The parallel-linked standards are activated by compression coil springs. These springs maintain ground pressure when the frame is lowered. The correct opener depth is maintained by 8-in. wide pneumatic gauge wheels that also pack the seed furrow.

The three-section frame has one rank of coulters, two ranks of standards, a 130-bu. dual compartment seed fertilizer tank, and liquid fertilizer tanks. It is short-coupled, making it easier to hold on hillsides.

"The fertilizer tanks are carried by our patent-applied-for 'Tank Bridge Hitch,' which maintains a better weight distribution balance. Weight is carried by the frame and transferred from the full-floating tongue to the tractor," Kile explains. "The seeder has wide floatation tires – another requirement to have it pull straight on a hillside and carry a heavy load with low ground pressure."

Kile says his new opener is what "really makes this drill special". The patent-pending Kile Opener creates less disturbance and draws less horsepower.

It has a narrow 7/8-in. point that enters the ground easier and makes for better residue flow. It lifts and separates the soil rather than dragging, says Kile.

The most unique thing about the opener is its paired row seed spacing, which results in a closer canopy, weed growth suppression, and reduced surface evaporation. This enhances microbial activity for residue breakdown and soil building due to a cooler, wetter environment.



One of drill's key features is this new opener that Kile says creates less disturbance and draws less horsepower.

"The seed comes straight out the back of the seed chamber, so there is zero bounce or scattering, resulting in true, defined paired rows," Kile says. "The seed is not dropped into a trench, but placed on a 'non-fractured seed shelf.' This undisturbed soil maintains its moisture level right at the seed and it creates ideal seed-fertilizer separation."

The fertilizer is placed 2 in. below and to the side of the seed simultaneously.

Kile manufactures openers to retro-fit other companies' air seeders as well as his own. The openers are available to bolt or weld to any shank.

He says the openers, points, and fertilizer tubes are all connected with split expansion pins, so they can be changed easily and the components can be mixed and matched.

"This gives you the ability to change your options quickly," he points out.

The Kile Opener is available in three different widths (4, 5, and 6-in.) and two sizes of seed chambers (1/2-in. for small seeds and 5/8-in. for large, such as garbanzo). There's a choice of fertilizer delivery options including single, double and triple shoot (anhydrous/liquid/dry/Exactrix).

Kile says the suggested retail price for his opener is \$160 for a complete unit. He is currently setting up a dealer network.

The zero-till drill sells in the \$90,000 to \$130,000 range. A seed cart is optional.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kile Machine and Mfg., Ron Kile, 401 Squires Rd., Rosalia, Wash. 99170 (ph 509 569-3814; email: kmminc@juno.com).



Three-section frame has one rank of coulters, two ranks of standards, a 130-bu. dual compartment seed fertilizer tank, and liquid fertilizer tanks.

Strap-On Milking Stool Great For Gardeners

Strap-on milking stools can be used by more than just dairy farmers. They also take the strain out of some gardening and berry picking jobs.

The one-legged stools reduce stress on the back, hamstrings and knees. The lightweight stools strap on to one's rear-end, and free up the hands when moving from spot to spot down the row. The device consists of a nylon waist strap, durable plastic seat, a metal leg that's adjustable to three different heights, and a 3 1/2-in. wide spring-like base that prevents the user from sinking into the dirt.

If conditions are sandy, or loose and wet, you may need to attach a larger base.

The University of Wisconsin "Healthy Farmers, Healthy Profits" group, which has been promoting the idea, says customers at "pick-your-own" farms might like using the stools, also. It might make the harvest experience more fun for them, and if they're comfortable, they might stay longer.

Stools cost between \$20 and \$40, and can be purchased at local farm supply stores or dairy equipment dealers (see below).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, University of Wisconsin, Healthy Farmers, Healthy Profits Project, 460 Henry Mall, Madison, Wis. 53706 (ph 608 262-1054; website: <http://bse.wisc.edu/hfhp/>).

Where to buy stools:

Nasco (ph 800 558-9595; website: www.enasco.com) They sell two models for \$24.60 or \$31.30. American Livestock Supply (ph 800 356-0700; website: www.americanlivestock.com). One model, sells for \$38.52.



One-legged stool straps on to rear end, freeing up hands when moving from spot to spot down the row.



"Animal plants" look like they're formed entirely out of plant material. The trick is to grow a moss base inside a wire frame shaped like an animal or other object.

Do-It-Yourself "Animal Plants"

You can grow "animal plants" – commonly called topiary – that look like they're formed entirely out of plant material using "wire art" kits from Green Piece Wire Art.

The company sells detailed animal sculptures made of closely spaced wire that's filled with rich green sphagnum moss. The idea is to grow the moss inside a wire frame shaped like an animal or other object. The sculpture can then be seeded with plants that replicate animal features i.e. grass for a horse's mane and tail or small flowers across a turtle's back.

More than 70 "wire art" characters are available. The wire is epoxy powder coated to prevent rust. To add accent plants, you simply poke holes into the moss and then plug the plants into the holes. The company makes suggestions on which plants to use. It has also compiled a list of growers who carry topiary friendly plants.

"Wire art" characters available include everything from frogs, turtles, cats and dogs, to dinosaurs, alligators, elephants and giraffes.

Prices start at \$35 or so for a small frog and go up from there.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Green



More than 70 different "wire art" characters are available.

Piece Wire Art, P.O. Box 260, Bridge Station, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14305 (ph 877 956-5901 or 905 679-6066; email: info@greenpiecewireart.com; website: www.greenpiecewireart.com) or 9196 Dickenson Rd. W., Mount Hope, Ontario, Canada L0R 1W0 (ph 877 956-5901 or 905 679-6066).