

# State-Of-The-Art Planter Disc Scrapers

“Our new scrapers bolt right onto the axle of the opening discs on any planter and offer a lot of advantages over standard frame-mounted scrapers,” says Eric Hesla, Pro Mags LLC, Tea, S. Dak.

The universal scrapers are designed to replace the original frame-mounted scrapers on any planter. Using a wrench, you can adjust the mounting arm tension and set the blade to make contact anywhere along the opening disc.

“The scraper’s design forces mud and stubble away from the opening disc and the internal side of the planter’s gauge wheels, preventing the soil buildup that you get with standard frame-mounted scrapers,” says Hesla. “The design also prevents soil and trash from plugging up between the opening discs.

“The patented scrapers can be used on any planter with or without our patented Pro Mag gauge wheels. They’re compatible with the new 15 and 16-in. double roller bearing

disc opener designs found on newer planters.”

The scrapers sell for \$39.99 apiece plus S&H. “The mounting body is a one-time purchase, and there is only the scraper blade to replace over time as it wears,” says Hesla. “We currently offer models for both single bearing and double bearing openers.”

## New For 2018

For the ultimate performance in scrapers, Pro Mags scraper blades are now available with tungsten carbide. “We use revolutionary technology to make a uni-body blade for the ultimate cleaning and extended wear,” says Hesla. “The uni-body blade provides a smooth, contiguous surface without the need for bulky aluminum housings to hold a carbide strip which provides a clean ‘shaving’ of the opener disc rather than a squared ‘pushing’ action. Tungsten carbide scraper blades are available for both planter and Deere air seeder scraper kits.”



Universal scraper bolts onto the axle of any planter’s opening disc.

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Reader Inquiry No. 132

# Amazing Farm Wrench Book

Everything you ever wanted to know about farm wrenches is likely to be found in one or another of P.T. Rathbone’s series of Farm Wrench Books. In a project that never ends, Rathbone keeps finding more wrenches to cover.

“I did the first volume and immediately started getting corrections and additions,” says Rathbone. “When I finished Vol. 2, the corrections and additions were already coming in for Vol. 3.”

Rathbone sells Vol. 1 for \$65, Vol. 2 for \$50 and Vol. 3, recently finished, sells for \$55. All prices include postage. All three volumes are available as a set for \$160.

“If you are interested in farm wrenches, you need to start with Vol. 1,” advises Rathbone. “The following volumes don’t repeat information found in the preceding volumes. They only correct it if a mistake was made.”

FARM SHOW purchased Vol. 1 to get a firsthand look, and the material covered is impressive. Entries include photos or drawings of wrenches issued by long-gone farm implement companies. Rathbone also offers histories of the companies whenever possible.

Companies covered go far beyond the standard tractor and field implement companies. The book includes wrenches from buggy, silo, cream separator, windmill

and gas engine companies. However, that doesn’t begin to describe the variety of wrenches or companies in the book.

Rathbone notes that there were thousands of companies making farm equipment over the past century and a half. The challenge is finding information on what they produced and the special wrenches used to work on them.

Rathbone covers 783 companies in Vol. 1. Some, like the Aetna Company, had one wrench that lasted for 10 years and folded. The flyer reproduced by the company history shows the mower and reaper or “Aetna Self Rake” mower.

Compare that to the 8 pages of wrenches from International Harvester Co. The historical record starts with the American Harvester Co. forming in 1890 and ends with the sale to Tenneco, Inc. in 1985.

The companies started or acquired by John and Charles Deere and partners and their wrenches cover 11 pages. They include Deere & Mansur, who developed a rotary corn planter in 1877.

If the main book is interesting, the supplement is a must have for collectors. It consists of lists of wrench part numbers and the company names that go with them. The last section of the supplements includes names of companies and parts numbers of wrenches



P.T. Rathbone keeps finding more wrenches to include in his series of Farm Wrench Books.

sold at major auctions in the 1990’s. Each successive volume offers an updated price guide, as well as additional companies and wrenches.

Vol. 3 is only 259 pages compared to the Vol. 1 with its 500+ pages. However, it includes 1,200 new wrenches and the histories of another 239 companies. With Vol. 3, the supplement really stands out. It matches 6,000 wrenches with their companies and gives an updated price list.

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