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THE ANVIL



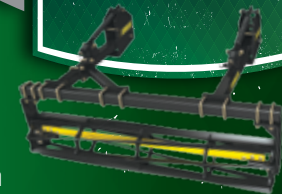
HAMMERING OUT NEWS, EVENTS AND KNOWLEDGE FROM SUMMERS MANUFACTURING



SUMMERS THE ANVIL



WIN
ROLLING BASKETS
AT FARM PROGRESS



Win Rolling Baskets at the Farm Progress Show!

For the third year in a row, we're giving away a set of our patented rolling baskets to one lucky farmer attending the 2017 Farm Progress Show, August 29-31, in Decatur, Illinois. **To register, all you have to do is stop into our booth (#2066 in the Southwest Quadrant) sometime during the show and fill out a short entry form.**

Soon after the show, we'll randomly draw a winner. If you're selected, we'll send out a service team to install our rolling baskets on your tillage equipment—free of charge!

Our rolling baskets feature internally mounted mud scrapers that keep them from plugging, even in wet conditions. This allows the baskets to

perform well in virtually any field condition and also helps prevent equipment damage from heavy mud build-up within the baskets.

Other features on the rolling baskets include 3-inch square adjustable arms, 5-lip seal maintenance-free bearings and a universal mounting system for installation on a wide range of tillage equipment.

For more information on the giveaway, visit WinRollingBaskets.com.

Residue Management Alternatives

Win Rolling Baskets at Farm Progress!

Get Ready for Fall Tillage

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What is Vertical Tillage?

Although the concept of vertical tillage has been around for a couple decades now, there is still a lot of confusion about what exactly vertical tillage is. Not helping is the fact that every manufacturer seems to address it a little differently. So, to help clear up any confusion, here's our take on vertical tillage:

How it started

Vertical tillage got its start in the late 1990s when Summers engineers worked with a South Dakota farmer who couldn't get his spring planting completed because a thick mat of no-till soybean residue prevented the wet soil from drying out beneath. None of the existing tillage products on the market seemed to handle the situation well, so we developed a new tool with two gangs of coulter blades traveling inline with the direction of travel to cut the residue and allow the seedbed to dry. The new tool was called the Supercoulter, and it became the start of a huge trend in both spring and fall tillage.

Story continues on inside.

Continued from cover story.

Get Ready for Fall Tillage

It may only be July, but it's time to make sure you have everything in order for your fall tillage needs. By now, you may have a good idea of the type of residue you'll be dealing with, as well as other tillage concerns, such as land reclamation or leftover ruts from muddy spring fieldwork. So, you can start setting goals for what you'd like to achieve this fall, whether it is minimum tillage, conventional tillage, a fertilizer incorporation program or anything else.

To help you get thinking about fall tillage, we've included a few different ideas throughout this newsletter. And there are many more where these came from. At Summers, we've continued developing our tillage line ever since we started manufacturing the original Herman Harrow in the 1960s. From that point on, we've introduced several new tillage concepts, such as the Diamond Disk, vertical tillage, variable rate tillage and more. We hope you stop by your local Summers dealer or talk with us at a nearby farm show to learn more about the different options, because we have the solutions that are fit for your fields.

What it is

At Summers, we define vertical tillage as a tool that enters and exits the soil on a vertical plane. That means concave blades or any other blades that do not maintain a straight line of travel through the soil are not true vertical tillage because they move soil horizontally, which can create negative effects like hardpan and smearing.

Vertical tillage is beneficial for cutting and sizing residue, while mixing it with the soil. This helps to convert the residue into organic matter for healthier soils. It can also help warm and dry the seedbed in the spring to create a more uniform and receptive seeding environment.

Additionally, true vertical tillage "scores" the soil, similar to cutting glass, to naturally fracture the soil. This fracturing helps eliminate soil layers so that roots can explore the soil profile more freely to access nutrients and moisture. It also provides a path for moisture to enter the soil. The moisture pathway is especially beneficial on hilltops, helping them to absorb rainfall, rather than having it run off onto lowlands.

Depending on a farmer's needs, a vertical tillage tool can often be equipped with different blade types. Straight blades, for example, provide the best cutting properties but don't move much soil. Wavy or turbo blades are available for those who want more soil movement.

Despite all the benefits, vertical tillage isn't for everybody. Sometimes heavy residue and other conditions are better handled with more

aggressive tillage that will move more soil and increase the blackening effect on the field finish. Vertical tillage also isn't ideal for killing deep-rooted weeds, so it may not be practical for organic and other farming operations that rely on mechanical weed control.

For farming operations in which vertical tillage is appropriate, however, many studies have shown increased yields with its use. Not to mention, a lot of farmers who have switched from conventional tillage to vertical tillage experience much less soil erosion as well. It's a win-win for your farm and your soil health.



For more information on vertical tillage, visit: summersmfg.com/solution-application/vertical-tillage



You have our word on it!



BRIAN PERKUHN
Vice President of Sales

RESIDUE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES

No-till and minimum tillage have gotten a lot more challenging in recent years where we've seen outstanding yields and, as a result, heavy residue. But there are still options for growers looking to manage that heavy residue, while keeping tillage to a minimum. Here are a couple ideas:

Land Rollers

Land rollers are a great option for helping no-tillers manage tough corn stalks without resorting to tillage. Not only can land rollers shatter and start to break down the stalks, but they can also fracture corn root balls that are still in the ground to aid in fast residue decomposition.



VT Flex Applicator

Our new VT Flex Applicator provides residue management while sealing fertilizer in the root zone. It features coulter blades that can be customized for slicing residue in-row, as well as mid-row, for 15-, 20-, 22- or 30-inch row spacings. Plus, there are five different blade options that provide anywhere from light to aggressive soil movement, making it highly adaptable for many types of tillage operations.

The VT Flex Applicator includes low-disturbance application knives for applying up to three mediums (dry, liquid and NH3) at high speeds and high rates (up to 700 pounds of dry fertilizer per acre!). This unique setup allows farmers to take care of their fall fertility and residue management needs in one pass with high precision.

