

Photographs: Rich Fee



**Bill Couser and Rob Williams designed and built a fertilizer injection system for the Yetter All Steer cart being pulled by Couser's 12-row planter. The big tank is for 32% nitrogen and sulfur; the small tank is for 9-18-9 starter placed in-furrow.**

# Double-duty fertilizer cart

After planting, the novel cart is used for sidedressing

**By Rich Fee**  
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**W**hile shopping for a new planter, Bill Couser looked at a lot of different fertilizer attachments. But the Nevada, Iowa, farmer didn't buy any of them. He didn't like the potential for corrosive leaks, and he didn't like the prospect of raising or removing the attachments to plant beans.

"We grow seed corn," he explains, "and we have to keep our planter very flexible."

Instead of adding tanks and attachments onto his new 12-row planter, Couser bought a Yetter All Steer high-capacity cart to pull behind it. Then, he and Rob Williams, his longtime shop foreman (who is also a machinery guru), added a fertilizer injection system to the Yetter cart.

### Two seasons

"I designed it, and Rob built it," says Couser. "We pull it behind the planter to put down preplant nitrogen and starter. Then we turn around and sidedress

nitrogen with it later. I just hate owning a piece of machinery that I can only use for one function."

Williams used 2x8-inch steel tubing to make a new frame that sets on top of the original frame. That additional frame is bolted to the original frame so that it can be removed. It extends farther forward than the original frame to provide a place to mount a 300-gallon tank for starter fertilizer.

The rockshaft for the wings that the coulters are mounted on can also be removed fairly easily. "Drop the rock-



**The coulters run 4 to 6 inches to the side of a row. Nozzles behind the coulters inject the nitrogen about 4 inches deep.**



**Rob Williams built this fertilizer attachment. A rockshaft under the cart frame raises and lowers the fertilizer coulters on both wings. Those wings fold up for transport.**



The All Steer cart and fertilizer attachment is also used for sidedressing nitrogen after the corn is up. The cart was designed so that the rear wheels follow the front wheels, thereby minimizing crop damage.

## Double-duty cart

shaft, remove four bolts, and that whole system lifts right off,” says Couser.

A toolbar and lift assembly on the back of the cart carries four of the 12 coulters. Each wing carries another four coulters.

The wings are attached to a rockshaft underneath the frame. The wings were mounted that way for better weight distribution. “We wanted to make sure that all the axles carried about the same amount of weight,” says Couser. He thinks you could have “real problems” as the tank empties if all of the application equipment is on the back.

Couser uses a hydraulic pump mounted on the cart for the 32% and an electric pump for the starter.

Couser is pleased with the way the All Steer cart trails and stays off the rows without much drift.

“We were concerned about sidehills before we started,” he recalls. “But it really did very well.” **SF**

### Carts and toolbars

**Y**etter Manufacturing started building its All Steer high-capacity carts two years ago. All four wheels steer, so the rear tires follow the front tires for precise tracking. Both axles pivot on fifth wheels.

The standard version comes with a 1,600-gallon elliptical tank, hazard lights, and 18.4×26-inch tires with eight-bolt, 6,000-pound hubs. List price with the tank and saddle is \$10,364. The same cart without a tank and saddle is \$7,889.

Yetter is introducing a fertilizer toolbar to go with the All Steer cart. It has a bridge hitch that attaches to the front axle of the cart after the pull hitch is removed. The box frame toolbar comes in 12-row and 16-row versions. Contact Yetter by calling **800/447-5777** or by visiting **[www.yetterco.com](http://www.yetterco.com)**. ■



**Above: An automatic guidance system in the tractor used for planting and sidedressing speeds up those operations and makes them less tiresome.**

**Right: The coulters used to open a trench for the liquid fertilizer disturb very little soil at sidedressing. At planting, they need to be positioned so they don't throw dirt on the row.**

