

THE LEADING EDGE

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A PUBLICATION DEDICATED TO MAXIMIZING YIELD POTENTIAL

Efficient Bulk Seed Handling Means Efficient Time Management

Replacing the cumbersome seed bags with bulk seed handling equipment is a sure way to save time, money, and effort. The right equipment to do the job makes transitioning to bulk seed practices easy and also ensures a quick return on investment.



Seed Box Train™

Bulk seed handling can make preparing for planting very efficient. Bill Wilcke, an engineer from the University of Minnesota Extension Service, cites these advantages when using bulk seed verses seed bags:

- There is less chance of back injury from handling bags.
- The person handling the seed may have less exposure to the chemicals used to treat the seed.
- Seed cost per acre may be lower.
- Seed handling and filling of planters is faster.
- There is less waste of materials and fewer disposal problems for reusable bulk bags compared with smaller disposable seed bags.

Today's seed handling systems are designed to be incredibly versatile and are proven to be effective across all types of production agriculture operations. Bulk seed handling equipment is readily available to work successfully with soybeans, corn, wheat, edible beans, rice, and cottonseed.

Good seed handling systems are designed so producers can choose the specific elements needed and make additions as their operation demands evolve.

**"The average farm is getting larger, and that requires buying more seed—buying in bulk."
Lyle Bushkofsky, Iowa.**



Hopper bottom semi

When selecting bulk seed handling equipment, look for products that attach directly to a gravity wagon or tender, with the capability to move seed from a bulk container to a drill or planter via a stream of air. The powerful motor on such equipment turns a blower that generates and aims a stream of air with just the right force into an air lock.

As seed is incorporated into the air stream, it rides a stainless steel hose down into a cyclone-shaped decelerator, which swirls into a planter or drill box. The motor starts with Seed Box Train™ Power unit mounted to wagon the touch of a button, and the flexible hose lets producers walk around the planter or drill without having to start and stop the motor. Some units have an optional remote control available, making it simple to manage the flow of seed.

A bulk seed handling system should also include options that combine the main handling mechanism with a cart or trailer for use with bulk seed boxes, large seed bags and poly tanks, or other self-contained bulk seed transport, storage, and retrieval systems.



Seed Box Train™ mounted on semi-trailer

Good systems are also easy to clean—dirt free components prevent seed contamination.

Producers who operate large farms or are looking to lighten the burden of seed bags will certainly benefit from the right handling system. An investment in bulk seed handling equipment will also save time and money.

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