FARM JOURNAL
THE FARMER'S FAVORITE

PLANTER CHECKLIST

Functional Areas and Parts to Check:

1. SEED TRANSMISSION SYSTEM
- ☐ Check clutch assembly.
- ☐ Check bearings/sprockets/idlers.
- ☐ Check chains.
- ☐ Line up Lovejoy couplers.
- ☐ Check point row clutches.
- ☐ Check U-joint/sliding shafts.

2. SEED METERS
- ☐ Put meters on a calibration stand.

For air/vacuum planters:
- ☐ Blow air lines clean.
- ☐ Check for air leaks (hoses and seals).

3. WHEELS AND TIRES
- ☐ Check lug nuts and bearings.
- ☐ Check tire air pressure.
- ☐ Are drive wheels centered?
- ☐ Check mud scrapers on drive wheels.

4. FERTILIZER TRANSMISSION
- ☐ Check openers and bearings/blades/shoes.
- ☐ Check fertilizer hoses.
- ☐ Check piston or squeeze pump.
- ☐ Check drive chains.
- ☐ Calibrate flow.

5. DOWN PRESSURE SPRING ASSEMBLY

6. PARALLEL ARM LINKAGE
- ☐ Check measurements between arms.
- ☐ Check bolts and bushings (rocking test).
- ☐ Check shape of hole on parallel arms (circle or egg shape).
- ☐ Check for bent arms and lower shank.

7. ROW UNIT SPROCKETS
- ☐ Check meter disconnect lever (make sure it lines up correctly).
- ☐ Make sure it is moving freely.

8. DRIVE CHAINS
- ☐ Check to make sure they are lubricated and in good condition.
- ☐ Check drive rollers, idlers and idler springs.
- ☐ Check for grooves in rollers.

9. ROW CLEANERS
- ☐ Check bearings.
- ☐ Check for free movement up and down.

10. NO-TILL COULTERS
- ☐ Check bearings.
- ☐ Check cutting edge.
- ☐ Are they centered on hub?
- ☐ Check depth (must be 1/4" higher than opening disks).

11. GAUGE WHEEL ASSEMBLY
- ☐ Check gauge wheel arm condition.
- ☐ Check walking gauge wheel attachments.
- ☐ Check rubber tire.
  1. Is it in good condition?
  2. Does it run true and have contact with disk blades?
- ☐ Check bearings.

12. TRU-VEE OPENERS/DISK BLADES
- ☐ Measure blade point of contact. (It should be 2" to 2 1/2"; except for Kinze 3000 series, which should be 1" to 1 1/4").
- ☐ Check diameter of blades (minimum of 14 1/2", centered around seed tube).
- ☐ Check bearings.
- ☐ Check scrapers.

13. SEED TUBE AND TUBE GUARD

- ☐ Seed tube – look for worn edges or broken tubes.
- ☐ Seed tube guard
  1. Look for loose or broken rivets.
  2. Is width worn or too narrow?

14. SEED FIRMERS

- ☐ Are they installed correctly?
- ☐ Adjust tension.
- ☐ Look for wear.

15. CLOSING WHEEL ASSEMBLY

- ☐ Check tires and wheel bearings.
- ☐ Are they centered over seed trench (scratch line test in shop)?
- ☐ Check staggered wheel setup.
- ☐ Check pivot assembly holes.

16. INSECTICIDE ASSEMBLY

- ☐ Check box and feed roll condition.
- ☐ Is hose attachment clean?
- ☐ Check insecticide bander (wind shields).

17. FRAME

- ☐ Check structural welds.
- ☐ Check hydraulic hoses and cylinders.
- ☐ Check wing hinges and pivots.
- ☐ Check row markers.

18. ELECTRICAL

- ☐ Check routing.
- ☐ Check cable connections.
- ☐ Review control console functions.
- ☐ Check seed tube sensors.

19. VRT CONTROLLERS

- ☐ Check for version updates.
- ☐ Set up test run.
- ☐ Check seed drop calibration.
- ☐ Check speed sensor calibration.
- ☐ Implement switch.
- ☐ Check tractor hydraulic calibration.

In-Field Adjustments to Check:

1. PLANTER RUNNING LEVEL

- ☐ Is the frame level?
- ☐ Is the parallel linkage level?
- ☐ Adjust hitch height (should be 20" from bottom of frame to planting surface).

2. PLANTER SPEED

- ☐ Make sure row units run smoothly with no bounce or vibration.
- ☐ Run at 4.5 to 5 mph.

3. ROW CLEANERS SET AT CORRECT DEPTH

4. NO-TILL COULTER

- ☐ Depth should be higher than disk openers.

5. CHAINS AND DRIVE SYSTEM

- ☐ Apply oil.
- ☐ Make sure they are running smooth.

6. CLOSING WHEELS

- ☐ Are they centered on trench?

7. USE GRAPHITE (ON FINGER PICKUP) OR TALC (ON VACUUM PLANTERS)