

Soil+Cover Cropping International



Practical Farm Ideas helps farmers

- * save time
- * cut costs
- * share information

unlock the secrets in the soil

www.nrcs.usda.gov

"We know more about the movement of celestial bodies than about the soil underfoot."

-Leonardo da Vinci



Living in the soil are plant roots, bacteria, fungi, protozoa, algae, mites, nematodes, worms, ants, maggots, insects and grubs, and larger animals.

science of soil

soil is made of about
45% minerals
25% water
5% organic matter
25% air



what's underneath



Healthy soil has amazing water-retention capacity.

Every **1%** increase in organic matter results in as much as **25,000** gal of available soil water per acre.



One teaspoon of healthy soil contains

100 million-1 billion individual bacteria



All of the soil microbes in **1ac/ft** of soil weigh more than **2 cows**

Earthworm populations consume **2 tons** of dry matter per acre per year, partly digesting and mixing it with soil



what it does



Healthy soil is key to feeding

9 billion  by **2050**

The soil farmer



The conventional farmer

Demo plot at Cereals 2015









- It doesn't look tidy – 6 way covers in Kent







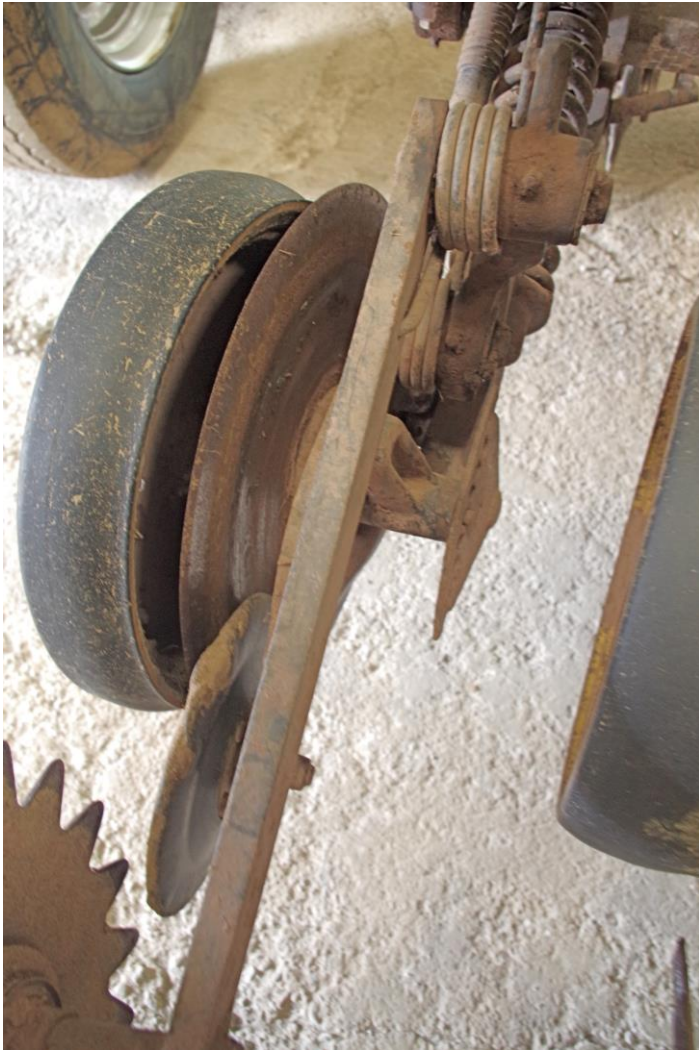
Drilling beans at Weston Park - 2016



30 year old Deere 750A drills 350 ac/year



750A worldwide parts







Seed drills don't need to be expensive



'Made it Myself' ...to show off in

PRACTICAL
Farm
IDEAS



Combine tyres



Heavy Essex clay Jan 15, 2015 – year 4





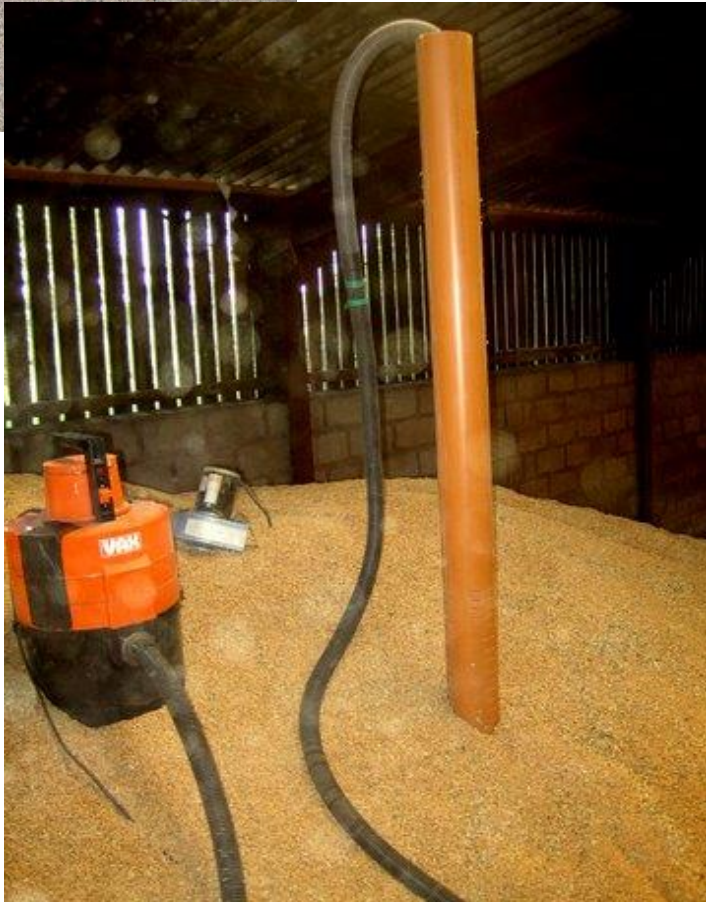
www.farmideas.co.uk

Tips and ideas to take away
today

Home made grain thermometer



Inserting Grain Venting Tube

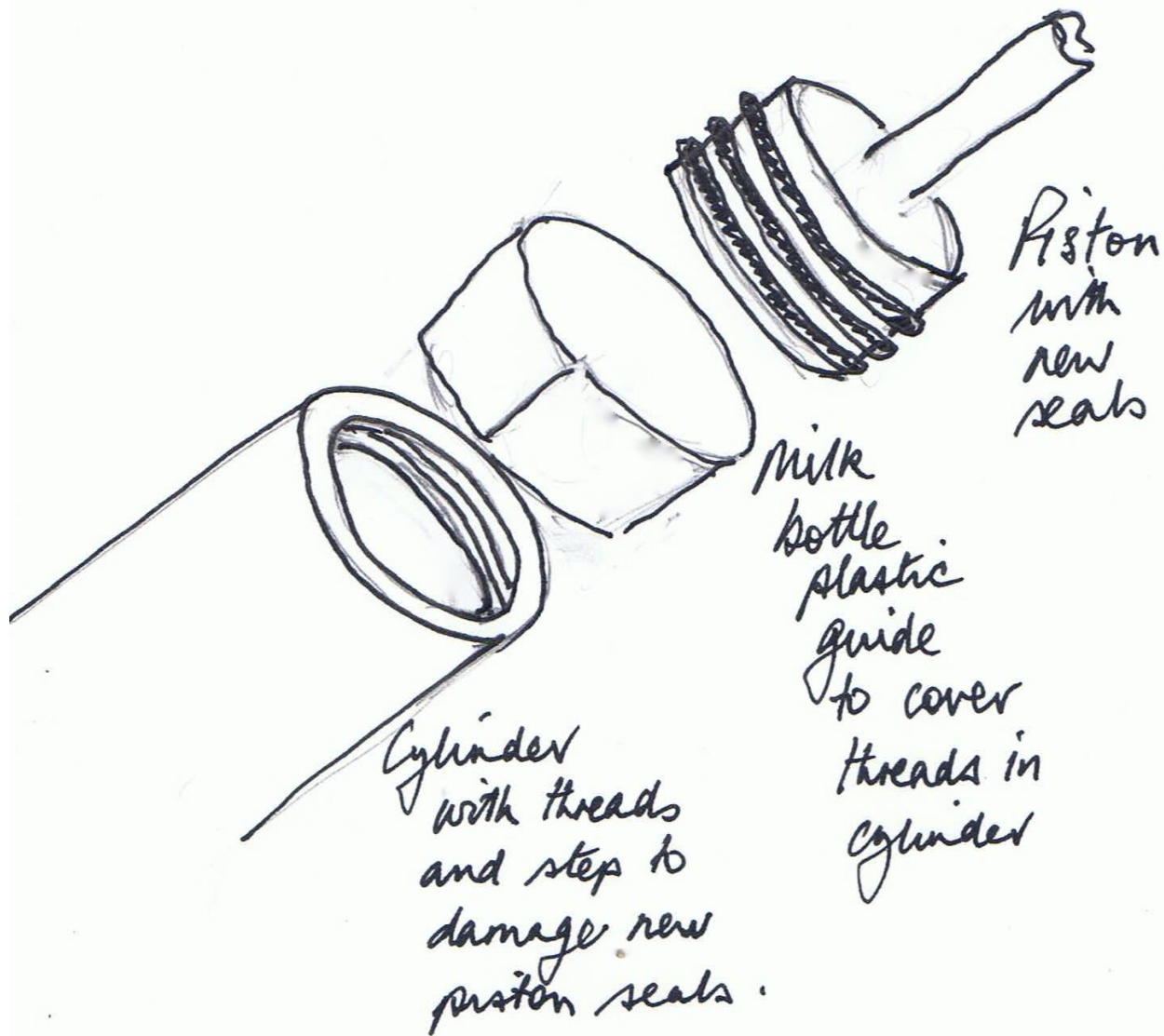


'Made it Myself' ... clever methods

Fitting a vent pipe in grain

PRACTICAL
Farm
IDEAS





'Made it Myself' ... simple little things

Locking the Land Rover



'Made it Myself' ... safety issues

while in Farm Ideas I like to show the positive...



'Made it Myself' ... safety issues

and more positives...





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mike@farmideas.co.uk

07778 877514