

finOvation awards 2002

SEED



**SCHOER FARMS
BULK SEED SYSTEM**

SEED

equipment

Tired of hauling seed to the field and filling a planter, Jeff Schoer went to his computer and designed a bulk seed system to save precious planting time. Now Jeff, his father Eldo Jr. and his brother Brad are manufacturing from their Wabasso, MN, farm a seed system that handles one day's supply for planting.

Farmers like the simplicity of the system, according to Jeff. Three frames holding two seed boxes each sit on a trailer. Each of the frames has a chute that catches the seed as it comes out of the box, and each chute runs to a Christianson Seed Vac. The grain vac with 35-ft. tubing to reach the planter is rolled from one box to another in less than a minute. Then after planting, the frames can stack on top of one another, and the trailer can be used for other purposes. Cost of a frame is \$600 and the Christianson Seed Vac is \$3,500. Contact Schoer Farms LLC, Dept. FIN, Bulk Seed System, 22563 Jade Ave., Wabasso, MN 56293, 507/829-6173, www.bulkseedsystems.com or circle 227.

SEED

hybrids or varieties

It took 24 years, but hybrid alfalfa is now on a grower's list of seed options. Dairyland Seed is the first company to offer a hybrid alfalfa it calls HybriForce-400. The new hybrid boasts several advantages over conventional alfalfa, including improved yield. University trials



**DAIRYLAND SEED
HYBRIFORCE-400**



**BRIDGEVIEW MFG.
HOPPER-BOTTOM BINS**

showed hybrid alfalfa yielded 8% more than conventional alfalfa. The company says that in on-farm test plots the new hybrid yielded 15% higher. According to the company, the hybrid alfalfa also is more resilient and offers more flexibility on harvest time. It claims the plants green up faster in the spring and regrow faster in the summer. The hybrid was available in only limited quantities last year, but the company plans a wider release this year. Dairyland also is licensing the technology to other companies. Suggested retail price: \$270/bag. Contact Dairyland Seed Co., Dept. FIN, Box 958, West Bend, WI 53095, 800/236-0163 or circle 228.