

46 is in electronic communication with instrumentality of the implement 12 and a GPS/satellite navigation and mapping system 50, which is in electronic communication with the implement 12 and planter 14.

For use when GPS is not available, each seed meter 24 has a switch or sensor 52 located adjacent the transport belt 28. Attached to the belt 28 and connected to the controller 46 is a switch actuator 54. In one embodiment the switch actuator 54 is an electrically charged magnet. The switch actuator 54 is activated by the controller based upon manual actuation by an operator. For example, in an arrangement having four seed meters 24, when the rear seed meter is dispensing seed 18 to belt 28, and it is desirable to change to the front seed meter, an operator pushes a button, flips a switch, or pulls a lever which sends a signal to the controller 46 to activate the front meter and deactivates the rear meter. The controller 46 then sends signals to the switch actuator 54 such that as the actuator 54 passes by the rear meter switch 52, the rear meter 24 is deactivated and stops depositing seeds 18 to belt 28. As the actuator 54 passes the front meter switch 52, the front meter switch 52 is activated and the front meter 24 begins depositing seeds 18 to the belt 28 at exactly the point that the end of the seed supply on the belt passes under meter 1. As a result, there is no interruption in delivering seeds 18 to the belt 28 nor are multiple seeds 18 delivered into a lug 42 on the belt 28.

When planting is completed and an operator wishes to clean out the seeds 18 from the planter 14, the operator closes the gate valve 56 between the fan 58, used for delivery of bulk seed to a seed meter 24 and an entrainment box 60 and opens gate valve 67 to provide an air exit. A conduit 62 is connected between an air source 64 and the fan 58 and the discharge end of the transport belt 28 and is connected to the fan intake via gate valve 68, which is opened when seed clean out is desired. Utilizing an airlock 65 connected to conduit 62 and exit conduit 66 which leads to a storage or transport container vehicle 69, a vacuum is created. Thus, by running each seed meter 24 separately for each seed 18 type, the seeds 18 are delivered via the air lock 64 to a vacuum conduit 62 using air pressure from the fan 58 to the exit conduit 66 which delivers the seed to storage 69. If desired, gate valve 56 can be re-opened and valve 67 closed such that a meter 24 is refilled until the bulk seed hopper is empty.

Thus a device for changing the variety of seed for a planter has been disclosed that at the very least meets all the stated objectives.

What is claimed is:

1. A system for changing the seed variety planted, comprising;
 - a planter including a plurality of row units each including a plurality of seed meters; and
 - a single belt associated with the meters such that the belt receives seed from each of the plurality of meters and transports the seed to a furrow for planting in a field; said single belt including a plurality of flights and including a portion that extends below the plurality of meters.
2. The system of claim 1, further comprising a controller to actuate the operation of the plurality of seed meters.
3. The system of claim 2, further comprising a mapping system operatively connected to the controller to selectively operate the plurality of seed meters to change the variety of seed planted.
4. The system of claim 3, wherein the mapping system comprises a global positioning system.

5. The system of claim 1, further comprising a guide positioned between a seed meter and the belt.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein the guide is configured to deliver the seed from the seed meter to the belt.

7. The system of claim 1, further comprising an adjustable cover associated with the belt.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein the cover terminates in an end guide at a discharge end of the belt.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the cover encloses the seed between the plurality of flights and the cover.

10. A row unit of an agricultural planter capable of changing the seed variety planted at the row unit, the row unit comprising:

- a plurality of seed meters positioned on the row unit of the planter; and
- a single belt associated with the meters such that the belt receives seed from each of the plurality of meters and transports the seed to a furrow; said single belt including a plurality of flights and including a portion that extends below the plurality of meters; wherein said meters positioned at least partially forward and aft of one another on the row unit relative to a direction of travel of the planter.

11. The row unit of claim 10, further comprising at least one seed meter housing.

12. The row unit of claim 11, further comprising a guide positioned between a seed meter housing and the belt.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the guide is configured to deliver the seed from the seed meter to the belt.

14. The system of claim 10, further comprising a controller to actuate the operation of the plurality of seed meters.

15. The system of claim 14, further comprising a mapping system operatively connected to the controller to selectively operate the plurality of seed meters to change the variety of seed planted.

16. The system of claim 10, further comprising a cover terminating in an end guide at a discharge end of the belt.

17. A system for changing the seed variety planted by a planter, comprising:

- a plurality of row units each including a plurality of seed meters, said row units operatively connected to the planter;
- a single belt associated with the meters such that the belt receives seed from each of the plurality of meters and transports the seed to a furrow; said single belt including a plurality of flights and including a portion that extends below the plurality of meters; and a seed delivery system for delivering seed from a plurality of hoppers to the plurality of seed meters; wherein said meters positioned at least partially forward and aft of one another on the row unit relative to a direction of travel of the planter.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the seed delivery system comprising a seed delivery conduit connected to a fan, a gate valve, a bulk seed hopper, an entrainment box, and one of the plurality of seed meters.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the seed delivery system further comprising a vacuum pressure conduit connected to an air supply conduit between the fan and an air supply at one end and a discharge end of the belt at an opposite end.

20. The system of claim 17, wherein said single belt being operated by controller.