Adjustable Corn Head Snout

Agricultural Biological

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Statement of Purpose

This team worked to design a John Deere adjustable corn head snout that will handle down corn that is laying on the ground and also retract linearly 150mm to better harvest standing corn, all while maintaining a simplistic design that will allow current crop flow with the least amount of parts, manual control, and minimal added weight to the corn head, improve marketability and add profitability.

Background on Problem

- Deere currently has the longest snout on the market
- Long snouts provide issues like "plow effect"
- Long snouts push over corn plants in the next row on contours
- No adjustable snouts on the market
- The snout must linearly retract 150 mm, then, re-extend to original position



Design Evaluations

Locking Mechanisms							
Factors	Material Flow	Functionality	Cost	Availability	Simplicity	Asethetics	Score
Weight	2	2	1	2.5	2	0.5	
(1) Pin	4	5	4	5	2	2	39.5
(2) Spring Loaded	5	7	3	6	7	5	58.5
(3) Button	6	5	6	1	6	4	44.5

Track System							
Factors	Material Flow	Functionality	Cost	Availability	Simplicity	Asethetics	Score
Weight	2	2	1	2.5	2	0.5	
(1) Zach's Design	5	7	7	8	5	5	63.5
(2) Jentry's Design	3	2	4	6	5	4	41
(3) Josh's Design	5	5	2	6	8	7	56.5

Impact and Sustainability

- Will provides competitive advantage in marketplace
- No FEA analysis required for this prototype
- Possible residue build-up in track

Economic Analysis

- Total Cost is \$167.33
- Estimated Price is \$600
- \$12.33 in additional cost yields \$150 in revenue per snout.
- Percent Profit:

 Conventional Snout 190%,

 Adjustable Snout 260%

Alternative Solutions Design 1

 A Track incorporated in hinge of the snout

Concerns:

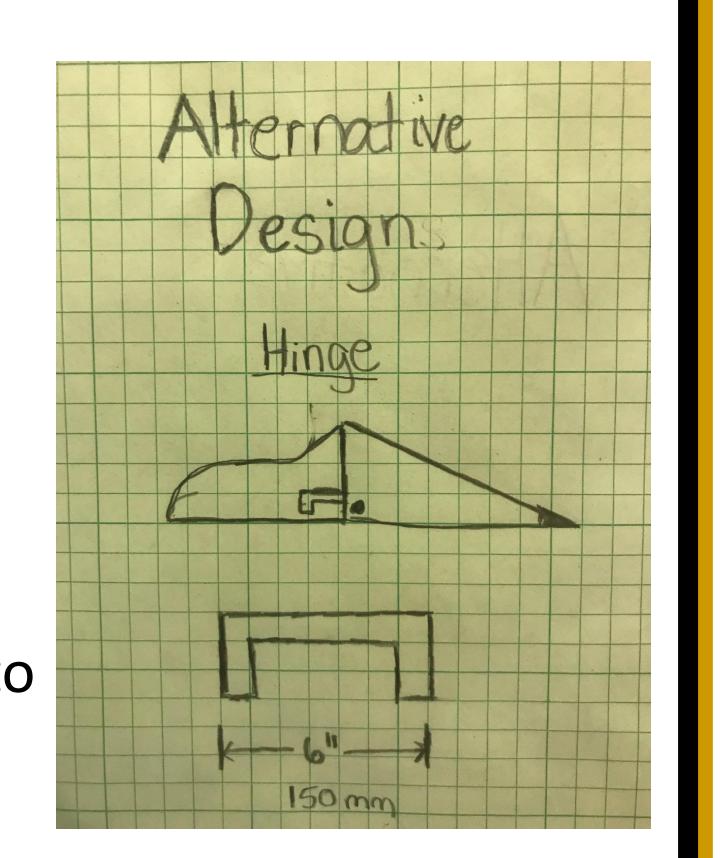
- Hinge functionality
- Design complexity
- Hinge strength after modification
- Crop residue build up in track

Design 2

Two piece snout, secured by a pin

Concerns:

- The two pieces of plastic must be unattached
- Time consuming field adjustment
- Having pins poses an opportunity to drop the pins in the field

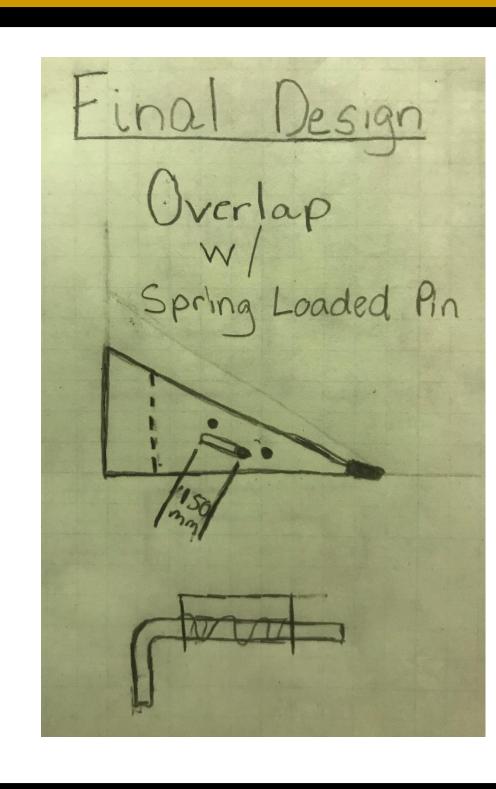


Final Design

Two piece snout with incorporated track

Benefits:

- Uses two concepts from earlier designs
- Reduces complexity of modifications
- Under 1 minute transition
- Allows crop material to flow
- Fully retracts 150 mm







Economic Analysis					
Quantity	Part	Price			
1	Pin	\$7.10			
1	Spring	\$0.03			
1	U Bracket	\$1.16			
1	Z Bracket	\$1.69			
1	Plate	\$1.61			
2	Bolt	\$0.26			
4	Washers	\$0.03			
2	Locknut	\$0.10			
1	Plastic Snout	\$75			
Total Raw N	\$87.33				
2	Labor	\$40			
Tota	\$167.33				

Future Recommendations

- John Deere will manufacture a new
 2 piece mold
- The design is a prototype, John
 Deere will need to conduct FEA and field testing
- John Deere will need to allow the farmer to adjust from the cab
- Install a rubber flap to keep material from going under the 2 pieces.



Mr. Dennis Silver, John Deere

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