

## PRECISION SEEDING STARTS AT HARVEST



Fast, uniform germination in the spring starts with seedbed preparation at harvest.

Uniform distribution of straw and chaff (crop residue) across the width of the cutterbar is a critical component of any seeding system – especially precision seeding systems.

Failure to manage crop residue properly can lead to problems, such as:

- Hair-pinning and plugging at seeding
- Poor and uneven seedling emergence
- Cold and wet soils under mats of residue that can lead to emergence issues
- Toxic chaff-effects on seedlings
- Challenges with weed control due to; weed germination, herbicide effectiveness and timing of herbicide application

As combine capacity gets larger and cutting widths wider, most factory equipped combines are incapable of spreading crop residue uniformly across the width of the cutterbar. This can significantly impact your seeding operation and ultimately your yield.

### **Tips for improving crop residue management:**

1. Make sure all your straw choppers knives are sharp.
  - Dull blades = poor cut performance which will result in increase fuel and power consumption.
  - Don't forget to check the stationary knife bar as well.
2. Take time in the field to make adjustments to your chopper.
  - Set the tailboard height and adjust the fins based on your harvest conditions.
  - Make sure the crop residue is feeding evenly into the chopper.
3. Match the header size to the combines ability to spread the residue.
  - Larger headers (anything over 35 feet) need to be matched with a straw chopper that can distribute the crop residue evenly over the width of the header.

Visit our website for a complete list of our crop residue solutions: [www.strawchopper.com](http://www.strawchopper.com)