

# CLOSING WHEELS

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## MOHAWK™ & ZIPPER™ ANGLED SPIKED CLOSING WHEELS

### FEATURES—DESIGN—BENEFITS

- Feathers the soil in the seed V with its wide track design
- Designed to break up compaction without being too aggressive
- 1" spike does not disturb seed placement
- Allows for better seed-to-soil contact

### ELIMINATES COMMON PROBLEMS

- Compacts the soil better than straight-fingered wheels
- Rototills soil with minimal compaction into the furrow
- Eliminates air pockets
- In wet soils, the trench won't crack back open on a hot windy day

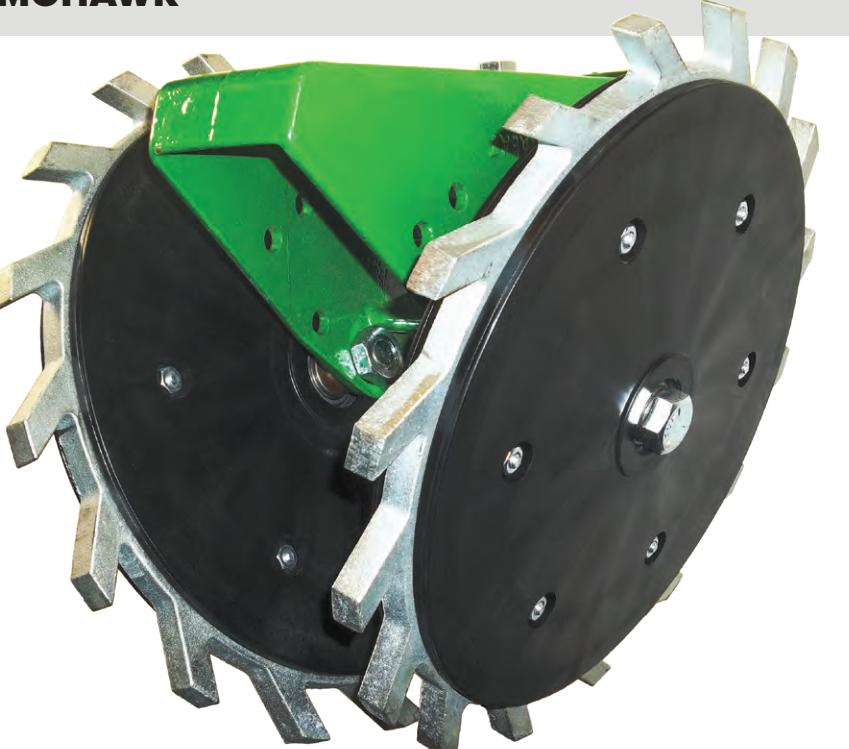
### WHERE THEY WORK—SUITABLE FOR MANY SOILS

- Made to work in tough soils
- Work in no-till or conventional without having to change wheels

### EASE OF INSTALLATION

- Can be used with or without the G2 liquid fertilizer disc or G3 walking beam arm
- Easy to install

### MOHAWK™



### FEATURES—DESIGN—BENEFITS

- Stitches seed V shut
- Uses existing wheels and bearings, and replaces tire with Mohawk ring, which saves you \$\$\$!
- Breaks down compacted sidewall and closes the furrow at the same time
- Longer wear, heavy duty cast steel spikes

Farm Journal agronomist Ken Ferrie conducted a three-year study examining closing wheel designs, including the Mohawk. He classified the **Mohawk** as a “**firming spiked closing wheel**”, which are designed to provide both crushing action of the sidewall and firming above and around the seed. **Ferrie concluded that in the toughest no-till conditions, wheels like the Mohawk get the job done the best.**

The Mohawk and Zipper work in all soil types. These two 13" spiked closing wheels also work very well with the G2 liquid fertilizer disc.



The  
“Old Reliable”  
Mohawk



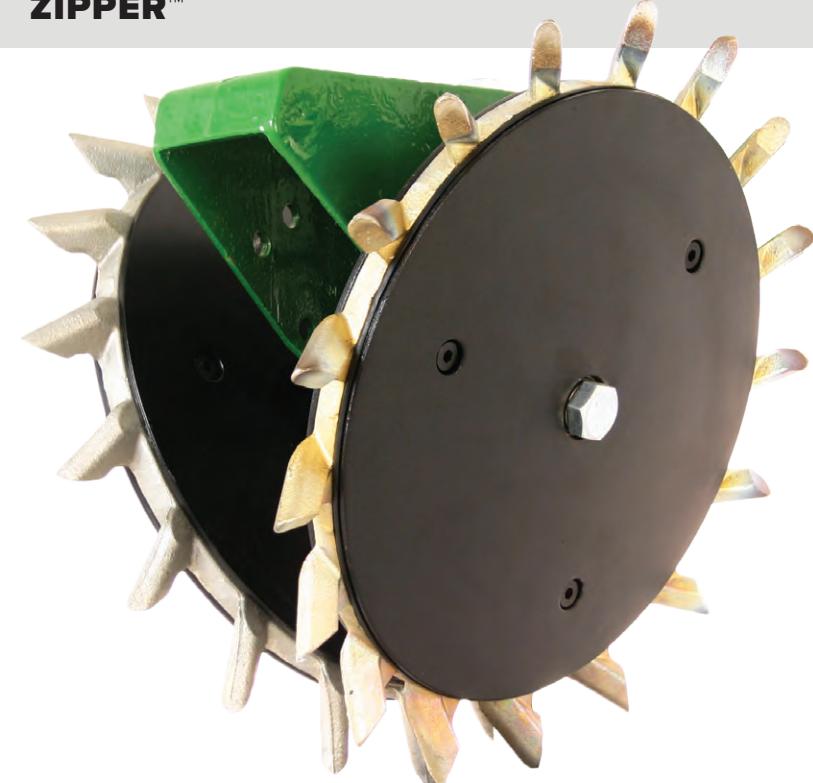
### B.M., SD -

*I was having problems with rocks in the closing wheels last year and was getting mad... Called Schaffert Mfg. to get more Rebounders and fertilizer tubes. They asked if I would try the “Zipper” closing wheel. I was impressed with the Zippers, they didn’t pick any rocks up!*

### FEATURES—DESIGN—BENEFITS

- Longer wear, heavy duty rims & wheels
- Breaks down sidewall and zips seed V shut at the same time
- Tubular design of spike allows it to release soil and eliminate plugging while compacting the soil around the seed
- Angle design rototills the soil into the seed V
- As the Zipper closes it creates indentations which allow moisture to sink in

### ZIPPER™



### ZIPPER DISTINCT FEATURES OVER THE MOHAWK

- More aggressive
- Breaks up and rototills soil in for better compaction
- Pulls more soil from the sidewall in over the seed because the spikes are angled out and down
- Sheds mud better
- Rocks or root balls will not stick



Furrow left open  
with rubber  
closing wheels

Sidewall compaction left from double disc openers on planters makes it hard for standard closing wheels to close the seed V properly in all soil types and conditions. In wet heavy textured soils, standard press wheels tend to smear the soil over the seeds and do not break up the sidewall compaction left by the double disc openers. Then when a hot windy day comes after planting in wet soil conditions, the seed V will often crack back open, exposing the seeds.

If the seed V does stay shut after planting with standard closing wheels, many times the sidewalls of the seed V stay compacted, not letting the roots of the plants penetrate the sidewalls. If they cannot penetrate the sidewall, the roots will not build a good brace root system, and the plants will tend to fall over later in the season.

Schaffert Mfg.’s Mohawk and Zipper closing wheels eliminate these common problems.

# CAST CLOSING WHEELS

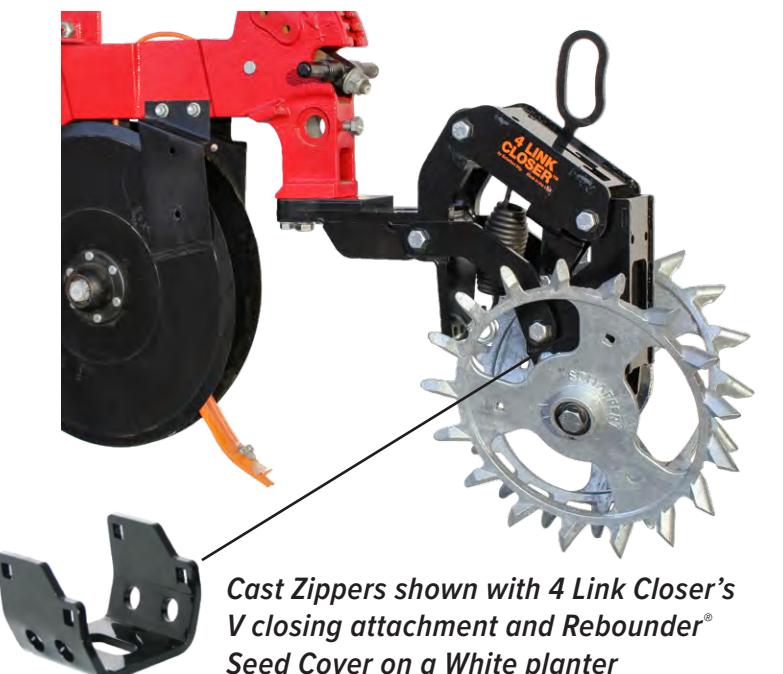
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Standard vs cast Zipper Wheel



Cast Zippers shown with 4 Link Closer™ and G2™ fertilizer disc on a John Deere planter

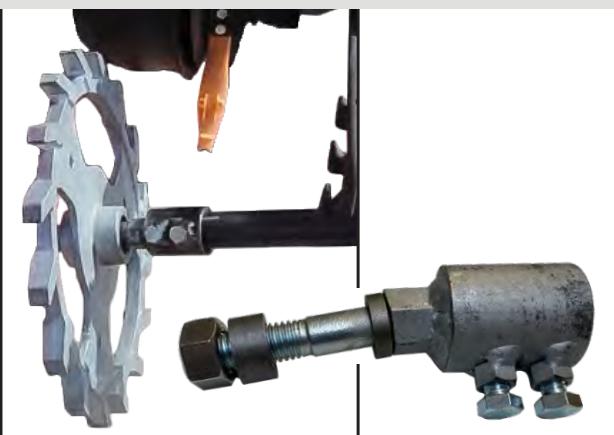


Cast Zippers shown with 4 Link Closer's V closing attachment and Rebounder® Seed Cover on a White planter

All-cast Mohawks & Zippers will not plug with mud.



CASE IH 500 DRILL WITH ECCENTRIC BOLT



This eccentric bolt for Case IH 500 drills cast closing wheels **changes the pitch** in on the back side of the closing wheel. This **allows the wheel to bring soil in** into the furrow behind the wheel, compacting it down around the seed.



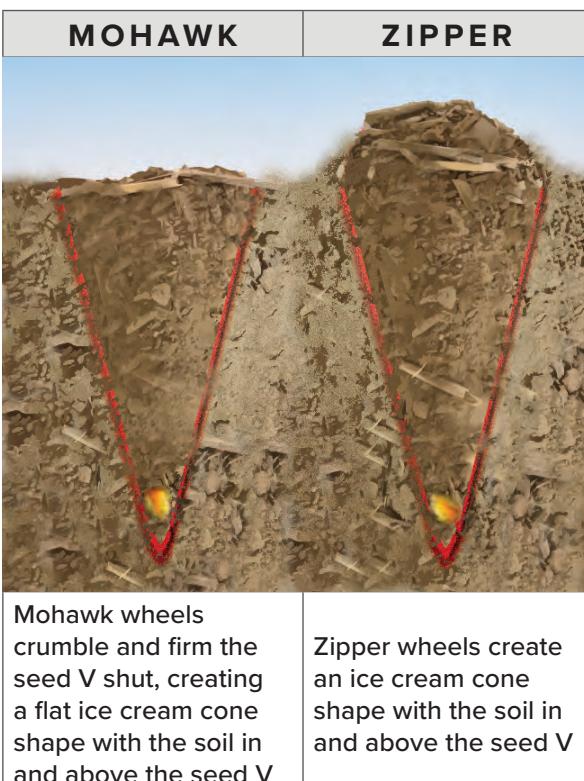
## COVER CROPS

Many of the spiked wheels on the market wrap or plug in cover crops. The **Zippers and Mohawks are less likely to plug or wrap in heavy cover crops**. If they do start to wrap, one can order **cover plates** (shown to right) as an option to **prevent wrapping of cereal rye, vetch and other vining crops**.

We have even had farmers **switch the Zippers around** (shown to left) running the right on the left side of the planter and the left wheel on the right with the fingers turned inward to eliminate wrapping of cover crops.



## DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MOHAWKS & ZIPPERS



The **Mohawk won't pull quite as much soil as the Zipper** but it also does a good job in **slightly hilly and flatter ground**.

The **Zippers are more aggressive** as they put a little more soil over the furrow especially if you are in **hills or up and over terraces**. The Zipper works better on **contour planting** as your closing wheels won't be in the trench like regular closing wheels will.



**Zippers rototill the soil**, breaking up the side walls as they compact the soil around the seed, taking out the air pockets that other spiked closing wheels will leave, and creating **better seed to soil contact**.

Cast Zipper

## B.S., OH -

We feel the Zipper Wheels are the best choice for no till because they wipe out the sidewall compaction that is so critical to allow roots to easily penetrate soil in the sidewall area.

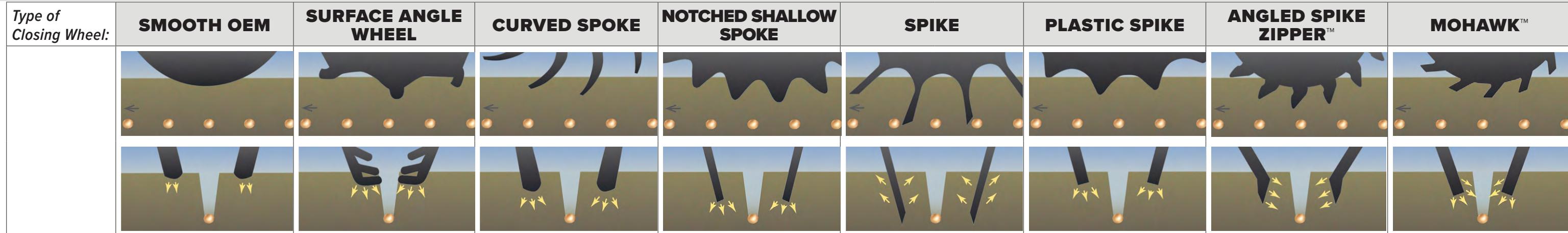
The last 220 pairs that went on planters this late spring were the new style all-cast Zipper. These

wheels eliminated the wet soil from sticking to the flat spots in-between the teeth. We witnessed these wheels going through impossible-to-close conditions with unbelievably good results in 2019.

These wheels zip the furrow shut and leave a slight dome of tilled soil on top of the seed.



# COMPARING DIFFERENT TYPES OF CLOSING WHEELS



ON A SCALE FROM 1-10, 10 BEING THE BEST, LISTED IS HOW WELL EACH WHEEL PERFORMS ON THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

Sidewall breakup shatters, chunks, smears, rototills	1 smears in wet soil like a trowel on concrete	2 horizontal surface pack; can leave air pockets	7 stabs & releases	8 shatter & chunks *needs a drag chain to break up clods	2 Spikes 8 spades or chunks *needs a drag chain to break up clods	1 Spike 1 Rubber 1 stabs and leaves spade indents	6 stabs and leaves spade indents	9 rototills, compacts and releases *no drag chain needed	8 shatters, compacts and releases *no drag chain needed
Seed to soil contact how well compacts soil	1	4	3	2	0	2 *breaks soil only on one side	7	9 *spikes are angled, leaving the soil compacted while releasing soil as it exits beside the furrow	9
Works in all soils cover crop, no-till, conventional	5 fair-poor in all 3	5 best in conventional	5 fair in all 3	5 fair in all 3	1 only no-till	4 no-till & conventional	8 good no-till & conventional fair cover crops	9 very good in all 3	9 very good no-till & conventional
Depth control	9	9	5	6	1	5	7	9 doesn't disturb the seeds	9 doesn't disturb the seeds
Wear life	8	9	9	6	6	7	1	10 excellent wear life	10 excellent wear life
Overall Average	4.8	5.8	5.8	5.4	3.2	3.8	4.8	9.2	9.0

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RUNNING ZIPPERS OR MOHAWKS vs SPIKED OR CURVED CLOSING WHEELS

The Zippers put a little more soil over the furrow especially if you are in hills or up and over terraces. They keep a down pour of rain from running down the seed V. It won't crust as bad with the Zippers when you get a hard rain shortly after planting and before the soil has had time to dry some and settle in. **The Zipper closing wheels act like a rototiller as they break up the side walls, pulling in the soil while mellowing the soil around the seed to create an ideal seed bed for the seed to grow in.** As the Zippers rototill the soil they also compact the soil around the seed taking out the air pockets that other spiked closing wheels leave chunks of soil and air pockets in the seed trench with poor seed to soil contact.

**The Mohawk won't pull quite as much soil as the Zipper but it also does a good job in slightly hilly and flatter ground.** If you already

have plastic press wheels with tires on the planter now then you can save money by installing the Mohawks in the plastic rims you already have. **The Mohawk and Zipper are two of the most reasonably priced closing wheels on the market.** The Zippers pull soil about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " farther away from the furrow than any other wheel on the market, which makes them the choice when farming contours or up and down hills.

Differences of Mohawks and Zippers compared to a straight fingered or curved finger wheel:

1: Some of the straight finger wheels will re-loosen the soil as they exit which can cause the seed V to dry out and create germination problems. **The Mohawks' and Zippers' wheel spokes are angled such and as they exit the soil the angle of the teeth on the Mohawks**

**and Zippers release the soil leaving it compacted around the seed eliminating air pockets in the seed trench.**

2: A lot of the straight finger wheel companies want you to run one rubber wheel and one spike wheel so the spike wheels don't spade up seeds. They can go too deep if you run both. Most of the straight fingered wheels chunk soil into the seed V leaving air pockets that can cause leafing out underground. You can run both Mohawks and Zippers because they don't go too deep and they don't chunk the soil in or spade up seeds in the seed V. **Why not break both sides of the seed trench by mellowing/compacting the soil over the seed**, rather than spading or chunking one or both side walls like most straight spiked wheels do, **thus giving you better seed to soil contact by rototilling both sides in of the row with the Zippers and Mohawks.**

3: Many of the straight finger closing wheels have to drag a chain behind the closing wheels to smooth up or level out the row and crumble clods left behind by the spading or chunking wheels. **Drag chains are not needed behind the Zippers or Mohawks because they leave the seed V area compacted and smooth.**

4: Many of the plastic made spiked wheels wear out within a couple of years running. **The Zippers and Mohawks will wear out several planters before they need to be replaced.**

5: Many of the spiked wheels on the market wrap or plug in cover crops. **The Zippers and Mohawks are less likely to plug or wrap in heavy cover crops and we have a solution if they start to plug.**

# CLOSING WHEELS WEIGHT CHART

						
<b>MOHAWK™ PLASTIC</b> 5.9#	<b>ZIPPER™ PLASTIC</b> 5.9#	<b>4" CHICKEN TRACKER™</b> 10.6#	<b>COPPERHEAD AG FURROW CRUISER &amp; YETTER TWISTER</b> 2.85#	<b>COPPERHEAD AG CRUISER EXTREME</b> 21#	<b>DAWN CURVETINE™</b> 12.25#	<b>CAST IRON WHEEL</b> 23#
						
<b>MOHAWK CAST</b> 8.05#	<b>ZIPPER CAST</b> 7.25#	<b>6" CHICKEN TRACKER™</b> 11.5#	<b>GREAT PLAINS</b> 11.3#	<b>MARTIN 13"</b> 10.7#	<b>PRO-STITCH</b> 3.85#	<b>SCHLAGEL POSI-COSE</b> 4.18#
						
<b>MOHAWK MAX</b> 12.6#	<b>ZIPPER MAX</b> 11.8#	<b>SPYDER™ CAST</b> 11.6#	<b>SI DISTRIBUTING FINGER-TILL</b> 16.1#	<b>EXAPTA THOMPSON™</b> 7.4#	<b>YETTER SPIKE</b> 16.28#	<b>RUBBER TIRE</b> 3.15# - 3.8#