



Thompson Wheels on Planters

"I've tried rubber closing wheels, cast closing wheels, and several other brands of spoked wheels on planters, and without a doubt, the Thompson wheels are the best for all of my conditions."

Steve Edger, Greenville, OH • Exapta customer since '07
(Thompson wheels and Mojo Wires on Kinze 3650 planter)



"The Thompson wheels have been one of the best additions to our planter as they do a great job closing the seed slot in both extremely dry and extremely wet conditions. Having them on is often the difference in whether I can plant or not when the weather turns wet. Previously, the inability to fully close the seed slot with the stock JD rubber closing often left me setting at the edge of the field waiting for things to dry out. The T-wheels enable me to keep planting in these same conditions. Thompson wheels dig in and give us excellent seed slot closure in both wet and dry conditions, regardless of the volume of crop residue on the surface. And when conditions are wet at planting time, sidewall compaction is largely eliminated when using the Thompson wheels as compared to the JD rubber closing wheels."

Dietrich Kastens, Herndon, KS • Exapta customer since '08
(Thompson wheels & Mojo Wires on 24-row JD 1770 CCS & 12-row 1770 CCS planters)



"I tried 2 rows of Thompson wheels and wedges, and the rest of the planter was [competitor] spike closing wheels. When I did stand counts, the two rows with Thompson wheels had 1,000 - 2,000 higher final populations than the other rows. It was easy to see which rows had the Thompson wheels... And, with the Mojo Wires, I could tell at emergence exactly which row had slipped down the tail and wasn't doing its job." [Four years later, Thompsons & Mojos on all rows] "I think I have the best stands around of corn-on-corn in no-till."

Steve Litwiller, Parnell, IA • Exapta customer since '08
(Mojos, Thompson wheels & toe-out wedges on Kinze 3200 planter)



"We are sold on Thompson wheels. We've used them for 4 years on over 7,000 acres, no breakdowns. Planting beans in Missouri-River-bottom gumbo, we could never get much over 15 bu/a, no-till or full-till. However, when we installed the Thompson wheels, we have raised 40-bu beans every year no-till. Wet or dry, they do a good job of covering the seed."

Kersten Farms (Myron, Mark & Karl), Malta Bend, MO.
Exapta customers since '07 (Thompson wheels & toe-out wedges on all rows of 12/23 Kinze 3600 split-row planter)

"A couple of years ago, my brother and myself both bought new planters. He put the [competitor cage-type] closing wheels on his, and I put the Thompson wheels on mine. Last year, they took the [competitor's] off and replaced them with Thompsons because they couldn't get them [competitor's] to close the furrow even with quite a lot of pressure. We are no-till and our soils are king of tough."

Terry McAlister, Electra, TX • Exapta customer since '07
(Thompson wheels on 16-row JD 1770 planter)



"I traded for a Kinze a couple of years ago; ran one rubber closing wheel and one [competitor spoked wheel] per row for a year and a half—about the only time I closed a slot was when it rained after I planted. I put Thompsons on this spring [2010] and had no problems closing."

Gail Fuller, Emporia, KS • Exapta customer since 2010
(Thompson wheels & toe-out wedges on a 16-row Kinze planter)



"I put on one row of the Thompson wheels a few years ago, beside the other rows with [competitor] closing wheels. I'm putting Thompson wheels on the rest of the rows now—I don't need a drag chain as they do a better job of consistently covering the seed. I also like the wedge Exapta sells to toe-out the wheels, especially in situations when planting into cover crops with the root mass and all, in order to completely close the slot with little to no down-pressure."

Steve Groff, Holtville, PA • Exapta customer since '05
(Thompson wheels, toe-out wedges, and Mojo Wires on Monosem/Kinze planter)

"The Thompson wheels really worked well. With the complete rebuild of the planter...including Keetons and Mojo wires, all the plants came up at the same time...With the Thompson wheels, and everything you said, it's made a world of difference in how the planter performed—even the previous owner was really impressed with what I'd done with it. I'd think anyone using this setup would be overwhelmingly satisfied."

Leon Schneider, Caldwell, KS, • Exapta customer since 2010
(Thompson wheels, toe-out wedges, Mojo Wires on 16-row Kinze)



"I like the size of the bearings and the self-cleaning action. They're very trouble-free."

Kent Kinkler, Onida, SD • Exapta customer since '03
(Thompson wheels on 36-row Kinze planter)

"The Thompson wheels do just what you say. They close the furrow even though it's too wet to be out there. Our stands are excellent. I'm glad I tried them."

Tracy Bengtson, Alta, Iowa • Exapta customer since '06
(Thompson wheels, toe-out wedges, and Mojo Wires on 12-row White 8000-series planter; also Thompson wheels on JD 1590 drill)

"I had 4 different brands of closing wheels for several years before going to the Exapta Thompson wheels. I like yours because of the thin blade—it goes into the soil easier for good crumbling of the sidewall. There's seldom any corn stalks getting stuck in them. It's a good closing unit. No maintenance needed in 9 years."

Mike Phillips, Waseca, MN • Exapta customer since '03
(Thompson wheels w/ toe-out plates on 8-row JD 7100 planter)

"The Thompson wheels worked exactly like you said they would. Nearly perfect closing in cotton and corn. We've had good service out of them. They're very trouble-free and well-made. They're the closest we've come to being able to plant in all conditions."

Jimmy Newby, Athens, AL • Exapta customer since '05
(Thompson wheels on three 12-row JD 1700-series planters)

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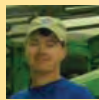


Thompson Wheels on Drills



"The Thompson wheels are definitely better than the John Deere closing wheels, especially in damp situations."

Gabe Brown, Bismark, ND • Exapta customer since '09
(Thompson wheels on 20-ft JD1590)



"I ran a Thompson wheel next to the stock cast closing wheels on our JD 1990 CCS drill for one season. In heavy residue, the stock wheels simply bounce over the top while the T-wheel runs smoothly and gets the slot closed....You can't beat the T-wheels on the JD 1990 drill when planting in muddy field conditions as they get the slot closed and keep the drill running."

Dietrich Kastens, Herndon, KS • Exapta customer since '08
(Thompson wheels on JD 1990 CCS drill & JD 1890 air drill)



"Seven years ago, I replaced all the JD 750 closing wheels with Exapta's Thompson closing wheels. In all those years I have yet to replace a closing-wheel bearing, while I normally had to re-bearing 4 or 5 JD wheels every day—the bearing changing chores of closing wheels went to zero when I got rid of the JD wheels...Thompson spoked wheels work far better [than OEM] at closing the seed slot in our wet clay-loam soil [and] do a good job of crumbling the trench wall without packing the wet soil. Thanks for a good product."

Jon Hagen, Goodrich, ND • Exapta customer since '04
(Thompson wheels on pair of JD 750 drills)



Comparing aftermarket spoked closing wheels: "Before I bought both wheels, I thought I would like the weight and thickness of the [competitor] wheel better than the lighter, thinner Thompson. Both wheels obtain similar results when the soil is dry and the residue is less, but as I get into more moist soils and heavier/bigger residue, the Thompson wheel is the only one to accomplish the job...The stock JD wheels bounce terribly, and try to smash the seed trench closed, so furrow closing is poor. The [competitor] is an improvement since it has the dimples instead of being round like the stock wheel. Bounces less and does a better job of crumbling instead of smashing, but still smashes—much better furrow closing versus the stock wheel but still leaves furrow unclosed some. The Thompson because it is thinner and more aggressive, crumbles the furrow closed and I don't notice bouncing or the furrow being left unclosed...I would never run the current version of the JD stock wheels again. I am also confident that I would buy T4Xs only next go round."

Josh Lloyd, Oak Hill, KS • Exapta customer since '05
(Thompson wheels on JD 1890 air drill)



"We really like the Thompson wheels: We were able to run in far wetter conditions than we have in the past, and it's doing a nice job."

Alan Aufdemberge, Lincoln, KS • Exapta customer since '08
(Thompson wheels on JD 1860 air drill)

Mojo Wires



"The Mojo Wire is the best thing that ever happened to the Keeton....The last two years ['09 & '10] were the wettest ever for us, and, shoot, we never had mud balling up like we used to [without the Mojos]. I sure wouldn't run a Keeton without a Mojo."

Ralph Holzwarth, Gettysburg, SD • Exapta customer since '08
(Mojos & Keetons on 8-row JD 1700-series CCS planter)

"The function of the Keeton is greatly improved with the Mojo Wire. The extra pressure makes all the difference. In my opinion, do not use Keetons without them."

Jerry Cosper, Memphis, TX • Exapta customer since '07
(Mojo Wires on 12-row planter)



"I am very pleased—in wet, heavy clay soil, the Thompson wheels still crumbled the soil to close the seed trench. The Thompson wheels get away from the soil ribboning and are a great improvement over the Deere cast closing wheels. I have no problem recommending the Thompson wheels."

Robert Stevenson, Kenton, MB • Exapta customer since '07
(Thompson wheels on JD 1890 air drill).



"I'm quite impressed—the Thompson wheels provide superior closing to the original John Deere wheels, especially in wet sticky soils or in high-residue conditions...Sometimes it's the difference between seeding and not seeding—the Thompson wheels and SDX firming wheels complement each other and let me start seeding more quickly after a rain. The Thompson wheels really shine with small-seeded crops such as alfalfa, canola, and mustard, which don't have as much push to get through the compacted ribbon created by the JD closing wheels...I've seeded 20,000 to 25,000 acres with the Thompson wheels and had good wear—they should last another couple years." [He replaced the Thompson wheels at 35,000 acres.]

Brian Hildebrand, Skiff, Alberta • Exapta customer since '04
(Thompson wheels on JD 1890 air drill)



"I am very pleased with the Thompson wheels—they are superior in all conditions. We left a few old [JD] ones on to see a comparison. It wasn't hard to see the advantage of the Thompson wheels."

Rod Lanier, Lethbridge, Alberta • Exapta customer since '07
(Thompson wheels on JD 1890 air drill).



"The smooth JD cast wheels won't close the furrow when it gets hard and dry. But the Thompson wheels will penetrate and close the furrow. Crumbling versus smashing the furrow shut makes a big difference, especially if soils are wet."

Alan Mindemann, Apache, OK • Exapta customer since '01
(Thompson wheels on JD 1890 air drill)

"I really like the performance of the Thompson wheels. I ran the [competitor's heavy spoked closing wheel] on 2 rows and ran 2 rows of Thompsons side-by-side this past year [2009]. The [competitor] definitely bounced more than the Thompsons in all conditions. The thin design of the Thompsons, and the angle that the closing arm holds it, allow for very little down-pressure also. It seems like the Thompsons just 'pull' the dirt into the slot, whereas a heavy wider wheel still has to 'mash' the dirt to get it into the slot. I think you have a great wheel in the Thompson design—keep it up!"

Jordan Reimnitz, Armour, SD, • Exapta customer since '09
(Thompson wheels on JD 1860 air drill)



"I love the Mojo Wires. Amazing—the best stands I ever had, bar none. It looks like every plant came up within 15 minutes of each other. Perfect stands."

Tom Cannon, Blackwell, OK • Exapta customer since '03.
(Mojo Wires & Keetons on 16-row JD 1770 CCS)

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