



The 12-ft. wide, 42-in. dia. drums on this aerator seeder package let you aerate and seed at the same time.

Giant Pasture Aerator Also Controls Brush

"It's the biggest, heaviest-built pasture aerator on the market, and it can also be used to clear weeds and brush in one pass. Our biggest model can chop up 6-in. dia. trees with no problems," says Cathy Lawson, Kissimmee, Fla., about her company's "spiral-blade" pasture aerator.

The aerator consists of a steel drum with 6-in. blades mounted in a spiral pattern. The blades fracture the soil 18 to 24 in. deep for increased water retention.

"It's a cost efficient way to produce more grass while controlling brush at the same time," says Lawson. "The blades chop brush without turning the soil over. They leave fields smooth and pull evenly behind the tractor without jerking, even across rough terrain. Our aerators also work great on CRP ground and on sod and hay fields.

"We have 24 different models available in widths of 8, 10, 12, and 14 ft., with single or tandem drums that range from 16 to 42 in. in diameter. They require tractors ranging from 20 to 300 hp. In addition, we can custom build the units to suit any size tractor. They can also be equipped with electric broadcast seeders so that you can aerate and overseed at the same time."

A hardened steel solid axle extends through the drum. Drum angle can be adjusted to adjust the amount of aggression and aeration. Heavy duty wheels and tires can be added.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lawson Cattle & Equipment, Inc., 2954 Hilliard Isle Road, Kissimmee, Florida 34744 (ph 800 533-7264 or 407 348-4576).



Cart features a ground-driven 36-in. dia. reel that uses a bicycle sprocket and shaft.

He Built His Own Wildflower Seed Harvester

After he couldn't find anything on the market that would do the job at an affordable price, Mervin Wallace and his brother-in-law John Clinton of Jefferson City, Mo., built their own "push-type" wildflower seed harvester using parts out of a gas-powered hedge trimmer.

"It's built simple and is lightweight which makes it easy to use. We spent less than \$2,000," says Wallace, who manages a nursery where he grows 93 different varieties of wildflowers on about 5 acres of land. He also harvests wildflower seed on land owned by neighbors.

They removed the handle from an Echo hedge trimmer and mounted the 30-in. long cutterbar and 2-cycle gas engine on a home-built, 2-wheeled cart. A 36-in. dia. reel that's ground-driven off one of the wheels gently pushes flowers into the cutterbar and back into the 6-ft. long, 30-in. wide cart. When the cart is full, Wallace simply scoops the seeds out by hand onto a tarp for drying.

To drive the reel, they welded a bicycle sprocket onto a steel shaft, then welded the shaft to the cart's right hand wheel. They mounted an idler sprocket on the end of a steel shaft that goes through the center of the reel. A length of bicycle chain connects the two sprockets and rides up over a pair of adjustable idlers. They used lengths of 1/4-in. dia. steel rod to make frames for the reel batts and mounted them to the reel shaft which is made from 1/2-in. dia. conduit pipe. Clear packaging tape is wrapped around the frames to serve as batts.

All operations are controlled from the back of the cart. An on-off switch and a throttle (borrowed from an old lawn mower) mount on the handlebars and are connected by lengths of bicycle cable to the engine.

"We can raise or lower the cart - and cutterbar height - by loosening a pair of bolts on each side of a steel frame that supports the bottom of the cart. We can set it anywhere from 6 in. to 3 ft. off the ground.



One-piece fiberglass cab bolts onto pickup box using four bolts.



Company also offers bolt-on fiberglass sleepers that mount behind cab.

Add-On "Crew Cab" For Pickups

"You can add a 'crew cab' to your pickup without spending thousands of dollars for a new vehicle with our new add-on kit," says Bill Katehis, president, Horizon Coach, Inc., Riverside, Calif.

The kit consists of a one-piece fiberglass cab that bolts onto the pickup box using four bolts. The cab has a carpeted interior with fiberglass storage cabinets on each side that double as seats and a walk-in rear door with two big windows on back.

If your pickup has a sliding window on back you simply open it up to access the add-on cab. If it doesn't have a sliding window you just remove the pickup's rear window. A watertight seal connects the two cabs together.

The cab comes with a false floor that can be raised to make a bed. The cab can be

painted to match the color of your pickup. Options include sliding or pop-out windows (with screens) on the sides and "vista" windows on top. Brake lights are also available.

The basic cab sells for about \$995; with all options, \$1,300 to \$1,400.

The company also offers bolt-on fiberglass sleepers that mount behind the cab. The sleeper's carpeted floor is even with the sides of the pickup, leaving about 30 in. of space under the sleeper for storage. Sliding or pop-out side windows are available. Sells for \$450 to \$600.

"Both the crew cab and sleeper leave plenty of room to hook up a gooseneck trailer," notes Katehis.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Horizon Coach, Inc., Riverside, Calif. (ph 909 351-9960; fax 1230).

750 Drill Conversion Hitch

Since its introduction at the National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, Ky., last year, the "Terra Tach" conversion hitch has been used by 750 drills in the U.S. and Canada. The hitch received high praise from Indiana and Ohio farmers during last spring's wet conditions.

Two versions of the hitch are available. The dolly-wheel hitch allows the removal of the dolly wheels but works well with the wheels left in place. The hitch lets you transfer some or all of the drill's tongue weight to the draft links of the tractor. The dolly-wheel conversion doesn't add length to the drill's tongue. It takes weight off the dolly wheels and keeps them from causing ruts and compaction on soft ground. It attaches to the drill by removing three bolts on the back of the hitch sliding the U-shaped bracket over the face of the dolly wheel pedestal, then rebolting it.

The drawbar-style drills can also be converted to 2-point attachment with the regular hitch conversion. Both hitches allow much better traction control and turning ability as well as greater clearance for duals and markers. This hitch adds about 18 in. to the tongue length.



One farmer, who formerly pulled his 20-ft. dolly-wheel drill through wet fields with his Cat Challenger, was able to use his tractor and the Terra Tach instead. The hitch has also been used on double box drills.

The Terra Tach hitches are currently being manufactured and distributed by Maurer Mfg., Inc., 1300 38th Ave. West, Spencer, Iowa 51301 (ph 712 262-2992;

However, we usually cut at about 24 to 30 in. off the ground. We can also adjust cutterbar height by raising or lowering the back end of the cart.

"The cutterbar and gearbox are built as one unit, and the engine fastens onto them with one screw so we can easily remove it for service."

They used lightweight electrical conduit pipe to make the cart's frame and handlebars. The bottom and back end of the cart are built in one piece and are made from

sheet metal. The sides are made from galvanized flashing and flare out at the front to keep the wheels from running over plants.

Wallace says he's willing to build the wildflower harvester for about \$2,000, time permitting. His wildflower catalogs are available for \$1.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mervin Wallace, Missouri Wildflowers Nursery, 9814 Pleasant Hill Road, Jefferson City, Mo. 65109 (ph 573 496-3492).