

“Massey” Crop Sprayer

“It’s a great way to make use of an old combine. It saves me a lot of money,” says Alan Brule, Crookston, Minn., about the 60-ft. wide, manual-fold crop sprayer he made out of a 1967 Massey Ferguson 510 combine.

The combine sprayer is equipped with a commercial 60-ft. boom with 24-ft. wings and a 12-ft. middle section. The front-mount boom mounts on a bracket Brule built out of sq. tubing and strap iron. Nozzles are on 20-in. spacings for broadcasting herbicides. Brule removed the combine’s grain tank and replaced it with two spray tanks that hold 200 and 300 gal. each. The machine rides on its original tires.

“It works as well as anything on the market. The only difference is that it cost a lot less,” says Brule, who made the conversion six years ago. “The booms came off an old sprayer that I already had. I paid \$200 for the combine and \$100 for a sprayer pump.”

He started by removing the header and all grain-cleaning components from the ma-

chine. The engine, drive train, and cab were left in their original positions. The fuel tank was moved to the other side to allow room for a ladder between the tanks. Combine hydraulics are used to raise and lower the boom. The boom wings fold manually.

The boom can be adjusted in height from 20 to 48 in. The sprayer pump is belt-driven off the combine’s separator clutch.

“I use it mainly to apply post emergence herbicides to soybeans, wheat, and sunflowers. The wheel spacings on the combine worked out for 30-in. rows. The two tanks are hooked together with valves, which works great. If I run out of spray in the field I just stop where I am and transfer the water from the rear tank to the front tank, add chemical, and I can finish the field,” notes Brule.

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“It works as well as anything on the market. The only difference is that it cost a lot less,” says Alan Brule, about the 60-ft. wide sprayer he made out of a MF 510 combine.



“It’s fun to operate and has a lot of power,” says Harry Scott about the backhoe he built mostly out of scrap materials.

“Made-It-Myself” Backhoe Has Power To Spare

“My home-built backhoe works great and cost less than a third as much as a used commercial model,” says Harry Scott, Walsenburg, Colo., who built his machine mostly out of scrap materials.

“I made it primarily to grub out Yucca plant roots and to do landscaping projects around our place,” he says. “I’ve also used it to unload heavy objects from my pickup and to lift barrels of water. We had a heavy infestation of pine beetles last summer and had to remove 89 adult trees. I mounted side cutters on the bucket and used it to dig out all those stumps. I’ve also used it to set metal trusses on my car port. Over the years, the machine has definitely paid for itself.”

Scott used standard pipe to build the sleeves and junk parts to build the swing mechanism. The wheels are off a mobile home, with the axle made from 4-in. sq. tubing. Power is supplied by a 24 hp Wisconsin VF4 gas engine with an 11 gpm pump. The bucket is 14 in. wide at the back and tapers

1/4 in. toward the front. The rig has an outreach of 13 ft. and will dig to about 6 ft. deep.

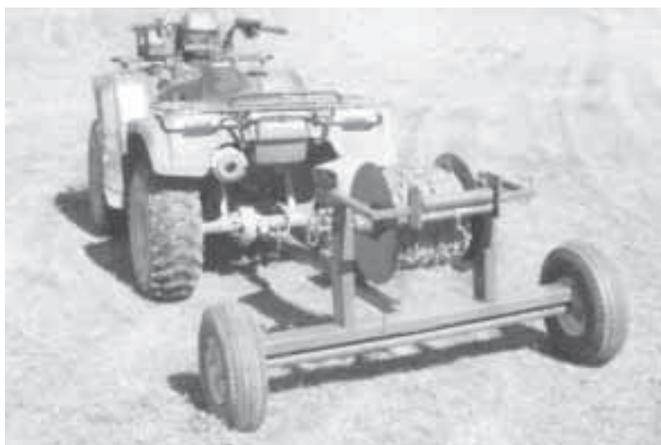
“It’s a lot of fun to operate and also has a lot of power. The bucket will load full even out of hard ground,” says Scott. “I’ve broken out - with bucket action only - about 5,000 sq. ft. of concrete slab and have even dug through about 4 in. of frost. The boom has so much leverage that I’ve had the back end of my 27 hp tractor lifted right off the ground, even with the outriggers out. Another advantage is that if it ever breaks down I can just go to my scrap pile and find a part there to fix it.

“The only items I bought were the hydraulic hoses and valves. I spent about \$2,700 to build it. At the time, the cheapest used backhoe I could find cost about \$11,000.”

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Rig has an outreach of 13 ft. and will dig to about 6 ft. deep.



Ronald Berthiaume used the axle off a snowmobile trailer to make this one-man barbed wire trailer.

Barbed Wire Trailer Controls Roll-Out

“I couldn’t find anything on the market for unrolling barbed wire with an ATV,” says Ronald Berthiaume, who created a one-man barbed wire trailer that unrolls wire for putting up fences.

He used the axle off a snowmobile trailer to create it.

Flat steel circular discs hold the spool in place. A metal rod runs through the disks and the spool. Two screw-down bolts press against the disks to adjust the tightness of the spool.

The key to the success of the trailer is the way wire is fed out through a pair of steel rollers that look like the wringer on an old-fashioned washing machine. “The wire makes a click every time a barb goes through the rollers so the operator never has to look behind to see if the wire’s still feeding out. The rollers also act as a brake to keep the spool from spinning too fast. It eliminates tangled up wire messes,” Berthiaume says.

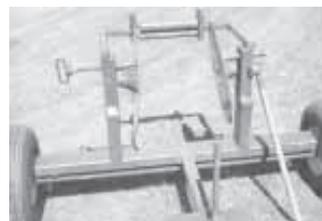
A piece of pipe on the trailer’s drawbar holds an extra spool of wire.

Berthiaume is interested in negotiating a deal with a company that wants to produce his trailer.

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A pair of flat steel circular discs hold spool in place. Wire is fed out through a pair of steel rollers.



Metal rod runs through the discs and the spool.

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