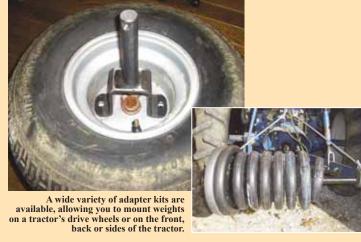
"We sell the adapters you supply the weights," says Mike Grubb, who sells kits that let you mount inexpensive "pancake" weights on small tractors and UTV's.





New Way To Add Weight To Small Tractors, UTV's

Mike Grubb, Georgetown, Ind., sells kits that let you mount inexpensive "pancake" weights on garden tractors, small utility tractors and UTV's.

"The weights give you more traction and better stability on hillsides. They also let

Vol. 36, No. 2, 2012

Harold M. Johnson

Founder

Editor/Publisher

Mark Newhall (mark@farmshow.com) Senior Editor

Bill Gergen (bill@farmshow.com) **Contributing Editors**

Jim Ruen (edgecom@acegroup.cc)

C.F. Marley (ph 217 563-2588) Dee Goerge (dee_goerge@yahoo.com)

Lorn Manthey (redoakridge@mac.com) Office Manager

Anne Lash (anne@farmshow.com)

Circulation (circulation@farmshow.com) Peg Nagel, Shelly Mende, Mary Lunde, Sue Romnes, Krista Wetschka

FARM SHOW (ISSN #01634518) is FARM SHOW (ISSN #01634518) is published 7 times per year (bimonthly plus one special "Best of FARM SHOW" issue published in December) for \$23.95 per year (\$27.95 in Canada) by Farm Show Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 1029, 20088 Kenwood Trail, Lakeville, Minn. 55044. Periodicals postage paid at Lakeville, Minn., and Madelia, Minn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 952 469-5572; fax 952 469-5575; email: circulation@farmshow.com; website: www.farmshow.com). Single copy price is \$5.95 (\$7.50 in Canada). Publications No. 469490.

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40032660 Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses To: Dycom Mail Sycs.

Bycom Man Sves. 495 Berry St. Winnipeg, MB R3J 1N6 Email: circulation@farmshow.com

FARM SHOW does not accept advertising and focuses exclusively on new products and product evaluations.

FARM SHOW does not charge for new products or services featured in the maga-zine. Anyone with a new product or service of interest to farmers - whether inventor, manufacturer, marketer, distributor or whatever - is invited to contact FARM SHOW regarding possible publication.

FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc.,

FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., has not tested or used any of the ideas or products described in its publications. FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., does not promote, recommend or endorse the use of the ideas or products described in its publications. FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., disclaims any and all responsibilities and liabilities in the event of personal injury, death, property damage or losses as the result of the use or application of any such ideas or products. Anyone applying or using such ideas or products does so at his, her or their own risk.

Printed in U.S.A. All rights reserved, including the right of reproduction, in whole or in part, without written permission.

March-April, 2012

you move in reverse with less spinning and damage to your yard," says Grubb.

A wide variety of adapter kits are available, allowing you to mount weights on a tractor's drive wheels or on the front, back or sides of the tractor. The adapter he designed to mount weights on wheels includes a pair of cross member brackets made from 1/4-in. thick steel, and a threaded steel rod that fits through existing 1-in. holes at the center of each weight. You bolt the cross members to 4 existing holes in the wheel, and then add the weights onto the rod in increments.

'We supply only the adapters - you supply the weights," says Grubb. "You can find pancake weights cheap or even free at yard sales, or buy them cheap at Walmart and other discount stores."

Adding pancake weights to your rear wheels has several benefits over conventional weights, says Grubb. "Standard wheel weights are heavy, typically weighing 50 lbs. apiece, which makes them harder to handle.

They're also bulky and expensive to ship. In fact, shipping can easily double the final

Any garden vehicle or implement equipped with standard 12-in. wheels can benefit from added weight, says Grubb. "That includes commercial mowers, zero turn riding mowers, front-mounted mowers and even utility vehicles such as Mules and

To install the system on tractor wheels, you set the cross members in place at right angles to each other, line them up with 4 existing holes in the wheels and bolt them on. Insert the threaded end of the steel rod into the center hole and attach from the back side of the wheel using a lock washer and nut. Then slide the weights over the rod until an inch or more of the rod is exposed. To secure the weights, fasten a locking ring to the end of the rod and tighten.

He has also built an adapter for mounting pancake weights on the lower lift arms

of a tractor's 3-pt. hitch; a single adapter that attaches to the tractor's drawbar; dual adapters to mount pancake weights on a tractor's rear frame plate or on front; and a frame side rail mount for counterbalancing the weight of side delivery implements such as a sicklebar mower or one-armed front-end loader.

He says he's still adding new kinds of adapters as people request them.

"I've heard of people who use my adapters to install pancake weights on ground-driven equipment for extra traction, and on tillage equipment for extra weight. One farmer even added pancake weights to one side of his gravity flow wagons as a counterbalance."

Prices range from \$39 to \$89, depending on the application. Custom fit solutions are typically around \$100.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike Grubb, 1240 Walts Rd., Georgetown, Ind. 47122 (ph 502 797-4787; mgrubb@ mikegrubb.com).

Farm Pond "Riviera" Makes Summertime Fun

Looking at the ocean blue water and the white beach, it's hard to believe that Jerry Leussink's bit of paradise is located smack dab in the middle of his Alberta farm.

The "beach" is actually a heavy-duty polypropylene white liner, commonly used to line ponds. It was carefully stretched up the sides of the pond and secured with large boulders and rocks around the perimeter of the 4-ft. beach.

"The liner helps prevent the growth of weeds, and I can scrub it to keep it clean and comfortable for swimming," Leussink says.

The "ocean" is a 110 by 90-ft. pond Leussink dug with a backhoe. It slopes gradually to about 14 ft. deep at the deepest end. Leussink regularly cleans the pool and adds chlorine and chemicals used in swimming pools as well as True Blue pond dye that gives the water its color and helps prevent sunlight from penetrating and growing algae.

'The biggest problem is algae," Leussink says. "Anything that blows in there creates food for the algae. That's why I keep it clean."

He uses a solar aerator and spends 15 to 20 hrs. a month clearing and sucking up dirt, pine needles and sediment with a vacuum he made with 60 ft. of hose, pvc pipe and a 2-in. pump. Water removed with the sediment is emptied out onto the surrounding grass.

After a couple of years use, Leussink pumped the pond dry last spring to give it a thorough cleaning. It took more than a month to refill it with his well pump - an estimated 350,000 gallons.

Leussink and his family spend a lot of time in their private pool during the summer. With deck chairs, inflatable toys, a sand box, camping sites, horseshoe pit and other games,



During the summer Jerry Leussink and his family spend a lot of time in their private swimming pool - a 110 by 90-ft. pond that he dug with a backhoe.

they have a relaxing 2-acre recreation area. It's the favored location for family reunions, and Leussink and his wife, Marina, swim and relax there often

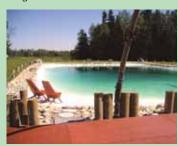
He estimates it cost about \$18,000 to set up. If he were to build it again, he would make some changes.

"I would build it smaller and less deep because it would be easier to maintain. It doesn't have to be quite as big as it is," Leussink says. He also had some runoff with rains last spring, which might have been avoided if the pond was on slightly higher ground.

One thing he'd like different is something he can't change - the weather.

"We probably only get about three months where the pond is comfortable enough to swim in - from June through August," he

He plans to build a small building with



Pond's "beach" is a heavy duty polypropylene white liner that's secured with large boulders and rocks.

a wood-heated hot tub and changing room suitable for winter ice skating parties.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jerry Leussink, Box 19, Site 117, RR 3, Sundre, Alta., Canada T0M 1X0 (ph 403 638-3972; jmarina@telus.net).

2 • FARM SHOW • vol. 36, no. 2 • www.farmshow.com • www.bestfarmbuys.com • editor@farmshow.com • 1-800-834-9665