

His Custom Garden Tractor Is “Plum Crazy”

By Lorn Manthey, Contributing Editor

Isaac Voeller has been building and re-building motorized mechanical equipment since he was five. One of his coolest builds is a hit at local parades and a workhorse around the yard.

His dad Jamie says, “Isaac and I reworked an MTD 760 Town and Country garden tractor that had a 10-hp. Briggs motor into a high-powered and tricked-out machine we call ‘Plum Crazy’. The name comes from the ‘Plum Crazy’ purple paint and multi-colored graphics that include some lace patterns, metallics and metal flake, all embellished with automotive urethane clear-coat. It’s a real head-turner, especially when he starts it up.”

Isaac outfitted his hot rod mower with a 212cc 6.5-hp. Predator go-kart engine, sending its exhaust through a straight vertical fully chromed 4-in. pipe. They fabricated custom engine mounts, shortened the hood by 10 in., and added a custom wheelie bar to prevent it from tipping over backward. Plum Crazy has a centrifugal clutch system that connects with a belt to the original transmission assembly. The rear end and 3-speed transmission are stock, but the new engine allows the 600-lb. machine to pull wheelies from a dead stop.

“The centrifugal clutch is amazing,” Isaac says. “I just select whatever gear I want and it’s all automatic from there. The torque lets me wheelie on command. The engine is governed at 3,800 rpm. Top speed is 25 mph and could easily be turned up to 40 mph plus.”

They replaced the original tires on the mower with 31 x 10.50 ET drag slicks mounted on 15 x 10 chrome mod rims from an old drag racing car. The Mopar/Ford bolt pattern mounts right up to the MTD original



Isaac Voeller’s “Plum Crazy” modified lawn tractor has a Predator go-kart engine and can easily do wheelies.

rear-end hubs. The front wheels have tri rib tires along with golf car custom chrome hubcaps and steel chrome spinners.

In addition to showing off and driving in parades, Isaac uses the machine as a functional “tow truck”. In that configuration, it has a 12-volt ATV winch that runs the boom, flashing lights and siren. A 12-volt battery box serves as a counterbalance so they’re able to move garden tractors and mowers they repair around the shop.

The whole project was done in about two months at a cost of about \$1,400, which included the original cost of the mower. Isaac says it’s loud, exciting and fun to drive and people can’t believe it’ll always start with one pull.

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Row widths and spacing can be adjusted on the Keulavator’s frame from 31 in. to 52 in. on both sweep and hiller attachments while the cultivator shank accommodates various widths and styles of sweeps.



Tillage Tools For Compact Tractors

After receiving requests for tillage equipment for compact tractors, Agri Supply employees Ronnie Brown, Keul Whitford and Jimmy Coward put their heads together and came up with the Keulavator 3-pt. hitch cultivator frame to help meet the needs of small farmers, and gardeners to cultivate, hill, shape, and plow out row middles.

Available attachments for the frame include 16-in. disc hillers, 16-in. cultivator sweeps, and ground-driven spider gangs for tilling soil. In 2022, the Keulavator’s 20th anniversary year, they added the new Rear Shank Kit allowing for sweeping and cultivating row middles in the same bedding or cultivating pass. The exclusive design works to cover tractor tire tracks made while traveling down a single row.

Row widths and spacing can be adjusted on the Keulavator’s frame from 31 in. to 52 in. on both sweep and hiller attachments while the cultivator shank accommodates various widths and styles of sweeps. Spider gangs can be rotated and angled for left or right-hand soil throw and are exceptional for moving

large amounts of soil.

Sweeps, spider gangs and disc hillers attach to the Keulavator frame with a straight-forward shank, wedge and clamp system. The clamp slides easily onto the toolbar and accepts an attachment through a round hole while being held in place by tightening a wedge bolt. Placement is quickly adjusted if needed.

The Keulavator frames are produced and manufactured for Agri Supply in North Carolina and can be shipped worldwide. Attachments are imported from various countries.

Agri Supply is planning an upcoming release of new and improved attachments to increase the frame’s versatility and efficiency for gardeners and small farmers.

Prices range from \$300 for the cultivator frame alone to \$1,200 for the frame and all attachments, plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Agri Supply, P.O. Box 799, Garner, N.C. 27529 (ph 800-345-0169; tech@agrisupply.com; www.agrisupply.com).



Brumby submersible pumps have been used for years for their cost savings and ease of installation.

Australian Well Pump Still Going Strong

In 2013, subscriber Steve Travis contacted FARM SHOW about the Australian “Brumby Pump” he had installed that cost thousands less than an electric well pump (Vol. 37, No. 1). That pump is still delivering water after nearly 10 years.

Today, the Brumby Pump is not only widely used to gently clean out silted wells, but also to pump oil from up to 700 ft. and a modified version to 1,200 ft.

The Brumby is cost-effective, easy to install, and because it uses compressed air, no power is required at the pump site. Air is easily piped for long distances via inexpensive PEX or poly piping.

The Brumby is not affected by sand, silt, iron or salt in the water. It can handle a wide pH range and water high in minerals. It also delivers water and air, adding dissolved oxygen to the water, which is beneficial to plant growth and livestock.

It’s light and easy to install or remove in just a couple of minutes by one person. A second person may be needed for deep wells where the piping gets heavy.

It uses no electricity and the only moving part on current models is a ball. Recent examination of a pump that was working 4 to 6 hrs. every day for 12 years in a well that produced a lot of sand and silt found no wear inside the pump and was still operating

normally.

A Brumby works well in many settings including on farms, ranches and acreage. People who have wells that silt up - even if the Brumby isn’t suited for their particular requirements or well - keep a Brumby to periodically clean out their well and extend the life of an electric pump.

One advantage is that there’s no maintenance on the pump. The compressor is on the surface.

Brumby submersible pumps are cylinder-shaped, up to 3 ft. long and weigh around 4 lbs. Four different models are available to suit flow capacity and casing size. All models are good to around 700 ft. as long as the water column is deep enough for adequate pump submersion depth. The XS1 is the least expensive and most versatile model and is usually used to clean out silted wells, as well as deliver water.

Pump prices range from \$450 to \$600. Compressors and piping are usually sourced locally. The Brumby can be installed without special tools and there are no support cables or electrical cables needed.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom Kress, Brumby Submersible Pumps, P.O. Box 247, Toodyay 6566 Western Australia (ph 61 8 9574 4525; www.brumbypumps.com).

Power Wheelbarrow Moves Heavy Loads

While working in his yard about 10 years ago, Chip Michel wondered why his wheelbarrow wasn’t motorized. Michel, a tinkerer by nature, got busy.

“Chip took the motor off one of those kids’ Barbie Cars, and put it on a wheelbarrow,” says Bart Riorden, PAW (Power Assisted Wheelbarrow) Product Manager. It took eight prototypes to get it perfected.

The Pro Paw is rated at 350 lbs. Riorden says it’s a regular two-wheeled wheelbarrow that’s motorized when you need it to be. You can still push it when the motor is off.

“Fill it up with 300 to 350 lbs. of dirt, rock, or cement, and use the motor to help you get it to the right spot,” Riorden says. “Dump the load and you don’t have to use the motor walking it back, which saves battery.”

The 24-volt battery is in a pack that’s slung underneath the tub and next to the motor. It’s spring-loaded in case of a big job that might require you to swap in a fresh battery.

The drive motor is a DC motor that powers the two-wheel independent drive system.

The hand control is located on the right handle and is simple to operate. Push the button in and out to go forward and backward. A variable-speed thumb throttle control gives it more juice for climbing hills or dealing with those extra-heavy loads.

The PAW features a powder-coated steel



Pro PAW is powered by a 24-volt battery and DC motor to help move heavy loads.

frame for durability. The tub is a 6-cu. ft. heavy-duty poly tray. There’s also a heavy-duty curved dump brace on the front to make it easier to unload the wheelbarrow.

“Most of the other powered wheelbarrows are priced between \$1,200 and \$1,500,” Riorden says. “Ours is on Amazon right now for \$799. You can also buy wheelbarrows and their accessories on our company website.”

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