

## Wood Stove Add-Ons

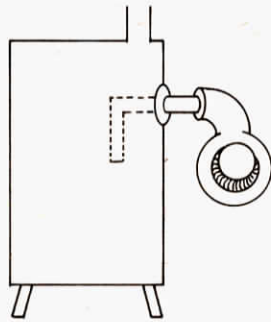
"I've used my wood stove air assist fan for two years and find it to be one of the neatest and most efficient innovations in the farm home," says Eugene Bassler, Maquoketa, Iowa, who's come up with two wood stove add-ons that make wood-burning easier and more efficient.

His air assist device attaches to the side of the stove and is hooked to controls that regulate the force of the blower and shut it off automatically.

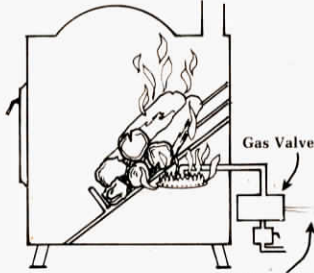
"In the morning I see how many embers remain in my stove, add a little dry wood, and then set my timer for anywhere from 2 to 15 min. Usually in 4 or 5 min. I have a roaring fire going. Building a hotter fire faster helps eliminate soot and creosote in chimneys and keeps ashes down to a minimum," says Bassler.

The add-on device uses a 100 cfm squirrel cage fan fitted to a flange on the side of the stove. A 1 1/2-in. dia. directional pipe inside the stove helps direct the flow of air directly on the fire. A rheostat is used to control amount of air flow. "You have to be careful because a small spark can become a forge in 5 min.," notes Bassler.

He also installed a gas igniter inside his wood stove using an old water heater burner. He uses the burner anytime he starts a fire. Because the burner is fitted with thermostatic controls, he also uses it to ignite wood on



Wood Stove Air Assist

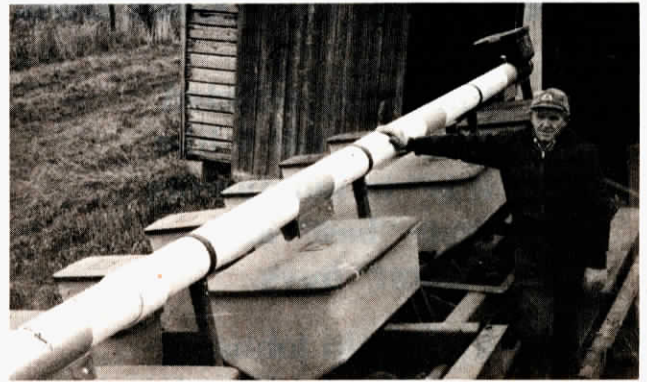


Wood Stove Gas Burner

cold winter mornings when temperatures drop below a preset level. Once the fire gets going and temperatures rise, the burner shuts off.

Bassler sells plans for the two add-on ideas for \$3.00 for both ideas. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Eugene Bassler, Rt. 2, Maquoketa, Iowa 52060 (ph 319 686-4347).



## Fertilizer Auger Repair

"Two years ago when I finished planting with my Deere 7000 Max Emerge 8-row planter, the fertilizer auger tube was worn out," says Spencer Knudson, Newark, Ill. "Last spring I checked on replacement prices and discovered that a replacement would cost around \$500. I figured there had to be a way to do it cheaper and this is what I came up with.

"I used a 20-ft. section of 6-in. dia. PVC pipe and a 3-ft. piece, joined together with a 6-in. connector. I made the four

hold-down straps from 1/8-in. thick metal 1 1/2 in. wide and 26 in. long. The filler spouts over each fertilizer box are made from galvanized tin reinforced on either side by a piece of plywood. I rolled the tin and the straps at my welding shop. I measured the holes in the old pipe to cut holes in the pipe for each downspout. I then simply installed the motor and auger at one end of the 6-in. pipe.

"The job took about 8 hrs. to complete with the help of my neighbor. Total cost was \$140."

## Pint-Size Caterpillar

When Steve Dietrich has to move dirt around his Morton, Ill., farmstead he gets out his garden tractor-size crawler tractor.

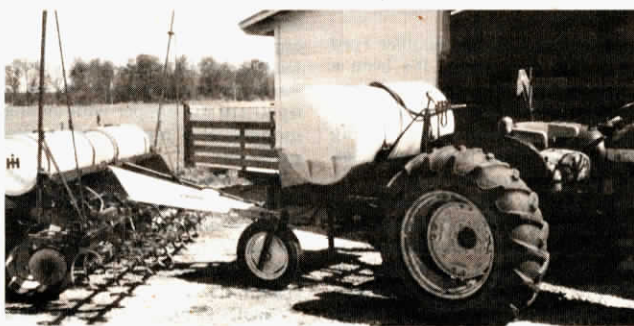
Dietrich built the tractor from the ground up over a period of 27 months and says it has plenty of power to handle dirt and snow moving chores.

The pint-size crawler has a 7-hp., 1 cyl. 1950 Wisconsin engine coupled to a Saab front-wheel drive and transaxle with 4 speeds forward and reverse. The crawler is steered by one lever which controls hydraulic brakes. Total weight, including the blade, is 1,500 lbs. It's 6 ft.



high, 43 in. wide and about 6 ft. long.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Steve Dietrich, Rt 1, Morton, Ill. 61550.



## \$200 Spray Rig

"My dad designed and built this tag-along sprayer that rides between our tractor and planter. We've used it for the past 8 years," says Mike Leffert, Walton, Ind., about his father Manfred's sprayer.

"The sprayer uses dolly wheels from an old Allis Chalmers hay rake which enables it to turn short when planting corn and beans. The 200 gal. fiberglass tank is secured to the cart with straps of metal lined with rubber that limits wear on the tank. Gauges and pump are off an older sprayer. Hoses run under the sprayer along the

hitch of the planter to spray nozzles over each row. We band spray at a width of 10 to 14 in.

"The sprayer attaches with clevis pins to the 2-pt. drawbar of our 606 International utility tractor. A key feature is that the spray tank is low enough so the operator can see the planter in the event a hose or chain comes off.

"My dad spent just \$200 to build the sprayer."

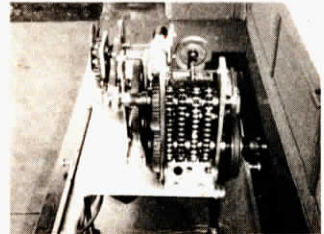
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Manfred Leffert, Rt. 2, Galveston, Ind. 46932 (ph 219 626-2438).

## "Do Nothing" Machine

Visitors to Ken Winans' display at farm shows scratch their heads, mutter under their breath and go home still wondering what that fool machine does.

The machine, which fits easily on the tailgate of a pickup, has a multitude of pulleys, drive belts, roller chain, gears, shafts, universal joints and other mechanical parts. When it runs, it's impressive with lots of whirling motion and impressive clacking sounds. But careful observers won't find anything getting accomplished. If you follow through to the output end, there's nothing there.

"I sometimes sit back and listen to people trying to figure it out. Some people say they re-



member the company that used to manufacture it and others even say they used to own one. I finally put up a sign that explains all," says Winans. The sign reads:

"Maude Smith of Winnemucca, Nevada says this machine is just like her husband. It don't do nuthin'."