



Mounting a Gehl forage harvester pickup head on his New Holland TR-70 combine lets Johnson harvest windrowed oats much earlier than he could by direct-cutting them.

Forage Harvester Pickup Mounted On Combine

Larry Johnson, Colo., Iowa, built a quick tach frame to mount a 6-ft. wide Gehl forage harvester pickup head on his New Holland TR-70 self-propelled combine.

"I used it for the first time last year and it worked great. It lets me harvest windrowed oats much earlier than I could by direct-cutting them with the combine and I didn't have to invest in a pickup-type header," says Johnson.

He stripped down an old junked-out New Holland grain head to make the quick tach frame. He cut off both ends and also cut out the floor under the header's auger and replaced it with one made from heavy gauge steel. The header's original opening was only 18 in. square so he cut out a new opening that's 40 in. sq. The Gehl pickup is chain-driven off the combine just like a corn or soybean header. Johnson can change sprockets in order to change speed.

"I used it last year on 80 acres of oats that yielded over 125 bu. per acre and it worked great," says Johnson, who grows oats for seed. "I think the same idea would work with any windrowed crop and also with other com-

bine brands.

"I use a self-propelled windrower to make the windrows and let them dry out for a day or two before I pick them up with the header and run them through the combine. It's amazing how much better the oats go through the combine when the straw has a chance to dry out. If I were to cut standing oats I'd have to wait a few more days for the oats to dry down and take a chance that the oats would lodge and go down. Another advantage is that I can bale the straw almost immediately after harvest instead of having to wait two or three days for the straw to dry out.

"My windrows are about 5 ft. wide so I need the full 6-ft. width of the Gehl pickup. The big limiting factor is the capacity of the combine. I can go only about 3 1/2 mph.

"I paid \$100 for the Gehl header and \$200 for machine work to make up the drive unit. My total cost was about \$300. I got the New Holland grain header free."

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The 3-wheel hydrostatic unit is powered by a 10 hp gas engine. It allows several operators to spot spray weeds at the same time working from one unit.

"Tag-Along" Self-Propelled Spot Sprayer

"My tag-along self-propelled spot sprayer works much better than a backpack sprayer because it allows several operators to spot spray weeds at the same time working from one unit. And it also costs far less than self-propelled weed buggies," says inventor Craig Pope about his new-style weed sprayer.

The 3-wheel hydrostatic unit is powered by a 10 hp, electric start Tecumseh gas engine that powers the rear axle via a hydraulic motor. It's equipped with a pair of 25-gal. poly tanks and a boom on back that supplies as many as nine hoses equipped with hand

guns. The sprayer pump is belt-driven off the engine.

Speed and direction is controlled by an operator who walks ahead of the machine and holds onto a lever mounted on the rig's tongue. The operator pushes the lever ahead to go forward and back to go in reverse. The farther he pushes the lever, the faster the rig goes. To steer he simply pushes the lever from side to side.

"The tanks mount on a dump bed. With the tanks removed you can use the rig as a powered wheelbarrow," notes Pope.



Steel shaft runs horizontally across back of box and has a lever welded onto one end. To lock the door in any desired position, Routledge mounted a locking lever on the shaft.

Side-Mounted End Gate Door Opener For Trucks

"It lets me open the center door on my truck's end gate without having to reach over the auger hopper. It's safer and keeps me out of the dust," says Elgin Routledge, Virden, Manitoba, about the opener he built that lets him open his truck end gate from the side of the truck.

Routledge's patented "Handi-Arm" consists of a pair of hinged steel arms that bolt to the bottom of the door and to a steel shaft that runs horizontally across the back of the truck box. The shaft runs through hinges that bolt onto the box and has a long lever welded onto one end of it. To open the door Routledge simply pulls down on the lever. To lock the door in any desired position, he mounted a locking lever on the horizontal shaft. It consists of a bolt that runs through a hollow rod

and into a nut welded onto a bearing welded to the shaft. Turning the bolt into the nut puts pressure against the shaft to keep it in place.

"It works slick. I use my left hand to raise the door and my right hand to lock it," says Routledge. "I painted the end of the lever red so I can see from the cab whether the endgate is open or closed. I built it for safety, to keep people from having to reach over the auger in order to open the door. However, many people tell me that what they like best is being able to stay out of the dust as the door is opened."

Sells for \$89 (Canadian) plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Elgin Routledge, Box 2339, Virden, Manitoba, Canada R0M 2C0 (ph 204 748-3368).

Remote Control Truck Endgate

North Dakota farmers Bob and Greg Daws wanted to be able to open and close truck endgates by remote control but couldn't find anything on the market. So they decided to build their own.

They introduced the "Smart Gate" at the recent KMOT-TV North Dakota Ag Expo. It uses an electric motor and worm drive gearbox to power a screw-type actuator that opens and closes the endgate. The motor and gearbox operate off a 12-volt battery and are activated by remote control.

"It allows you to open and close the endgate from the top of an air seeder tank or grain bin so you can stay out of the dust. It's safer because you don't have to keep climbing up and down ladders," says Bob. "The unit has 700 lbs. of opening and closing force and it can be activated from more than 250 ft. away. It can be adapted to any truck endgate. The actuator rod simply pins onto the endgate. By removing the pin and unbolting the plastic housing you can quickly mount



"Smart Gate" uses an electric motor and worm drive gearbox to power a screw-type actuator that opens and closes endgate. The unit on another truck. The endgate handle can be left in place. It's also available with an optional plug-in control."

Sells for \$485 and comes with a 2-year warranty.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Air Tram, Inc., Box 448, Hwy. 2 West, Lakota, N. Dak. 58344 (ph 701 247-2829; fax 2994).



Tanks mount on a dump bed. With the tanks removed you can use the rig as a powered wheelbarrow. Note: Photo shows latest new production model.

Sells for \$4,365.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Agriweld, Inc., 13000 S. Pacific Hwy. West, Monmouth, Ore. 97361 (ph 503 838-3960; fax 0959).