



Box mounts permanently on front of tractor on a hinged bracket that allows it to drop down to ground flat on its side, allowing Johnson to roll a rock right into it.

## YOU CAN ROLL HEAVY ROCKS INTO IT WITHOUT LIFTING

# Back-Saving “Drop Down” Rock Box

Picking up rocks and other trash in fields has never been easier than with this “drop down” rock box built by Ardel Johnson, Lake Lillian, Minn.

“There’s nothing on the market like it,” says Johnson, who mounts the box permanently on front of his field tractor so it’s always in place when he comes across a rock or other object. “I use it all the time when I’m planting, cultivating, spraying, or doing other fieldwork. You don’t break your back lifting heavier rocks up into the box.”

An ingenious hinged bracket allows the box to drop down to the ground, flat on its side, so you can roll a rock right into it. A single hydraulic cylinder along one side provides the power. It simply drops the box onto the ground, then you drive forward a couple feet. To pick it up you just back up and lift.

To dump a load, you fasten a short length of chain to the side of the box. It causes the box to dump when you lower it down.

In order to tell when the rock box is down and when it’s all the way back up into the upright position, he rigged up a small flag that he can see from the cab. It rotates back and forth as the box raises and lowers.



To eject a load Johnson fastens a short length of chain to side of box. It causes the box to dump when it’s lowered down.

“It’s simple and reliable and it’s always there when you need it. You don’t end up leaving heavier rocks in the field and forgetting about them,” says Johnson.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ardel W. Johnson, 18511 45th St. E., Lake Lillian, Minn. 56253 (ph 320 995-6574).

## USES A COMMERCIAL 56-ft. SPRAYER

# He Built His Own “Samurai” Sprayer

You may have seen this “Samurai” sprayer idea on the market. Here’s how one farmer built his own.

Ed Mies, Loami, Ill., used to hire a custom-appliator to spray his 320 acres of corn and 420 acres of beans. When he decided he wanted a sprayer of his own, he liked one commercial unit he saw from JM Innovations that used a Suzuki Samurai 4-WD sport utility vehicle modified to pull a big sprayer.

So when a used 1988 Samurai with 60,000 miles on it turned up at a local used car dealer for \$1,900, Mies decided he could put together his own version of the commercial rig and save some money in the bargain.

“We plant corn in 28 in. rows and beans

in 14 in. rows so the Samurai’s 56-in. wheelbase is ideal for corn and nearly perfect for soybeans,” Mies says. “It also weighs almost nothing so you barely see a tire print, even after three applications. It has enough ground clearance to get through corn and beans up to 3 ft.”

He replaced the Samurai’s original rag top with a fiberglass top and equipped it with a ball hitch plate, which mounts between the seats. JM Innovations Inc., 9304 Hess Road, Edwardsville, Ill. 62025 (ph 618 667-6089) sold him the fiberglass top and hitch. He also bought the company’s sprayer equipped with 200-gal. tank and 56-ft. hydraulic-fold booms. (Sixty ft. booms are standard with the



The 1-ton truck is available with a hard top or removable canvas top. By removing the canvas and unbolting the side windows you can turn it into a “convertible”.

## COMPARABLE TO A 1-TON TRUCK

# Chinese-Built 4-WD Sells For Just \$12,000

A low-cost Chinese-built 4-WD 1-ton truck that sells for only about \$12,000 attracted crowds at the recent Farm Fest show near Redwood Falls, Minn.

“It doesn’t have the creature comforts of domestic-built pickups,” says Orv Gilyard, distributor. “It’s just a simple, practical vehicle that’s a lot like pickups built in the U.S. in the 1950’s and 60’s.”

Made in Beijing, the 2032 utility truck is powered by a 2.44-liter, 4-cyl., water-cooled gas engine rated at 85 hp and 3,800 rpm’s (a diesel engine is also available). It has an 8-speed transmission with two reverse speeds. It measures 15 ft. 4 in. long by 5 ft. 8 in. wide and has a 108-in. long wheelbase. It rides on 16-in. high tube-type tires and has a 7-ft. long, 45-in. wide bed that can haul up to 2,005 lbs. The rig is available with a hard top or a removable canvas top. By removing the canvas and unbolting the side windows from the doors you can turn it into a “convertible”. A padded roll bar mounts behind the cab.

“It goes 80 to 85 mph on the highway,” says Gilyard. “Comes complete with an AM/FM radio, cassette player, emergency signal flasher, tool kit that includes wrenches, a screwdriver, pliers, tire pressure gauge. It also

comes with a fire extinguisher and 30 ft. of hose and nozzle for washing the vehicle. It even has a hand crank so that if the electrical system fails and the battery goes dead, you can crank start it. It won’t leave you stranded.

“When you open the hood the engine compartment is completely exposed, which makes it easy to work on. There’s an adjustable screen in front of the radiator. By pulling on a lever inside the cab you can control air flow across the radiator and regulate the heat inside the cab.

“The bed has stake holes and tie-downs, and the rear tailgate folds down for easy loading. The bumpers are made from spring steel. The front bumper has twin tow hooks and a brush guard above them that’s fabricated from tubular steel. The rear bumper has a military style hook.”

Available in six different colors.

The diesel version of the truck sells for \$13,020. Gilyard also sells Chinese-made 2 and 4-door Jeeps that sell for \$11,020 to \$14,000. He says he’s looking for dealers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Orv Gilyard, Gilyard Distributing, Inc., Suite 204, 10510 France Ave. S., Bloomington, Minn. 55431 (ph 612 835-0664; fax 612 881-0375).



Mies replaced the Samurai’s original rag top with a fiberglass top and equipped it with a ball hitch plate that mounts between the seats. “It barely leaves a tire print,” he says. JM sprayer but 56 ft. works better in Mies’ narrow rows.)

Finally, to keep out of the drift while spraying, he purchased an add-on air conditioner for \$800 from an auto supply store and had it installed in the vehicle.

“We’ve used it for two seasons spraying at speeds of up to 11 mph and we’ve been pleased with how it performs,” Mies says.

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