

# Readers Respond To Rare Antique Tractor Story

Our story "Fantastic Collection of Rare Antique Tractors" in the last issue prompted calls from readers familiar with some of the tractors shown.

The photos of the tractors in the article were found in the archives at the University of Illinois by veteran farm writer C.F. Marley. He discovered that no one had even looked at the old tractors in the file for 70 years. The photo collection features tractors from the early 1900's to the early 1920's. Little information was contained on the tractors and equipment shown.

Here's what a few of our readers had to say about the tractors we featured:

Dan Grewe (Arlington, Wash. 98223 ph 360 435-2520) called to comment on the Moline-Universal tractor shown hooked up to a manure spreader. He has two Moline-Universal model C's, a model D, and a 110-bu. 4-wheel spreader.

"I bought all of them from my dad," says



Grewe. "The photo you show is a model C tractor along with a 2-wheel spreader. We used the 4-wheel spreader when I was growing up. As far as I know mine is the only one of its kind in the U.S. We have a movie of it actually working. When the 4-wheel spreader was hooked to the tractor you had

a 6-wheel rig.

"At the time this tractor was built Moline Tractor Co. was the biggest tractor manufacturer in the world. They made three Universal models - the B, C, and D - which looked much the same. However, the C had a 2-cyl. engine and a longer rider bar. The D also had a long rider bar. I put rubber tires on my D and updated it. No doubt it's the only Moline-Universal Model D with pneumatic tires."

Jack Gillow (2185 N. Hickory Ridge, Highland, Mich. 48357 ph 248 887-5243) called to let us know that a Holt tractor like the one we showed is on permanent display at a museum called "Antique Power Land", in Brook, Oregon (ph 503 393-2424), a small town south of Portland. The tractor has a single steering wheel up front and a set of large steel tracks in back.

"The museum features equipment from

all over the U.S., including 8 or 10 rare antique tractors and small hit and miss engines down to 1/2 hp. Every year they have a parade of the equipment. They're also developing a permanent antique truck museum display that should be quite interesting."

Ron Jungmeyer (55835 Hwy. C., Russellville, Mo. 65074 ph 573 782-4602), who operates a business restoring antique tractors, called to say that he recently finished restoring a 1920 Heider model D 9-16 hp tractor for a customer in Illinois.



"It's a super rare tractor - only a handful still exist in the U.S. The company built 2 and 3-plov models."

C.B. Galbraith (Box 96, Oakville, Man. R0H 0Y0 Canada ph 204-267-2680). "I enjoyed your article on rare antique tractors in the last issue. I might be able to shed some light on the Heider tractor that was shown.

"My father purchased a Heider tractor in 1920. It was the first tractor I ever ran. He also bought a 20 by 36 Waterloo threshing machine from a Waterloo dealer in Portage

la Prairie, Manitoba.

"This tractor had a 4-cylinder Waukesha motor, cast in two blocks with removeable plugs to get at the valves and a shaft driven water pump with seals that always leaked. There was a large flywheel on on the rear end of the crankshaft with a 4-in. wide circle of clutch material (pressed paper) attached to the outside of the flywheel.

"The clutch consisted of two large 24-in. dia. discs that were moved sideways to connect the clutch material on the flywheel. One side for moving ahead, the other side for reverse. These discs were connected with straight cut gears to the rear axle which ran small straight gears inside a larger gear bolted to the inside of the drive wheels

"At constant throttle your forward speed was controlled by moving the disks forward on sliding rails so that the clutch discs contacted the flywheel clutch at different diameter. I think there were 7 forward speeds and 7 reverse speeds.

"The motor burned gas or kerosene and was good for stationary work but not so good in the field. It had a small steering wheel, making it hard to steer. On this model, there was a tin canopy or sun shade.

"There are two Heider tractors at the Manitoba Agricultural Museum in Austin, Manitoba."

## More Rare Antique Tractors

Here's another group of tractor photos from the archives at the University of Illinois (see above). If you have more information on any of these machines - or photos of other rare tractors - contact us at: FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044.

### Staupe Mak-A-Tractor

"The Staupe Mak-A-Tractor will easily do the work of four horses," says literature from 1917 that accompanied this photo of a car turned into a tractor.

Like the Auto Tractor featured in the last issue of FARM SHOW, Staupe made a kit that could turn virtually any car into a field tractor in 20 min. or less. It was built by the Staupe Manufacturing Co., in St. Paul, Minn.

In addition to fieldwork, the tractor was also promoted for road grading because of the high speeds it could attain. It could also be fitted with a power pulley attachment for sawing wood, operating corn shellers, grinding feed, and other jobs around the farm.

And when all the work was done, you could drive it to church!



### Sandusky Road Grader

Road grading in the early part of the century was a labor intensive affair as this photo shows. Two men rode on the grader and one drove the Sandusky tractor, built by Dauch Manufacturing in Sandusky, Ohio. The blades on this big rig could apparently be set any number of ways, controlled by the four control wheels.



### Hoosier Farm Tractor



There's nothing fancy about this Hoosier farm tractor. A small drive sprocket drives a single big sprocket on the single drive wheel.

### Early No-Till Rig



The fellows operating this plow-plant rig behind an 18-35 Rumley Oil-Pull tractor would be surprised to learn that many people today think no-till is a new concept. They were planting corn as they plowed with this rig back in the early 1920's.

### Cletrac Snow-Mover

It took two men to operate this special-built Cletrac snow tractor built by the Cleveland Tractor Company in Cleveland, Ohio: One to drive and one to raise and lower the blade. The New York City streets department bought 100 of these tractors. A blade angled at 45° was used to push the snow to the sides of the streets and then the straight pusher blade shown in the photo was used to push the snow up to the manholes where it was dumped into the sewer system to melt away. Before buying these tractors, snow was shoveled by hand into wagons and hauled away.



### Guidance System On Rumely Oil-Pull

This photo caught our eye because of the outrigger and furrow wheel that guided the Rumely Oil-Pull, reducing driver fatigue on big straight-aways. The small furrow wheel that steered the front right wheel was raised and lowered by a piece of chain.

