

Self-Propelled Sprayer Built From Old Army Ambulance

The chassis of a military ambulance provided the foundation for this self-propelled sprayer built by David Lashmett, Winchester, Ill.

"Our county health services didn't need it anymore so they gave it to me as junk just to get it out of their way," says Lashmett. "I turned it into a valuable piece of equipment at almost no cost to myself other than labor."

He wanted a sprayer rig that he could drive on the highway since the ground he farms is widely scattered, with some of it 20 miles from home. The ambulance sprayer can cruise at highway speeds of up to 65 mph.

Lashmett stripped the ambulance down to the chassis, which was built by Dodge. It was equipped for 6-WD and had a Dodge 1-ton transfer case. He removed one axle and then made new driveshafts for the two remaining axles, remounting the axles on the frame at the same time.



Ambulance sprayer can cruise at highway speeds of up to 65 mph. It's fitted with the cab off a 915 IHC combine.

He fitted the chassis with a cab off an 915 IHC combine. He also used the power steering off the combine. The sprayer is fitted with a 60-ft. boom and 500-gal. spray tank off an Ag-Chem sprayer.

He can spray at speeds up to 18 mph in



Sprayer's 60-ft. boom and 500-gal. spray tank came off an Ag-Chem sprayer.

the field, depending on conditions. Of course, he's usually operating at much lower speeds. He fitted the sprayer with a bicycle speedometer. "I used the bike speedometer because it's much more accurate at low speeds than a car speedometer. Works great."

Lashmett recently found another military ambulance that he's going to turn into a second self-propelled sprayer.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Lashmett, 905 Crabtree Lane, Winchester, Ill. 62694 (ph 217 742-3227).

Home-Built Pull-Type Mower

"We like it a lot more than the riding mower we used before, in part because it's fitted with flotation tires on the rear that let us mow in even the muddiest conditions," says Tom McKee, who built a 5-ft. mower deck for doing extensive trim jobs around his fruit and vegetable farm.

The Ramsey, Ill., farmer built the 3-bladed mower to attach to a 3-pt. tractor hitch. The upper frame is built from square tubing and the lower frame is made of angle iron. The mower deck itself is made from steel plate.

A rebuilt 11 hp Briggs & Stratton motor off an old riding mower mounts on the upper frame in front. The motor belt-drives the

three overlapping blades with a single long V-belt. A long mechanical clutch arm behind the operator engages and disengages the belt.

A 12-volt battery powers an electric starter on the mower.

The front of the mower is raised and lowered with the 3 pt., while rear height is controlled by a screw jack mounted on the frame. The rear can be adjusted up to 4 in. above the ground, McKee says.

The deck is fitted with rear wheels and flotation tires off an old lawn mower. It has small-diameter rubber wheels mounted on each side of the deck to act as rolling bumpers to keep the mower frame from damaging



Mower attaches to 3-pt. tractor hitch and is fitted with flotation tires on back that let McKee mow in even the muddiest conditions around his fruit and vegetable farm.

buildings and trees when cutting close.

"We built it two years ago out of scrap and it's ideal for our purposes," McKee says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom McKee, Rt. 51 South, Ramsey, Ill. 62080 (ph 618 423-9376).



"Hand-pump" splitter is powered by a standard 6-ton bottle jack that pushes wood up into wedge.

"Hand-Pump" Log Splitter

Even young kids can split wood with this "hand-pump" splitter that's powered by a standard 6-ton bottle jack.

The "Hatchet Jack" is 12 in. square and 42 in. high so you can keep it on a patio or deck. It's equipped with a wedge on top. You just set a log on top of the jack and pump the handle to split it.

The unit's height can be adjusted according to the length of the wood by changing the position of a pin in each leg.

"It's much safer than an axe or powered splitter and it doesn't take up much room so you can keep it handy to use whenever you 30 • FARM SHOW



To use it you just set a log on top of the jack and pump the handle to split it. Unit measures only 12 in. sq. and 42 in. high.

have time," says Bill Green, inventor. "I came up with the idea because I didn't want my kids to risk hurting themselves using a hatchet to split firewood. It'll take logs up to 9 1/2 in. in diameter. The jack raises 9 inches. Once you determine where to mount the pins in the legs you can use the jack's screw to make the final adjustment. On most jacks the screw can be raised about 3 1/2 inches."

Sells for \$350 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Extant, Inc., 5843 Glen Eagles Court, Avon, Ind. 46168 (ph 800 530-9589; E-mail: extantinc@aol.com).



J-shaped aluminum tie-down rails attach to top edge of pickup box.

"No-Bolt" Tie-Down Rails For Pickups

You don't have to drill a single hole to attach these J-shaped aluminum tie-down rails to the top edge of your pickup box, says BMC & Co., Cimarron, Kan.

"The rails have a 2,000-lb. load rating so you can use them to secure toolboxes and other heavy objects, even toppers," says the company.

The underside of the rail is coated with rubber to keep from damaging the pickup. To install you simply slip special anchor plates into the stake pockets, hook the rails over the edge of the box, and then bolt them in place to the anchor plates.

The rails are available in 6 and 8 1/2-ft. lengths. They can be moved to your next pickup as long as the make and model is the same.

Available in black, bright gold, bright silver, and a satin silver finish.

The 8-ft. model in satin sells for \$250 plus S&H and the 6 1/2 ft. model for \$225 plus S&H. Add \$20 for colors. Specify make and model of pickup.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, BMC & Co., Box 196, 113 South Main, Cimarron, Kan. 67835 (ph 316 855-3094; fax 2205; Web site: www.hydrill.com).