**Gravel rebuilt the hitch on his Landoll cultivator so he could mount it on front of his Oliver 1655. "It works great and handles better than a rear-mount cultivator," he says.**

**He cut the cultivator's 7 by 7-in. toolbar in half, then built a framework with parallel linkage to lift it with a hydraulic cylinder.**

# Farmer Moves Cultivator Up Front For Better Control on Contours

Jeff Gravel didn't like the fact that he couldn't see his cultivator without turning around as he cultivated weeds on his rolling corn and soybean fields.

The Cascade, Iowa, farmer had a 4-row Landoll cultivator, set up for his 38-in. rows. "It's a good cultivator and would have worked great if we had straight rows. But we're farming contour strips and there's not a straight row on the place," he says. As he steered along his contoured rows, the cultivator often veered too far to the side, taking out part of the row, even though Jeff was keeping the wheels right in the row centers.

He wanted to switch to a front-mounted cultivator but he couldn't find a front-mount cultivator that would fit his 1655 Oliver.

He solved the problem by rebuilding the hitch on the Landoll cultivator so it would attach directly to the front of the tractor. "I thought about building a three-point hitch for the front of the tractor, but then it would have been too far out in front. That would have made it too long, and more difficult to turn. Steering it around the contours would have been just as difficult as when it was rear-mounted," he says.

Jeff cut the Landoll's 7 by 7-in. toolbar in half, and then built a framework with parallel linkage to lift it with a hydraulic cylinder. He added a length of smaller square steel tubing behind the narrow front wheels of the tractor to cultivate in the row behind them.

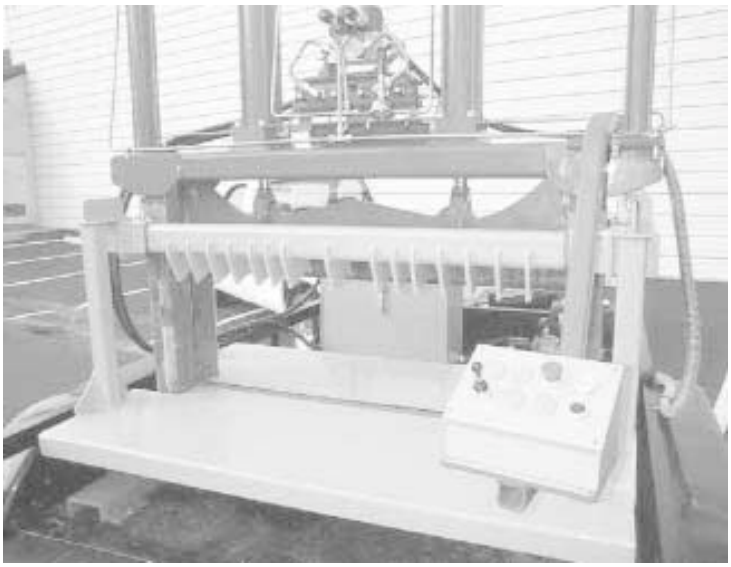
The minimum till cultivator has 20-in. sweeps on each shank to take out weeds.

"It's a little more difficult to hitch up than a 3-point mounted cultivator. You can't just back into it and pick it up. I used four U-bolts to attach it to mounting brackets on the tractor," he says.

A couple of years ago, Jeff switched from 38-in. rows to 30-in. rows and bought a 6-row planter. "I added a little to the toolbar and added an extra unit on each side, so now we cultivate 6 rows. It works great and handles a lot easier than the rear mounted cultivator," he says.

Later, he added a 3-point mounted sprayer tank and pump behind the tractor, and mounted drop nozzles and broadcast nozzles on the cultivator to enhance his weed control.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jeff Gravel, 29450 Hawkins Rd., Cascade, IA 52033 (ph 319 852-5022).



**Machine has a long steel blade with hold-down bars on either side of it. Bars are lowered to grab each side of tire and bend it downward, stretching the rubber very tight so it's easier to cut. Blade is then lowered into tire.**

# Fast-Working, Low-Maintenance Tire Cutter

If you're looking for sideline income, you might want to consider getting into the tire disposal business with the new JW Tire Cutter which was introduced at the recent California Farm Equipment Show near Tulare.

"It cuts tires fast as a wood splitter. Very little maintenance is required. There's nothing on it to wear out," says James Callahan, inventor.

The machine is equipped with a long steel blade with hold-down bars on either side of it that are fitted with a series of welded-on steel teeth. Four hydraulic cylinders mount on top of the machine. Two cylinders raise and lower the hold-down bars while the two inside cylinders raise and lower the blade.

To cut a tire, the hold-down bars are lowered to grab each side of the tire and bend it downward, stretching the rubber very tight. Then the blade is lowered to cut the tire.

"It'll handle car, truck, and tractor tires up to 56 inches in diameter, including steel-belted tires," says Callahan. "It takes only about 15 seconds to make each cut. You can rotate the tires on the cutting table to cut them into quarters. Three or four car tires can be cut at once, for a total of 100 to 120 tires per hour.

"Because the rubber is stretched tight, it's much easier to cut. The arched rubber loses all of its strength and can't flex back up and grab hold of the blade. The tougher the tire, the better it cuts. Because of the way the tire is prepared for cutting, the machine requires only 1,200 to 1,500 psi. We've cut up to 15,000 tires on a single blade before the blade had to be resharpened."

The company offers two models – one trailer-mounted and one stationary. The portable unit is powered by an 11 hp gas engine. and sells for about $32,000. The stationary unit is powered by a 5 hp, 3-phase 220-volt hydraulic power unit and sells for about $29,000. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, JW Tire Cutter, North American Tire Research & Recycling, Box 723, North Fork, Calif. 93643 (ph 559 877-4516; fax 7875; Website: www.natrr.com).

**Leismeister screwed a pop-up sprinkler head inside the small induction tank on his Spray Air sprayer. He holds empty jugs over the head to rinse them out.**

# Pop-Up Sprinkler Rinses Chemical Jugs

"Here's an idea I came up with to rinse out chemical jugs," says Peter Leismeister, Consul, Sask.

"I drilled a hole through the small chemical induction tank on my Spray Air sprayer, then closed the hole with a pipe fitting. On the inside, I screwed in a pop-up sprinkler head. Then I attached the nursing tank hose to the pipe fitting with a ball valve. I hold the empty jugs over the sprinkler head to rinse them out after all the chemical is in the tank. You don't need defoamer with this rinser. Works great and doesn't affect operation of the induction tank itself."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Peter M. Leismeister, Site 4, Box 9, Consul, Sask. S0N 0P0 Canada (ph 306 299-5711).