



Fort Galaxy Crawler Tractor - The Fort Company, a major producer of two-wheel walk-behind and small 4-wheel tractors, also makes 11 and 16.5 hp. crawler tractors. A Honda 340 air-cooled gasoline engine, with a belt clutch system and a 6-speed transmission powers the smaller model. The larger model track tractor is powered by a water-cooled diesel with an all-gear transmission using oil bath disc clutches and hydraulic disc brakes. Both models have standard rear PTO and 3-pt. hitch. Tractors are both right at 6 ft. long and weigh less than 1,500 lbs.

Equipment "Hound Dog" Tracks Down Equipment All Over The World

By Mick Lane

As farms get bigger, it gets harder and harder to find machinery that fits small scale or hobby farming. And at the same time, it's becoming nearly impossible to find custom operators who'll bother with only a few acres of hay or crops.

That situation has created an opportunity for Californian Eugene Canales, owner of Ferrari Tractor in Gridley, Calif., who has built a reputation for being able to find just about anything for anybody.

Canales travels to machinery shows in Europe to look for new or unusual specialty equipment. He has contacts with manufacturers around the world. Whether it's a walk-behind mower or a mini baler, a specialized seeder to plant narrow rows of salad greens, or a cutter to clip the greens when they're ready, he knows where to find it. No matter what the job, if you think it could be mechanized, just ask him.

"Somebody called recently wanting a walk-behind tractor with a split roto-tiller so it would work either side of the row. I remembered having seen one at a show in Italy. I sent a fax off that day and got an answer a week later. The machine is on its way now," he says.

Sometimes, he already has what the customer needs. Other times, as with the walk-behind tractor, it takes a week or so to track it down. But Eugene enjoys a challenge, and over the years, he's tracked down some rather exotic equipment. One of the most unusual, he says, was a huller for spelt, a primitive wheat-type grain with a large, loose hull that's difficult to remove. The customer was a small specialty baker who was growing the grain himself and needed a faster way to remove the hulls. "That one took me about six months to track down," he says. But he found it from a small manufacturer in Italy.

"Sometimes I can do some initial research on the Internet. Often though, it's just a



DeMa Seeder - This specialty seeder drills crops in lines less than 2 in. apart. It's used mostly for seeding vegetables and herbs, but the DeMa seeder can be used to plant just about anything you might want in a dense planting. It's easily adjustable for seed size and spacing. Models are available in 36, 48 and 59-in. widths.



Spading machine - No roto-tiller this. It's a spader, which works soil 10 in. deep or more at two levels simultaneously without mixing the upper and lower levels. Company literature claims this imported tillage machine is less disturbing to soil and to earthworms, too. It enhances air and moisture movement into the soil. A 32-in. spader on a 20 hp. tractor can cover 1/3 acre per hour. Spaders are available in widths from 32 in. to 13 ft.

matter of calling people I know who make something similar. If they don't make it, they often know who does," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Eugene Canales, Ferrari Tractor C.I.E., Box 1045, Gridley, Calif. 95948 (ph 530 846-6401; fax 530 846-6401).

Caeb Walking Baler - Powered from behind by a 12-hp. walking tractor, this baler wraps bales, measuring 30 in. long and 18 in. in diameter, in a net-type fabric. It's designed for use on very steep hillsides and in wooded areas in the mountains. It also works great for small acreages.



Self-Propelled Wood Splitter

"I built myself a wood splitter a few years ago but I got tired of having to take my ATV or tractor with me so I could move it around," says Doug Slatcher, Bracebridge, Ontario.

"I already had an auxiliary hydraulic control on the splitter for its hydraulic block hoist so I added quick couplers to the hydraulic lines and equipped the splitter with a hydraulic-driven front axle. The front end is really the rear end out of a golf cart with a hydraulic slave motor driving it.

"Now I can tow the splitter to the woods with my pickup using a ball hitch, and then unhook the splitter and connect up the drive axle by hooking up the hydraulic lines and steering bar. Then I can drive wherever I want, walking alongside. It moves at about walking speed and is very maneuverable. If it's wet or slippery, I have a set of chains for the 12-in. snow tires on the drive wheels.

"A Ford hubcap on the drive-chain sprocket keeps twigs and sticks out of the chain. When I need to use the hoist to lift a big chunk of wood, I uncouple the hydraulic lines from the drive axle and hook up to the hoist.

"The splitter works great and hasn't broken down once after splitting about 250 cords.



Front end of splitter is driven by hydraulic motor.



Slatcher walks alongside to "drive" the splitter through the woods.

Total cost of the job was only about \$100, mostly for hydraulic hose and fittings."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Doug Slatcher, Bracebridge, Ontario Canada.



Side attachment carries load only a couple of inches off floor so there's far less chance of accidentally hitting something and dumping the load.

Side Carry Attachment For Forklifts

"My side attachment for forklifts carries loads only a couple of inches off the floor so there's far less chance of accidentally hitting something and dumping the load. It also gets long stuff through narrow aisles and doorways," says Ray McPherson, So. Milwaukee, Wis.

The add-on unit consists of a steel frame that fits over the forks with a pair of curved steel arms on one side. Each arm is hinged to the frame by a steel pin and has a small wheel at the end.

To load up the driver pulls parallel to a load, which must be up on blocks. He lowers the forks so the wheels on the curved arms start rolling under the load. He continues to lower the forks until the bottom part of the arms is under the load. The hinged end hits the latches and drops into the notches, locking it in place. He's now ready to lift the load and move to another area.

To unload, he lowers the forks until the load rests on blocks. He then manually flips the latches away from the notches. Then he raises the forks until the arms are clear of the load.

"The attachment weighs only 130 lbs. but can carry a load weighing well over a ton," says McPherson. "We've used it in our machine shop on a Clark 3,000-lb. capacity industrial forklift for two years with no prob-



With the load carried alongside forklift, operator can get long stuff through narrow aisles and doorways.

lems. Farmers could use it to haul everything from steel tubing to irrigation pipe, etc. I built it after I saw our shop's forklift driver trying to maneuver a load of pipes through an aisle that was too narrow for the load. He hit a small bump which caused the entire load to fall off. Fortunately no one was injured. I thought there had to be an easier and safer way to move heavy loads."

McPherson is looking for a manufacturer. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ray McPherson, 1220 Milwaukee Ave., So. Milwaukee, Wis. 53172 (ph 414 764-2405).