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Farmer-Designed Hoop Buildings Use Wood Instead Of Steel

When Alfred Enns went looking for a low-cost "hoop" building, he was surprised at the prices he was quoted. He didn't feel he could justify \$10,000 to \$15,000 for a 40 by 100-ft. shed.

"I also didn't like that the frames were made out of steel because when I looked around my farm, I realized that the oldest structures we have all are made with wood frames. So we decided to make our own buildings," says Enns, who came up with a

process to make laminated wood "hoops" which he then covers with canvas like any other "hoop" buildings. He has put up four of the buildings on his own farm and more than 40 units on neighboring farms.

The difference between our buildings and other ones on the market is that wood is cheaper than steel. The beams are also 8 in. deep so you can insulate the building, if desired. And down the road, if you decide you want a more permanent structure, having

a wood frame makes it much easier to replace the canvas cover with wood or metal siding," says Enns, who sells a 30 by 72-ft. shed kit, including frame and cover, for \$2,995 (U.S. funds).

On his own farm, Enns uses one building to house cattle, one for calves, another to store bales, and another for machinery.

These buildings have a tremendous snow load rating of 41 lbs. Sizes available are 30, 36, 38, 40, 44 and 50-ft. wide by any length.

Our target market is farm families like our own who are looking to hoop structures because of their affordability and quick construction. With our buildings, if you decide to update them later by enclosing them with solid sides, you can do it," says Enns.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alfred Enns, Gretna, Manitoba Canada (ph toll free 877 547-4738 or 204 324-4592).

Car Spare Tires Convert Field Cultivator Into Press Drill

Those "mini" spare tires found in many cars make great drill packing wheels, say Ray and Dale Culler of Lethbridge, Alberta, who converted their 37-ft. Deere field cultivator into a press drill by mounting 36 mini spares on back of it.

The 13-in. wheel rims with mounted tires on them are about 24 in. high. The wheels mount by pairs on a series of 6-ft. steel pipes, with three pairs per pipe. Each pair of wheels pivots on a 2-in. dia. bent pipe, allowing the

wheels to turn freely instead of skidding on corners.

"It really works good for seeding peas, lentils and beans," says Culler. "The wheels are very durable and are just the right size for this job. We bought the wheels and bearings from a local auto recycler and had the pipe for the wheel pivots bent at a local muffler shop. The wheels pack the soil to improve seed-to-soil contact, which results in better germination. The wheel sections are mounted



Ray and Dale Culler converted their 37-ft. Deere field cultivator into a press drill by mounting 36 "mini" spare tires on back of it.

on a special frame that's permanently mounted to the machine. By removing the wheel sections we can still use the cultivator as it was originally designed. We sometimes use Noble Treaders on the cultivator, instead

of the packer wheels, for better seedbed preparation."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ray Culler, 118 Elm Cr. S., Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada T1K 4V1 (ph 403 328-9118).



New mower uses a conventional steering wheel instead of levers to turn on a dime.

Deere Introduces "Zero Turn" Tractor With A Mid-Mount Deck

Deere representatives in Canada unveiled this new Deere zero turn lawn tractor at the recent Canadian International farm equipment show in Toronto. The SST 18 (SST stands for "spin steer technology") functions like other zero turn mowers but uses a conventional steering wheel instead of levers and it

has a mid-mount deck. That makes it safer and easier to operate, says the company. The tractor is available with either a 42 or 48-in. mid-mount deck and a 16 or 18 hp 2-cyl. engine. It has foot pedal hydrostatic speed control.

Add-On Plastic Flighting Fits Any Auger

Lundell Plastics is known for its augers with plastic flighting. The company's latest new product is add-on flighting - which it calls "wear shoes" - that can be added to existing augers.

The UHMW (ultra high molecular weight) plastic comes in sections that are pre-formed and pre-drilled to fit onto either new or worn steel auger flighting. Each wear shoe covers one pitch (revolution) of the auger. The sections join together using a patented bevel lap joint and are bolted to the auger with a special UHMW-capped bolt. The bolt is counter sunk to create a continuous smooth surface.

The company displayed the new product at the National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville and expects to have it on the market by May. Wear shoes will be available in different diameters, pitches and thickness to fit most common augers.

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Add-on flighting comes in sections that are pre-formed and pre-drilled to fit onto either new or worn out steel auger flighting.