



Fred and Larry Krueger use their Case-IH 8950 tractor to power two New Holland haybines at once - one on front and one behind.

Front And Rear Haybines Cut A 32-Ft. Swath

"It was relatively easy to do and has saved us a lot of time and labor," say Fred and Larry Krueger, Delavan, Wis., who use their Case-IH 8950 front wheel assist tractor to tow two 16-ft. New Holland 2300 series haybines - one on front and one behind.

The system lets them mow 32 ft. at a time, at speeds up to 8 mph.

The Kruegers already had one hydroswing haybine. They bought another identical, slightly used model and removed the hydroswing tongue, keeping just the header. They bought a front-mount frame specially designed to mount a New Holland haybine on the back of a "turned-around" bi-directional tractor. They laid the frame on top of the weight bracket and removed the springs from the header. They remounted the springs on the frame, and also welded a cross brace on the frame for reinforcement.

A pto-driven jackshaft on back of the tractor is used to chain-drive a hydraulic pump on the frame.

"It lets us mow twice as fast and eliminates the need for another tractor and operator," says Fred, who says they took the machine to the field for the first time this spring. "We were able to cut 135 acres in only six hours, and we made it through my entire first cutting of 900 acres with no problems. We had been using just the pull-type haybine and were able to mow up to 150 acres per day, but we had to put in 12 to 15-hour days. Now we can mow more than 200 acres in only a 10-hour day. We custom harvest hay for a neighbor who uses a self-propelled chopper. With the two haybines we can mow 7 1/2 to 8 mph and keep ahead of the chopper.

"We could have bought a New Holland bi-directional tractor to do the same job, but the

big problem is that the bi-directional tractor doesn't have enough power or weight to operate two 16-ft. haybines, especially on hillsides. Our Case-IH model has about 220 hp compared to 100 hp for the bi-directional tractor, and it's also a heavier model. We use the Case-IH model in our custom manure hauling business to pull loaded semi tankers, which a bi-directional tractor wouldn't be able to do. The bi-directional tractor is equipped with a front pto that drives a front-mounted haybine. However, our Case-IH tractor doesn't have a front pto so we had to use the hydraulic pump."

According to the Kruegers, it takes a tractor equipped with front wheel assist to handle two 16-ft. haybines. "I think an articulated 4-WD tractor would work even better because it has larger front wheels to handle the weight. Also, the front wheels would have

more clearance over the windrow when turning. We have to put blocks in our tractor's front axle so the wheels don't turn as short and drive over the windrow. With an articulated tractor we could get the header closer to the tractor," says Fred.

They paid \$11,500 for the used haybine and \$1,700 for the front-mount frame. "Our total cost was less than \$15,000, whereas a new pull-type, 16-ft. header alone would have cost more than \$18,000," notes Fred.

The system uses four remote hydraulic outlets on the tractor.

Total transport width is 18 ft. "We have to be careful to drive around mailboxes when I'm driving on the highway," he notes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Fred and Larry Krueger, W7954 St. Rd. 11, Delavan, Wis. 53115 (ph 262 728-2468).

Doubled-Up Equipment Cuts Haying Time In Half

You can cut hay in 18-ft. swaths and rake up to 30 ft. at a time with Harold Gleason's 2-mower frame and 2-rake hitch.

Gleason, of Tolna, North Dakota, designed a low-profile frame that holds two 9-ft. New Holland sicklebar mowers so you can pull them behind one tractor. The low, compact frame is made from 4 by 8-in. steel tubing.

He says there are similar mower mounting frames on the market, but feels his is the simplest available. "You just take the 9-ft. mower off the original frame and bolt it on this frame," he says. "There's no drilling or welding. It uses some of the drive shafts belts from the original mowers, but we use our own main driveline from the tractor pto to power both mowers."

Gleason's 2-mower frame attaches to the tractor drawbar and has two wheels under the rear portion of the frame.

It allows the cutterbars to fold up 90 degrees and the frame folds to a width of about 9 ft. for transport. The wheels swing in, so they follow in the tractor tracks during transport. A kit is available to allow the cutterbars to be raised hydraulically.

When it's time to rake, Gleason's tandem rake hitch pulls two side delivery rakes in V formation to make a double windrow. An optional attachment allows you to extend the reach of the rakes by adding two wheels from wheel rakes to the outside edge of each mounted rake.

The rake hitch attaches to the tractor drawbar. It has dolly wheels to carry the two

rakes and folds easily into transport position by just pulling a pin and turning the tractor in the direction of travel. When folded, the second rake tracks directly behind the first, making it the width of just one rake.

Gleason sells 2-mower frames for around \$3,000. He says he's only made a couple of the 2-rake hitches so far, and hasn't set a price for it yet. Shipping is extra.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harold Gleason, 2843 Gleason Dr., Tolna, N. Dak. 58380 (ph 701 262-4584).



Low-profile frame holds two 9-ft. New Holland sicklebar mowers.

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