

Gordon Marshalek converted the frame of a 1972 Ford F-600 straight truck into this bale hauler, which he pulls behind his pickup.



Cheap Bale Trailer Made From Old Truck Frame

If you need an inexpensive round bale trailer you can pull behind a pickup, you might want to take a look at the simple trailer built by Gordon Marshalek.

Marshalek, of Raymond, Nebraska, stripped the engine, transmission, cab, bed, and rear end off the frame of a 1972 F-600 Ford straight truck. He removed the front steering axle and reattached it about 6 ft. from the back of the frame. Then he welded the tie rods solid so the front wheels wouldn't swivel.

He pulled the I-beams together at the front

of the truck frame to make a tongue and welded on a ball hitch to fit the receiver hitch of his pickup.

To make a better cradle for the bales to sit on, he fastened two lengths of 6-in. channel iron alongside the truck frame channel irons. The resulting single axle trailer, which cost less than \$200 to make from salvage parts, will hold six bales. Marshalek figures it only took five or six hours to make.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gordon Marshalek, Rural Route, Box 191, Raymond, Neb. 68428 (ph 402 783-3801).



Tandem axle bale hauler is all mechanically-operated, with no hydraulics.

Self-Unloading Pickup Bale Hauler

There are two key features that set the new E-Z Hay Hauler apart from all others: simplicity and efficiency, says the Weld House, Inc., Pella, Iowa.

The tandem axle, self-unloading unit is designed to be pulled by a pickup. It's all mechanically-operated, with no hydraulics. A loader tractor is used to load bales one at a time from the rear, with each bale pushed forward as a new one is loaded. To unload the bales, you pull back on a long lever that's attached to the cradle, which causes a pair of locks to trip. Once the locks are tripped, you pull up on the lever and the weight of the bales tips them over the side of the trailer.

"There's nothing on it to go wrong, which

keeps the cost down, and it eliminates the need for a tractor to unload the bales," says David Lovell. "It's a really efficient system. We've hauled up to 300 bales a day with only one tractor and one pickup. It comes equipped with brakes and lights."

Three models are available - a 21-ft. receiver hitch model; a 25-ft. gooseneck or receiver hitch model; and a 32-ft. gooseneck or receiver hitch model. The 32-ft. model can haul six 5 by 6-ft. bales.

Prices range from \$2,295 for the 21-ft. model to \$3,495 for the 32-ft. model.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Weld House, Inc., Box 174, Pella, Iowa 50219 (ph 641 828-1972 or 641 780-1942).



To unload bales, you pull back on a long lever that's attached to the cradle.



One-row planter works great for replanting row skips and sails across wet spots with no compaction, says inventor Keith Van Kleek.

ATV Planter Makes Skips Disappear

Keith Van Kleek doesn't like row skips or planting around wet spots in a field, so he came up with a one-row planter that replants row skips and sails across wet spots without compaction. Van Kleek normally leaves the planting to his farm partner and brother Steve. When it comes to row repair, he takes over.

"I am kind of fussy, and I don't like rows missing," says Van Kleek of Terril, Iowa. "This way if the planter gets a little wide around the edge of a field, I can go in and add another row. It floats over the top of mudholes and even a little packing doesn't seem to bother. It is also very handy for planting sweet corn."

He started with a plate planter unit off an old International 256. He chose that unit for its double disk openers and the fact that it was simple and light and ground-driven. The multi-depth spring loaded wheels came off a Crust Buster field cultivator. Besides lifting the unit, they allow him to adjust each side independently when planting on uneven ground. The lift mechanism was from a 37 International disk while the electric-activated screw jack had a previous life on a snow blower. He made row markers out of closing discs off a Buffalo planter. Planter plates came from everywhere.

"I must have 15 different plates. Some I have bought new and others people give me when they hear about the planter," says Van Kleek.

While the planter isn't for use in no-till situations, lifting the wheels adds pressure for deeper planting in harder ground. That extra pressure can make all the difference, he says.



Van Kleek also built this two-wheeled cultivator for his ATV.

Once he saw how well the ATV planter worked repairing rows, Van Kleek tackled another need. Waterway wash outs were often too small to permit or justify full size equipment, yet left unchecked could be a problem at harvest.

"I needed something small that I could get in with before seeding," says Van Kleek.

He started with a wing section off the same Crust Buster that provided wheels for his planter. The section was mounted to a frame along with an old jack. The jack sits on the axle and raises and lowers the cultivator.

Van Kleek is busy rigging up a pull type sprayer for his ATV as well as a rock wagon. His Yamaha 400 pulls the planter easily and handles the field cultivator as long as it doesn't get too deep. If he gets any larger accessories, he acknowledges he may have to get a bigger ATV.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Keith Van Kleek, 402S. Schooley St., Terril, Iowa 51364 (E-mail: kvkfarms@terril.com).

Some of the best new ideas we hear about are "made it myself" inventions born in farmers' workshops. If you've got a new idea or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors? Send to FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or call toll-free 800 834-9665. Or you can submit an idea at our Website at www.farmshow.com.

Mark Newhall, Editor

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