

Liquid Manure Tank Rolls Along The Ground

Dutch farmer Johan Sterken has reduced ground compaction to a minimum with his innovative liquid slurry tank that rolls along the ground.

The rolling tank is actually an 8-ft. wide, 6-ft. dia. flotation tire that's been modified to carry a load of liquid manure. When full, it rolls on the ground.

Sterken "self-propelled" his Terra Care system by attaching a Valmet tractor unit to the front frame of the slurry unit. The front axle is removed from the 90 hp. tractor, improving the turning radius of the rig. An articulation joint with two steering cylinders is located where the tractor joins the unit.

Sterken says the biggest problem with the system is that it doesn't have enough capacity. He's currently adding an additional holding tank to the drawbar to increase total capacity and he might add a second tire to the rig.

A fill hose enters the end of the tire through special-built bearings.

Sterken is gearing up to produce the machine, which is expected to cost 20 percent more than a conventional self-propelled tank.

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Sterken modified an 8-ft. wide, 6-ft. dia. flotation tire to carry a load of liquid manure. When full, it rolls on the ground.

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Brush-Cutting Mower Wipes On Chemicals As It Cuts

You can get better control of brush and weeds and use much less herbicide with a new combo mowing system built by Brown Manufacturing Corporation, Ozark, Ala.

Called the Brown Brush Monitor™, this 72-in. brush cutter deck cuts normally but has a brush roller on back that applies chemical to the fresh-cut stubble.

Wiping the herbicide onto stubble with the long-bristled brush assures better coverage while using much less chemical than a broadcast sprayer.

And because the brush applicator is in a closed chamber (top and sides), it can be used in windy conditions where a normal sprayer would be ineffective.

The herbicide is applied immediately after the brush is cut, so there's a greater chance of reaching the plant roots. Waiting even a few minutes after mowing would give the stubble time to seal over. A serrated edged scarifier under the deck scrapes even more bark from the cut stubble, opening even more of the stem to herbicide. Eight flat fan spray tips keep the brush saturated.

Besides better and more economical control, the Brush Monitor has the added

advantage of keeping the spray application equipment out of sight. Herbicides are carried in twin low-profile 25-gal. tanks mounted on the mower deck. Farmers with their own tractor-mounted tanks can buy the applicator without tanks.

The 3-point mounted mower features hard rubber flotation tires. There are no complicated sensors or electronics. Most parts are readily available.

The Brush Monitor is available directly from the factory at a cost of \$9,900, including deck-mounted tanks, sprayer pump, and nozzles. Brown worked with Dow AgroSciences in developing the Brush Monitor and recommends a tank mix of Dow's Garlon4® and BASF's Arsenal® with surfactant. However, it will work with any labeled chemical or mixture for brush control or range and pasture management. The company suggests at least an 85 hp tractor.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brown Manufacturing Corporation, Ozark, Alabama 36360 (ph 800 633-8909; Website: www.brownmfgcorp.com; E-mail: brown@snowhill.com).



The 72-in. brush cutter deck cuts normally but has a brush roller on back that applies chemical to fresh-cut stubble.



A serrated scarifier under the deck scrapes bark from the cut stubble, opening even more of the stem to herbicide.

Pickup-Mounted Dump Box

Jim Jensen had three pickups equipped with bale loading arms. One day he got the idea of using one of the bale loaders to dump a cargo box.

"We had a gas tank that had been dug out of the ground so we cut it in two, welded a 2-in. pipe through it, and fastened it to the arms on the bale loader. When you lift the bale spear, it lifts and slides the tank backwards, to tip it off the back," says Jensen.

"It took only a short while to make and worked great," says Jensen. "It can haul about 2 yards of gravel or anything else you might want to haul and dump."

"We put a slide gate on back that you pull out to dump."



Jensen cut a gas tank in half, welded a 2-in. pipe through it, and fastened it to the arms on his pickup-mounted bale loader.

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When bale spear lifts, tank slides backward and tips off the rear.