

Lawn Mower Converted To Run On Propane

Ben Remmele's 21-in. Sears lawn mower quit working due to a fuel-related problem. Rather than throw the mower away, he decided to convert it to run on propane.

He removed the gas tank, then bought a propane bottle at Walmart and hooked it up to a regulator that he got off a camp stove. Then he hooked up a hose from the regulator to the engine's air intake.

"It was a cheap way to keep the mower going, and it burns cleaner than gas. I like the idea of cleaner air," says Remmele, who used the idea for the first time last summer on his Paradise, Texas home. "I used it two or three times last summer as an experiment. I paid \$2 apiece for the propane bottles and found that a bottle will operate the mower for about 45 minutes. My mower is equipped with a 5 hp engine. A mower with a smaller engine and a regulator of the correct size would probably run a lot longer per bottle.

"Propane is spill-proof which makes it cleaner to handle than gas. It also causes the mower to run a little quieter. And for some reason, the propane seems to give the mower more power so that it isn't as likely to plug



"It was a cheap way to keep my mower going, and it burns cleaner than gas," says Ben Remmele, who converted a mower to run on propane.

up in tall grass." Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ben Remmele, Box 497, Co. Rd. 3470, Paradise, Texas 76073 (ph 940 433-2673).

How To Use Tractor Attachments On A Skid Loader

Pto-driven, 3-pt. attachments designed for skid steer loaders cost much more than similar attachments for tractors. A new universal mounting plate for skid loaders is equipped with a hydraulic-driven pto that lets you use any pto-driven, Cat. 1 tractor attachment on a skid loader. The mounting plate can be used for both powered and non-powered attachments.

The "EZ-Pto" drive is equipped with quick hitch brackets and is designed to fit most skid loaders equipped with the standard Bobcat quick tach system.

Two models are available - one for loaders with up to 14 gpm flow rate and the other for loaders with up to 24 gpm flow rate, which

includes the Bobcat 500, 600, 700, and 800 series.

The company offers a number of attachments to fit the EZ-Pto drive including small backhoes, log splitters, tree shears, augers, snowblowers, mowers, manure pumps, etc. However, any pto-driven, 3-pt. attachment can be used.

"Some pto-driven 3-pt. implements for skid loaders cost 10 times as much as similar attachments for farm tractors," says Robert Leib, Skid Steer Solutions.com. "For example, a 3-pt. tractor snowblower may cost \$800 to \$1,500, but one with similar capacity for a skid loader might sell for up to \$6,000. Another advantage is that by mount-

Great Plains Drill Fitted With IH Markers

When John Rathjen, Fort Calhoun, Neb., needed markers for his Great Plains Drill, he turned to his neighbor for help. "I looked across the road and saw an old IH drum planter sitting there, complete with markers. I asked if I could buy it and he said I could have it for free. Mounting the markers on my drill was a bit more difficult than finding them, however," he says.

"The drill had been modified by SI Distributing of Ohio to use a new seed meter system which allows me to easily plant different size bean seed. But because of an outside drive sprocket, the normal mounting place for the markers is covered up. I needed to weld on different mounting plates and make sure the markers wouldn't interfere with the gears during raising and lowering.

"The IH markers were designed to be automatically controlled, but I just control them manually from the tractor," he says.

"Though I got mine from an old drum planter, I'm sure many different types of markers would have fit the drill. It might take a bit of work, but after-market markers can cost upwards of \$1,900."

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John Rathjen mounted the markers off an old IH drum planter on his Great Plains drill. "The IH markers were designed to be automatically controlled, but I just control them manually from the tractor," he says.

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Kent Durfee can pull his stock trailer with either a bumper hitch or a gooseneck hitch, thanks to the adapter he made for the trailer.

Adapter Turns Bumper Trailer Into Gooseneck

Kent Durfee, Almo, Idaho, can now pull his stock trailer from either a bumper hitch or with a gooseneck hitch, thanks to a gooseneck adapter he made for the trailer.

He built the frame for the adapter from 6 by 2-in. rectangular steel tubing. Three ball hitches hold the trailer firmly in the adapter. One of these fits over the trailer's original ball receiver.

The other two balls mount on either side near the front of the trailer. "I welded 1/2-in. steel plate to the trailer frame in the same position on both sides and mounted 2-in. balls

in these," he says. "This was the only change I made to the bumper trailer."

Two arms extending back from the gooseneck hitch frame on either side have receivers that fit over balls Durfee mounted on the trailer frame.

"The trailer handles like a regular gooseneck trailer, is extremely stable, and works very well, even with heavy loads," he says.

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ing the attachment up front you have a much better view."

Leib also offers the EZ-3-pt., which is not equipped with a pto, and a receiver hitch which bolts onto the universal mounting plate. It accepts any standard 2-in. hitch and allows you to install any ball size or pintle hitch.

Prices start at \$695 for the EZ-3 pt. and go up to \$1,495 for the EZ-pt drive.

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Universal mounting plate for skid loaders is equipped with a hydraulic-driven pto that lets you use any pto-driven, Cat. 1 tractor attachment on a skid loader.



"It's really handy for hauling a wide variety of materials," says James Vroman, who modified a conventional hydraulic-powered pallet jack to mount on his tractor.

3-Pt. Mounted Pallet Jack

"I like to handle material on pallets so I decided to use the 3-pt. on my tractor," says James Vroman, Monett, Mo., about the pallet fork he made out of an old hydraulic-powered pallet jack.

The pallet jack was originally equipped with a pair of wheels and a "lift axle" on back with single wheels on front. He cut off the jack handle and fashioned brackets to fit the top link. A pair of pins were welded into the sides of the pallet jack to fit the 3-pt.'s lower lift arms.

"I use it to carry pallets full of concrete blocks and even carry a cement mixer on it when I move from one site to another. I also use it to haul stacks of lumber. I have metal bins that I keep sand and gravel in whenever

I hand mix concrete. I use the pallet jack to pick up a bin and take it to the job site.

"On the next one I build I'll do one thing different. Before welding the two pins onto each side, I'll cut a piece of pipe all the way across and weld the pin onto each end. The pipe will help equalize the load.

"You can buy used pallet jacks cheap at auctions or junkyards. Often what happens is that the cylinder seals go bad and replacement ones aren't available, especially on imported models. That's what happened to the jack I used."

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