

Semi Tank Hauls Water, Liquid Fertilizer

"It's a fast, inexpensive way to haul water or liquid fertilizer to the field to fill sprayers. It holds two or three times as much water as the biggest commercial nurse tanks," says Keith Frohwein, Zearing, Iowa, about the semi tank he converted to haul 4,500 gal. of water. He pulls it with a 4-WD tractor.

Frohwein bought the tank for \$2,500 from a local trucking firm. The semi tank, originally designed to haul liquid fertilizer, loads from the top. A pump mounted outside the tank is used to pump the water or liquid fertilizer, both into and out of the tank.

A home-built "tow dolly", equipped with a fifth wheel, hitches to the tank. It lets Frohwein pull the big tank with a Deere 8640 245 hp tractor..

"We use it as a nurse tank when spraying chemicals and also to haul liquid nitrogen for sidedressing corn. We can spray 160 acres and move on to the next field before we have to refill. It also lets us buy liquid fertilizer by



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the semi tank load for volume discounts," notes Frohwein.

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Lyle Torstenson made this 8 by 12-ft., 8-ton wagon using galvanized sheet metal off an old continuous flow grain dryer and the steering axles off a pair of Deere 95 combines.

"Made-It-Myself" Grain Cart

Minnesota farmer Lyle Torstenson needed a wagon to haul grain on his farm near Dawson. But he couldn't justify the cost of a commercial-built wagon.

So he made his own 8 by 12-ft., 8-ton wagon, using galvanized sheet metal off an old continuous flow grain dryer and the steering axles off a pair of Deere 95 combines. The wagon is equipped with a hoist cylinder off another wagon. It dumps out the back.

"I paid \$45 apiece for the axles and \$40 for the hoist, which I bought used at an auction. My total cost was less than \$200," says Torstenson.

He connected the two combine axles with heavy steel tubing. Only the front axle actu-

ally steers. He removed the steering arm on the rear axle and fixed the wheels in place.

The wagon box that he put on was one he had already made years earlier. Wood 2 by 6's act as stringers for the box with 2 by 4 cross members. A local machine shop made vertical steel ribs that reinforce the sides of the wagon.

"I used the Deere 95 combine axles because they have 16-in. wheels with six-hole rims. These wheels are the same size as big pickup tires so they'll be easy to replace," notes Torstenson.

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Wagon is equipped with a hoist cylinder off another wagon. It dumps out the back.

Welded bolts separate "racks" on top of trailer's sides.



Trailer Converted To Haul Bales

If you own a 16-ft. or longer tandem axle trailer, you'll be interested in the low-cost conversion Lee Welden made to his trailer that lets him haul up to eight 4 by 5 round bales at a time.

"It cost less than \$200 to make, and I can remove it from the trailer in less than 10 minutes so that I can use the trailer for other jobs," says Welden.

The kit consists of three separate "racks" that bolt on top of the trailer's sides. The racks are made from 1 1/2 by 3/16-in. sq. tubing, with a length of 2-in. angle iron welded onto each end. A pair of vertical "stops" on each rack are welded to lengths of 3-in. channel iron that ride on the floor to support the weight of the bales. The vertical stops serve as a reference point when loading bales, and also relieve the trailer sides of the bales' added weight. Lengths of 2-in. angle irons are welded on horizontally between the stops to provide strength.

Welden cut the channel irons as long as possible so they span several of the angle iron supports under the trailer floor. The ends of the racks extend upward to serve as a brake for the bale when loading bales and pulling



Trailer can haul up to eight 4 by 5 round bales at a time.

back to remove the bale spike.

"My friend Jim Harber and I made this conversion in just one day," says Welden. "The racks carry six bales and you can load two more on top of them. By removing the racks you can haul square bales or anything else that you need to haul. Just be sure that your trailer and axles are rated to carry the weight," he notes.

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If you use an 8-row planter and have 11 rows left to plant in the field, you can shut off 5 row units on the next to last pass and then finish planting field using a full eight rows.

New Row Shut-Off For Air Planters

You can shut down any row on Deere air planters and other models with this new add-on kit that was developed by North Carolina farmers and built by Reddick Equipment Co., Williamston, N.C.

"It eliminates overlapping on point rows or odd rows at the edge of a field, saving seed and preventing yield reductions," says Swanson Graves.

The add-on unit, which attaches with 4 bolts, uses motorized ball valves in the air pressure or vacuum lines on the planter units to interrupt the airflow. A valve bolts onto each planter row unit and is plumbed into each air hose between the planter and the manifold. When the operator selects a row to shut down, the ball valve closes to restrict airflow so no seeds are picked up. Red indicator lights on a console in the cab come on whenever you shut off a row.

"It allows you to plant the exact number of rows required to make full use of the field," says Graves. "Other row shut-off units use a butterfly valve in the air manifold so they can only be used to shut off whole sections of the manifold. It comes in handy where you have a wide planter and you need to plant only a few rows to finish the field. It also allows you to shut off units in sequence as you plant up against angled or slanting point rows.

"You don't have to cut any hoses with this



Control box lets operator select rows to shut down. Red indicator lights show which rows are shut off.

system. If anything goes wrong with it, you just unhook our hose and reattach the original hose to the air manifold and you're ready to plant again."

Graves says the Row Control is designed for use with Deere MaxEmerge and MaxEmerge II and MaxEmerge Plus planters, as well as Deere's new 1720 model. However, he says it can also be modified for use on other air planters.

It's available for 8-, 12- and 16-row planters. "If you wanted to set it up so one switch controls two rows, you could use the 8-row unit on a 16-row planter," says Graves.

An 8-row model sells for \$2,835; 12-row, \$4,005; and 16-row, \$5,065.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Reddick Equipment Co., Inc., 1909 West Main St., Williamston, N.C. 27892 (ph 800 334-3388; fax 252 792-4913).