



Sliding auger support makes it possible to span 45 ft. without repositioning auger.

“Sliding Axle” Seed Fill Auger

You can fill the biggest planters and drills with Wenzinger Farms’ new portable seed auger. The auger makes it easy with its telescoping fill tube and side-to-side sliding support system. The auger itself is only 24 ft. long, but it has a reach of nearly twice that.

“With an 8 1/2-ft. axle and the three-section fill tube, we can reach both ends of a 45-ft. wide planter or drill without moving,” says Gerry Wenzinger, who with his son Robert designs and builds the augers. “We built our first one five years ago because we were tired of buckets and bags. Now we’re building them for sale. It makes a good winter project for us.”

What makes Wenzinger’s auger stand out from the competition is the sliding support mounted on 6 1/2, 7 1/2 or 8 1/2-ft. width axles. Instead of the auger support being fixed to the axle, it can slide sideways. Add the optional three-section fill tube instead of the standard two-section tube, and the span extends to the full 45 ft.

“As far as we know, we’re the only ones who build a portable auger that slides on the axle,” says Wenzinger.

Wenzinger’s basic auger sells for \$3,200, considerably less than swinging augers. Other attractive features about the auger include the stainless steel tube, making the auger fertilizer friendly, and ease of transport. The auger is also equipped with a large swiveling hopper and can be powered from a tractor’s hydraulic system or with a stand-alone Buckeye Hydraulics Auger Mate, an 8 hp engine with hydraulic pump. An added option is an electric solenoid valve for remote control, especially handy for use when filling larger equipment with multiple seed boxes.

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Marion Schultz stretched out his Case 446 tractor, adding a passenger seat and a hydraulic-operated dump box on back.

Stretched Case Makes Handy 4-Wheeler

Why pay big bucks for a utility vehicle when you can make one out of an old garden tractor and spare parts? Marion Schultz wanted something to ride around in at farm shows and flea markets and also use around the farm. His Case 446 had high and low range and could travel at speeds up to 10 mph, which is plenty for a chore vehicle.

“Since it was hydrostatic drive to begin with, all I had to do was lengthen the frame two feet,” says Schultz. “I also lengthened the hydraulic hoses to reach the hydraulic motors in the rear axle.”

Schultz added a passenger seat beside the operator’s seat. He also picked up two wider rear tires at a garage sale.

“I had to make 2-in. wide spacers to go

between the rear axle flange and the wheel centers so the new tires could clear the hydraulic drive motors,” notes Schultz.

Another big change to the garden tractor was to rework the hydraulic lift for the belly mower deck. Schultz moved the lift, which was controlled by the same two-spool valve that controlled the hydrostatic drive, around to the rear of the tractor.

“I built a 2 by 3-ft. dump box on the rear. I use the lift mechanism on that,” says Schultz. “It’s handy for running parts, and my daughter likes it for landscaping and gardening.”

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Portable Calf Gazebo Makes Feeding Easy

Calf huts are easy to move to clean ground for healthier calves. However, feeding those calves in bad weather is anything but easy. Now N-Tech/NTH, Inc. has a new option that is good for calf and worker alike. They call it a calf gazebo.

“It’s a round calf barn that sets up quickly and can be moved even quicker,” says Clint Nesseseth.

The 24-ft. dia. structure has 11 pens, and the 30-ft. structure has 19 pens. Each pen is shaped like a piece of pie - 5 1/2 ft. wide at the wide end, 7 ft. long and 2 1/2 ft. wide at the center. Space in the center is left for a feeding and working area and one pie space is left empty as an alley for the worker to reach the center work area.

Nesseseth got the idea after ordering a 60-ft. dia. enclosed pen for working horses. However, after spending 2 1/2 weeks with a crew to erect the circular pen, he was determined to make his calf barns simple to erect. He succeeded. The key is a center core that serves as both structural hub and ventilation chimney.

“You lay out the central core on the ground and attach steel rafters and braces to the core and in turn hinge legs to the rafters,” explains Nesseseth. “The entire frame is assembled on the ground.”

A translucent fabric roof is attached over the top along with an adjustable cover to the chimney/core. At that point the approxi-

mately one-ton structure can be lifted into place by a boom on a tractor loader.

As the center core is lifted up, the legs swing into place. Bolts lock each leg joint. Pegs are driven in the ground, one to either side of each leg, to lock it in place. Removable panels attach to the legs on the outside and on the inside to form the pens. Side panels that can be raised or lowered as needed are added. Customers can choose from hard plastic panels or heavy plastic mesh.

“To move the structure to fresh ground, just pull out the pegs, hook on the boom, lift it up and go,” says Nesseseth. “The pens stay in place.”

Nesseseth took prototypes to several farm shows before starting production on a final design. He knew he was on to something when he began getting positive feedback from farm wives who usually do the feeding.

“One guy looked at it and said, ‘I sure hope my wife doesn’t see this’, while others said, ‘I have to get one of these for my wife,’” recalls Nesseseth. “We got lots of good suggestions that we worked into the final design.”

Nesseseth says the smaller 11-calf unit is priced at about \$6,000, while the larger unit is priced at about \$8,000.

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Calf gazebo is a round calf barn that sets up quickly and can be moved even quicker.



The 24-ft. dia. model has 11 pens. A larger 30-ft. model has 19 pens. Space is left at the center for a feeding and working area.