

Bale Carrier Built From Old School Bus

Milo Sayler, Menno, S. Dak., farmer and inventor, converted an old school bus into an 18 bale capacity round bale carrier.

First, he stripped the bus down to its chassis, leaving a 6 ft. wide, 31 ft. long frame.

Around the outside of the chassis, he welded on an outer frame that makes the trailer 11 ft. wide and gives the unit extra strength. The extended frame is made of 1½ in. by 2 in. tubing. Across the frame he welded on 2 in. by 4 in. square tubing on which the bales sit. A support bar runs the length of the chassis under the crossbars to keep them from spreading.

The trailer holds 18, 5 ft. by 6 ft. (1400 lb.) round bales. Ten bales make up the bottom layer, and eight bales the top layer.

Sayler notes that, for loading and unloading, a second tractor is needed. "It takes about a 70 hp. tractor to pull a load of 18



bales. I also built a 6 bale model that uses only the bus chassis but doesn't have the extended frame," Sayler told FARM SHOW.

The trailer has six 8.25 truck tires, two in front and duals in the back. It's equipped with a Sayler-invented telescoping hitch.

The sliding hitch's outer frame is made of 3 in. by 4 in. tubing while the inner portion is 2½ in. by 3½ in. tubing. To unlock the hitch, you simply lift up on the lever and pull the tongue out. It automatically locks when the tongue pushes back in.

Sayler figures the cost of the 18 bale carrier would be about \$2,300 while the 6 bale model would be near \$1,050.

Price includes the bus cost.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sayler Mfg., Menno, S. Dak. 57045 (ph 605 387-2847).

Tile Aerates Grain, Hay

"It's inexpensive yet extremely effective for storing wet grain or hay," says Lorne Henderson, Brinston, Ont. about his method of keeping moist grain or hay in good condition in storage.

Henderson first used the idea for grain. He runs 4 in. perforated plastic drain tile through his stored grain near the bottom and pumps air through it with an 18-in. fan. He says the idea worked so well that last year, when he had trouble getting his early hay dry, he used the same fan connected to about 200 ft. of tile through his hay mow, with about 4 tiers of bales underneath

and 10 to 12 above the tile. He says the idea kept bales from spoiling and brought them down to the correct moisture level. He also notes that air flow in hay helps eliminate the danger of hot spots developing.

(Editor's Note: At least one drainage tile company, Advanced Drainage Systems, Columbus, Ohio, is offering corrugated polyethylene tubing, similar to field tile, in sizes from 10 to 24 in. for aerating grain. Contact: ADS Inc., Dept. FSF, 3300 Riverside Dr., Box 21307, Columbus, Ohio 43221.)



Handy Tractor Loader

My tractor loader used to be mounted on an Oliver "77". The tractor had no power steering so, when the bucket was full, it was almost impossible to steer. When clearing snow out of my driveway, there were many times I would have to dump the load and take a smaller bite because the rear wheels did not have enough traction to pull back. And, because the loader was on the tractor, the tractor was also unhandy for other jobs around the farm.

To solve my problem, I took an old 4-wheel drive army truck chassis, replaced the 20-in. wheels with 24-in. IH combine wheels and then reversed the rear axle so it would go forward in the opposite direction. That way, the load isn't on the steering part of the converted truck. I

mounted the loader on the truck frame, and coupled the hydraulic pump to the front crankshaft so I would have a live pto. I used a 6-cyl. Chevrolet engine with powerglide transmission coupled to a 4-speed truck transmission that was intact, coupled to the 2-speed transfer case of the army truck. This gave me all the speed options I need. I then outfitted the loader with a 1948 Jeep cab to give me an all-weather loader.

I have used the machine since 1968 with very few problems. If interested readers will send me a self-addressed stamped envelope, I'll try to answer any questions they may have.

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This Combine's A Tractor

Rather than retire his old John Deere 45 combine to a junk yard, Butch Uhnken, of Jacksonville, Ill., turned the old machine into a tractor that runs as well as any other workhorse on his farm.

To make the conversion, Uhnken first stripped the big machine of all tin, augers and other unneeded equipment. He then reversed the axle and controls so the machine would head in the opposite direction, and mounted the engine lengthwise on the chassis.

"It works great," says Uhnken. "We've mounted a highway-type mower on it and use it for all our farm mowing. It has live hydraulics but no pto."

The conversion didn't cost Uhnken a cent and actually saves him money every time he doesn't have to use one of his other tractors to do his mowing.

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