

FARM SHOW

For everyone in agriculture interested in latest new products. Carries no advertising!

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ONE FOR ROUND BALES, ONE FOR SQUARE BALES

He "Self-Propelled" His Two Hay Balers



Doepel built the power unit for the round baler (top photo) with the cab, diesel engine, wheels, tires and steering from an IH 815 combine. The self-propelled square baler (bottom) is powered by an IH combine and a forklift drive system.

By Bill Gergen, Associate Editor

Paul Doepel, Ponca City, Okla., "self-propelled" his square and round pull-type balers by hooking them up to independent power units complete with hydrostatic steering, air conditioning, and cabs, saving the cost of a new tractor while adding comfort and convenience.

Doepel built the self-propelled square baler a year ago and the self-propelled round baler last winter. "The old 65 hp Case 830 tractor I had been farming with worked fine for pulling my Deere square baler, but it could barely pull my Deere 530 round baler. I needed to use both balers at the same time so I converted the pull-type square baler to a self-propelled model. It worked so well I also converted my round baler. Now my tractor is free to use on the rest of my farm. I spent about \$5,000 to build each rig not including labor whereas a good used tractor with a cab would've cost at least \$10,000. Both balers are more comfortable to operate than pull-type models because they're equipped with hydrostatic steering, air conditioning and cabs. It's also a lot easier to find hired help to drive them."

Doepel built the power unit for the round baler with the cab, diesel engine, wheels, tires and hydrostatic steering unit from a 1976 International Harvester 815.

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