

FARM SHOW

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

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CONVERTED TRACTOR RUNS ON FOUR POWERED BELTS

New "Tracked Tractor" Is The Ultimate Floater



Kelderman's conversion system turns a conventional 4-WD tractor into an extremely maneuverable 4-tracked tractor that exerts even less pressure per square inch than Caterpillar's rubber-tracked Challenger tractor, virtually eliminating compaction.

By Bill Gergen, Associate Editor

"It practically eliminates compaction and walks right through even the muddiest fields," says Gary Kelderman, Kelderman Mfg., Oskaloosa, Iowa, who converted a conventional Ford 9764-WD tractor to run on four sets of belted rubber tracks.

Kelderman's prototype, unveiled at the recent Farm Progress Show in Illinois, got lots of close looks from farmers and others who foresee exciting applications for this first-of-its-kind track conversion system. The tractor's original drive axles are used to power the tracks and the tractor frame was lengthened 5 ft. for mounting a tank or hopper on top.

"The 360 hp tractor has a 12-speed powershift transmission and articulated steering. The four tracks provide almost twice as much flotation as two tracks," says Kelderman. "They work great for moving big loads through wet spots without getting stuck and without tearing up the field. The tracks are 35 in. wide and 12 ft. long and exert just 2.8 lbs. per sq. ft., which is 3 to 5 times less than any conventional floater applicator on the market and only about half the pressure exerted by Caterpillar's Challenger."

Kelderman's first use for the new belted
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