

Pressure Washer Brace Reduces Hand Fatigue

Operating a pressure washer for any length of time can result in a tingling or numbness in your hand. This new spring-loaded pressure washer arm brace is designed to solve the problem by holding the gun trigger in a locked-on position.

It consists of a pair of Velcro straps with a double-hinged stainless steel brace. One end of the brace has a spring-loaded clip that holds the trigger in a locked-on position.

"It eliminates the need to hold the trigger down all the time, yet still gives you complete control of the wand. It's much safer than tying the wand into place with tape or wire," says inventor Tom Crossley, Russellville, Ky. "And with the added support from the double-

hinged arm piece and Velcro, it can take away some of the back pressure from the wand as well, which reduces arm and wrist fatigue. The double-hinged brace lets you move your wrist freely left or right at all times.

"Because the brace is spring-loaded you can engage and disengage the pressure washer in about the same time it would take you to pull the trigger on the wand."

Sells for \$45 plus S&H.
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom Crossley, 4870 Halls Store Rd., Russellville, Ky. 42276 (ph 270 772-4224; tomcrossley@pressurewasherbraces.com; www.pressurewasherbraces.com).



Spring-loaded pressure washer arm brace holds pressure washer's gun trigger in a locked-on position.



Glenn Fisher pulls his 4-wheeled, self-powered "trail-a-mower" behind his IH Cub 15 hp garden tractor.

"Self-Powered" 60-In. Mower

Glenn Fisher, Homer, Ga., came up with an easy way to get power to a big 60-in. mower by building a "self-powered" model using the front half of an old riding mower and a 60-in. Woods mower deck.

He pulls his 4-wheeled "trail-a-mower", as he calls it, behind his IH Cub 70 15 hp tractor but says it could be pulled behind any garden tractor or ATV.

The 60-in. deck bolts to the underside of the riding mower, which faces backward. The deck's 3 blades are belt-driven off the riding mower's Briggs & Stratton 11 hp, electric start engine. A trailer coupling welded to the deck matches up with a homemade hitch with a 2-in. ball on the 3-pt.'s lower lift arms. The riding mower's original clutch is used to activate the drive belt on the mower.

"I've been using it for years to mow my 2-acre lawn. It works great," says Fisher. "I got the idea from a FARM SHOW story (Vol. 16, No. 5). The mower deck was originally belly-mounted on the tractor, but the tractor lacked enough power to operate it. I later found there was a mechanical problem with the tractor that caused it to lose power under load, but by that time, I had already converted the mower to a pull-type model. However, I actually prefer the pull-type model because I can quickly remove it from the 3-pt. hitch and use the tractor for other jobs."

Fisher cut off the riding mower's rear wheels and axle, seat and steering wheel, then welded lengths of angle iron onto the deck and bolted it to the underside of the riding mower's frame. The engine belt-drives the mower deck's 3 blades. The mower's original caster wheels are still used to help support the deck. He also replaced the riding mower's original 6-volt battery with a 12-volt car battery, mounting the battery in a metal



A 60-in. Woods mower deck bolts to underside of tractor, which faces backward.

box that's bolted onto the mower deck.

"I can loosen 4 bolts on the deck mounting system to move the deck forward or backward as the drive belt loosens with age.

"It was surprisingly easy to put together," says Fisher. "The tractor has a float setting for the 3-pt. hitch and the mower just follows along on its 4 wheels. To adjust the deck height I just reposition a couple of bolts. If I drive over uneven ground or see a rock coming up, I can raise the 3-pt. to lift the front part of the deck off the ground and go over the rock without stopping.

"During the summer I like to cut grass at night when the weather is cooler. I mounted halogen lights on the Cub tractor's fender to shine backward, and together with the riding mower's lights I can see forever."

To sharpen the mower's blades Fisher says he blocks the riding mower's wheels and then raises the 3-pt. as high as it will go, until the deck is almost vertical.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, J. Glenn Fisher, Jr., 751 Boling Rd., Homer, Ga. 30547 (ph 423 364-0158).

Electronic Pto Kit For Deere 9000 Series Tractors

Anyone who owns a Deere 9000 or 9020 series tractor will be interested in this new electronic pto kit, which lets you engage the tractor pto by simply pushing a button on the tractor seat's armrest.

The kit consists of an electronic actuator that mounts on back of the tractor to existing linkage that engages the pto, and a wiring harness that plugs into auxiliary outlets on the tractor. It was invented by a service technician who works for Brian Jacobs at Reynolds Farm Equipment, a Deere dealer in Fishers, Ind.

"It works just like the pto-engaging system already found on Deere 8000 and 9030 series tractors," says Jacobs. "Normally, to engage the pto you have to reach all the way forward to a lever located in the upper right corner of the cab. It's hard to engage the unloading auger on a grain wagon while trying to twist around to see behind you to make sure the area is clear at the same time. With our kit you just turn around and look back, then press the switch on the seat armrest."

Sells for \$899 plus S&H. Includes all hardware and instructions.

The company also sells a new "ladder swing kit" that's designed to fit all Deere 9000 series combines. It lets you swing the ladder in or out by pressing a button on the combine seat's armrest, without having to leave the cab.

"Without this kit you have to open the cab door and step on a mechanical latch, then physically ride the ladder around and lock it in place. Meanwhile the door is open so you then have to go back into a dusty cab," says Jacobs.

The kit consists of an electronic actuator that operates off the combine's battery, and a wiring harness that plugs into auxiliary outlets on the combine. The actuator bolts to the bottom of the ladder and requires drilling 1 hole in the bottom of the ladder and 3 holes in a step already on the combine.

Sells for \$599 plus S&H. Includes all hardware and instructions.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brian Jacobs, Reynolds Farm Equipment, 12501 Reynolds Drive, Fishers, Ind. 46038 (ph 800 382-9038; bjacobs@rfemail.com).



Welded-on safety chain keeps wedge from flying up after being hit.

He Adds Safety Chains To Splitting Wedges

Charles Graling doesn't know how many wedges he's lost over the years. But recently he became more concerned when one flew up and cut his ear and another hit him in the shinbone.

He knew he had to find a safer way. "So I put a chain on it," says Graling.

Adding a chain was easy since the Spring Valley, Minn., firewood cutter recycles old axe heads and splitting mauls as wedges. He simply welded 2 to 3-ft. pieces of old log or

tire chain by slipping a loop of chain in the handle opening and welding it in place.

The weight of the chain is enough to keep the wedge from flying too far. Just experiment with the length, he says.

Since adding chains, he hasn't lost any wedges or been hit.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Charles Graling, 19396 166th St., Spring Valley, Minn. 55975 (ph 507 951-1884).