

## Tow-Behind, Remote-Controlled Lawn Mower Deck

"It provides an economical way to reduce mowing time by nearly half when towed behind another mower. All operations of the pull-behind mower are controlled from the vehicle pulling it," says Matt Schueller, Redwood Falls, Minn., about his variable-width, offset mower that's designed to be pulled by a mower, 4-wheeler or utility tractor.

He showed the vari-width mower at the recent Minnesota Inventors Congress, pulled behind a Badboy diesel riding mower equipped with a 35 hp Cat engine and a 72-in. deck. The mower is powered by a 29 hp engine and rides on large 26-in. high, 12-in. wide tires. An electric actuator operated by remote control is used to move the mower off to the side. The operator also uses the remote control to start the engine, raise and lower the deck, engage and disengage the blades, and adjust the throttle. By pulling 2 pins you can flip the hitch upside down and switch the mower to the opposite side.

"It turns your riding mower, utility tractor or ATV into a commercial mower," says Schueller. "Being able to remote control all functions of the pull-behind mower keeps the

operator safely away from blades and results in less time getting on and off the tow vehicle to make adjustments.

"Because of the big engine and large tires, you can pull the mower at speeds up to 12 mph on a regular lawn. In most cases even large commercial mowers can't mow that fast. The large tires also result in a better ride and cut quality. It leaves a nice finish cut in manicured lawns, and because the deck is 5 in. deep you can also use it as a brush cutter in tall, overgrown grass. It's equipped with a large 11-gal. fuel tank which results in less stopping for fuel.

"We came up with the idea because we were mowing 3 large yards and we help mow a local cemetery. When we looked at other mowers on the market, they weren't built heavy enough and didn't have the features we wanted. We feel that farmers with grass runways or just large yards and roadsides will find this mower economical."

Sells for \$5,000 to \$10,000 depending on options and size. Schueller says he can custom-build the mower to meet the customer's needs.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,



Variable-width, offset mower is designed to be pulled by a riding mower, 4-wheeler or utility tractor. All operations are remote-controlled from the vehicle pulling it.

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## Mower Deck Mounts On Front Of ATV

Gale Wells, Orland, Calif., didn't want to use a conventional riding mower on the steep slopes around his mountain cabin. So, he mounted a 36-in. deck off a Deere riding mower on front of his Suzuki 4-WD ATV, adding an 8 hp Briggs & Stratton engine to power it.

"My 4-WD ATV can climb hills and turn, even on steep ground, without tipping over. If it can climb the hill, it'll mow it," says Wells.

The trick was getting the mower deck to pivot up or down and also side to side so it would cut evenly. "Even if the ATV leans one way and the mower the other way, or if the ATV drives up and down over bumpy ground, the mower deck can flex enough that it'll always stay in contact with the ground," says Wells.

The deck hangs from a frame made from 1 1/2-in. sq. tubing that attaches to the ATV. It can pivot up or down on a pair of metal arms spaced 18 in. apart, which attach to the

ATV with cotter pins. The deck blades are activated by pulling a belt tensioning lever on one side of the deck. Another lever is used to raise and lower the deck. Mowing height can be adjusted from 1 to 4 in.

Wells added a pair of 8-in. caster wheels on front of the deck frame and 5-in. high wheels on back of the deck. The rear wheels are "donut shaped" which allows them to slip sideways on sharp turns.

"I mounted the mower on front because I have arthritis and can't turn back all the time. With a front-mount mower I have a great view and can get as close as possible to trees, shrubs, and buildings.

"I use an electric winch to raise the deck for transport. If I could do it over I'd use a 48-in. deck, which is the width of my ATV."

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Gale Wells mounted a 36-in. deck off a Deere riding mower on front of his Suzuki 4-WD ATV, adding an 8 hp Briggs & Stratton engine to power it.



Steve Nichols' homemade box scraper, complete with scarifier shanks, is designed to be pulled behind a garden tractor.

## Garden Tractor Driveway Leveler

"I made a box scraper with scarifier shanks from material I had around the farm. It has saved me from having to buy many tons of gravel for my driveway," says Steve Nichols, Galesburg, Ill.

"I've seen levelers somewhat like this made for tractor 3-pt. hitches, but I've never seen one made to be pulled from the drawbar on a garden tractor.

"The hitch is adjustable for various height drawbars and the guide wheels adjust for various depths of cut. The scarifier shanks

can be pinned up into the transport position, as shown in these photos.

"This leveler started off as a Brinly cultivator. I mounted a heavy cutting blade from a big snowplow and mounted the shanks on a crossbar. It brings rocks back up to the surface and levels the low spots that become puddles."

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Jim Rogers made this skid-mounted hunting blind by wrapping metal siding around big bale feeder rings sitting on their sides.

## Hunting Blind Looks Like A Round Bale

"Deere and turkeys walk right up and feed next to it with no fear," says Jim Rogers, Lelo, Kan., about the skid-mounted hunting blind he made by wrapping metal siding around big bale feeder rings sitting on their sides.

"I used siding from a junked mobile home and painted it tan. Openings on either side are covered by burlap sacks on a rod so they can be moved side to side for shooting. The

blind is big enough for two grown men and can be quickly moved from place to place with pallet forks.

"It looks like a big round bale of hay from a distance. I was amazed at how well it works," says Rogers.

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