Rugged snowblower has its own 16 or 23-hp. motor.

Snow Blower For Skid-Steer Loaders

New from Sheldon Farm Service, Sheldon, Iowa, is a snow blower specifically designed for most makes of skid-steer loaders.

It's available in four models (48 to 62 in. width) and is powered by its own 16 or 23 hp gas engine which is factory sealed to fully protect it from snow without requiring any additional protective cover.

Key features include a large manually-adjusted discharge spout (hydraulic control optional), a narrow 48 in. wide model which is tailor-made for custom cleaning snow from city sidewalks, excellent driver visibility, and cab-operated electrical controls.

The 54 in. model sells for $2,950 with a 16 hp engine, and $3,950 with a 23 hp engine.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sheldon Farm Service, Box 147, Highway 18 East, Sheldon, Iowa 51201 (ph 712 324-5114).

"Safety Probe" Helps Prevent Major Repairs

"There's no early warning device on enclosed gearboxes or hydraulic systems and yet, gears and bearings usually deposit metal particles in the oil long before complete breakdown occurs," says Thomas Pugh, Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia, who's come up with a magnetic plug for sealed mechanical systems that sets off an alarm when enough metal is collected by his magnetic plug.

Pugh worked for years as a service manager on large heavy equipment and noticed that most of the more expensive repairs were caused by assemblies that were fully enclosed and running in oil, such as transmissions, differentials, hydraulic systems, and so on. "The first real indication of trouble is usually complete failure," he says. "It didn't make sense that there wasn't an early warning system."

He notes that magnetic drain plugs are used commonly but that they only collect loose metallic particles. Since nobody knows what the drain plug has collected until the oil or grease is changed, magnetic plugs do little to prevent breakdown.

Pugh's plug collects particles on a continuous basis and, after collecting a preset amount of cuttings, activates a warning light on the instrument panel. The operator doesn't have to stop immediately but should check as soon as possible to see what the unit has collected.

"The Saf-T-Probe is not as necessary in engines as in other gear or hydraulic components. While the engine has regular oil changes and oil filters, other components are mostly forgotten about except to check the oil level. Also, most engine wear parts are non-ferrous metals, such as copper and aluminum, and are not as subject to problems as metallic gears and bearings," says Pugh.

The probes are made with different sensitivities for different applications. Pugh is currently looking for a manufacturer but says the plug is so simple it could be made in most any machine shop. He is interested in licensing the process or will build the units himself for interested buyers. He says they should sell for less than $100.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Thomas H. Pugh, P.O. Box 134, Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia BOK 1VO (ph 902 657-2435).

CONSTANT LUBRICATION THAT RUNS WHEN THE MACHINE DOES

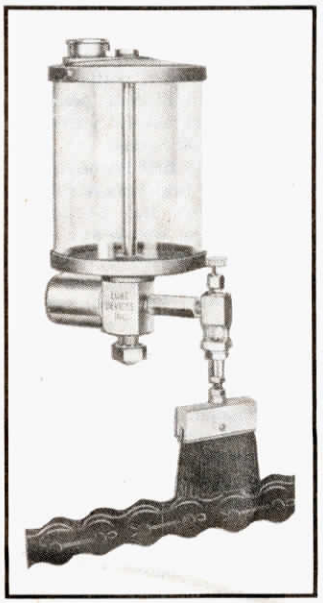
Continuous Oilers For Sprockets, Chains

"The chains and sprockets on our machinery run clean and smooth with almost no wear," says John Westerberg, Eckley, Colo., who mounts electrically-activated solenoid drippers or brushes on his machinery. He was recently the winner in a contest sponsored by Ciba-Geigy for money and labor-saving ideas.

"We were constantly replacing both chains and sprockets on our combine until we installed a 2-gal. oil reservoir with an electric-activated dripper which is wired directly to the switch key. Turning the key energizes the solenoid and a fresh supply of oil drips constantly onto the chains and sprockets. Filling the reservoir takes far less time than continually spraying the chains. The machine operates more smoothly and is quieter. Chain and sprocket life is extended some four or more times normal expectation and adjustments are seldom needed," says Westerberg, noting that he has installed similar drippers on his irrigation wells with 100-hp. motors.

The automatic oilers, which he buys from Lube Devices Inc., Manitowoc, Wis., can be mounted most anywhere and come in a variety of shapes and sizes. You can use drain oil in them, adding a bit of graphite powder, if available, to enhance its effectiveness. If a machine has no electrical source of supply, manually-operated drippers are also available.

"It has drastically cut our machinery maintenance. Once installed, you wonder how you ever got along without them," he says.



John Westerberg says automatic oilers "virtually eliminate" maintenance on chains and sprockets.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lube Devices, Inc., P.O. Box 450, Manitowoc, Wis. 54220 (ph 414 682-6877).

"Shockstop" For Electric Fences

A handy new tool introduced by Gallagher Electronics allows you to turn electric fence on and off at any point along the fenceline.

Called Shockstop, it works in conjunction with a control unit which sits alongside the regular 110V controller. You simply clip the pocket-size Shockstop to the hot wire and it sends a signal back to headquarters to turn the controller on or off. For example, suppose you're many miles from headquarters and discover a broken hot wire. The Shockstop allows you to turn the power completely off right on the spot while you correct the problem, and turn it on again when you've made the repair.

The hand-held unit also works as a tester to tell, via neon lights, if there is current going through an electric fence.

Clip Shockstop to the wire and the controller turns off.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Snell Systems, P.O. Box 17769, San Antonio, Texas 78217 (ph 512 494-5211).