



Larry Wood powered the chute on his front-mount snowblower using an old 12-volt cordless drill that mounts vertically in a bracket on back of blower.

Cordless Drill Powers Snowblower Chute

"It was an easy project to do and only cost about \$20," says Larry Wood, who powers the chute on his front-mount snowblower using an old 12-volt cordless drill.

He used the idea on his Deere 455 lawn tractor equipped with a cab. The conversion lets him rotate the blower's chute in either direction by pushing a button on the dash.

He started with an old 12-volt drill with a bad battery. "I removed the trigger switch from the drill and mounted it on the dash, then wired it into the tractor's 12-volt system. I ran a 2-wire cord to the front of the tractor and added a 2-wire plug for use when removing the blower."

He then mounted the drill vertically in a bracket on back of the blower. "I used a 16-

in. length of 2-in. angle iron with a hole in one end for a swivel, and a slotted hole in the other end for a lock bolt that allows the belt to be tightened. Using hose clamps I fastened the drill to the angle iron, and then inserted a 1/2-in. bolt through a 2-in. V-belt pulley. The bolt fits into the drill chuck and holds the pulley.

"The last step was to remove the snowblower's old hand crank system and then install a belt that goes around the chute and back to the pulley."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry Wood, 2081 Newmans Cardington Rd. E., Waldo, Ohio 43356 (ph 740-726-2656; Lawpressman@aol.com).



Home-built bridge hitch allows Glenn Coville to pull his 7-ft. wide grain drill behind a 3-pt. mounted rototiller, eliminating a separate pass.

"Leap Frog" Hitch Pulls Grain Drill Behind Rototiller

Glenn Coville, Craftsbury, Alaska, built a bridge hitch to pull a 7-ft. wide grain drill behind a 3-pt. mounted rototiller.

The bridge hitch, made from steel tubing and flat metal, "leapfrogs" over the top of the rototiller and bolts to the grain drill's tongue. A steel pin goes through the back end of the hitch, allowing the drill to pivot up or down on uneven ground.

The front end of the bridge hitch attaches to both the rototiller and to the tractor's 3-pt. hitch. A hydraulic cylinder is used to raise and lower the hitch and rototiller together. Hydraulic hoses from the tractor run back to the drill to raise it up or down.

"I use my Massey Ferguson 82 hp tractor to pull it. It lets me till and seed in one pass, which saves time and keeps my tractor from

compacting the freshly tilled soil," says Coville. "I used the setup last spring to reseed pastures and hay fields on about 30 acres with no problems. It's a slow moving operation, but that's okay because it saves me a second pass. The rototiller is wide enough to cover the tractor's tire tracks.

"I raise the rototiller and hitch together when I turn at the end of the field. The drill has a long tongue so I can turn fairly sharp. The rototiller weighs almost 2,000 lbs., and with the weight of the bridge hitch it puts a lot of weight on back of the tractor."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Glenn Coville, 1748 Wild Branch Rd., Craftsbury, Vt. 05826 (ph 802 586-8022; glenncoville@gmail.com).



Bridge hitch "leapfrogs" over top of rototiller and bolts to grain drill's tongue.



"It makes a solid shelter that keeps our bedding and cattle dry," says Mel Durr, who converted an old 1,500-bu. steel grain bin into this handy calf shelter.

Grain Bin Converted To Handy Calf Shelter

Mel Durr, Hilda, Alberta, decided an old 1,500-bu. steel grain bin would make a neat calf shelter. It's 14 ft. wide and 17 ft. deep with a 7-ft. high opening.

"It makes a solid shelter that will keep our bedding and cattle dry for many years," he says.

He used zip cut blades to cut around the top and bottom of the bin, then removed the roof and floor and cut the remaining bin in half to make 2 identical half circles. He used 4-in. dia. pipe to build frames and set the 2

half circles over them. Metal brackets welded onto the frame bolt to the bin walls. He also closed in the back side of the structure with wood planks.

"I didn't close the back side in to solid because I wanted plenty of air movement so the cattle won't overheat," says Durr, noting that the pipe frame also serves as a skid to move the unit wherever it's needed.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mel Durr, P.O. Box 99, Hilda, Alberta, Canada T0J 1R0 (ph 403 838-2263).



Electric-powered "lift gate" attaches to pickup's receiver hitch to load or unload up to 1,000 lbs. by pressing a button.

Removable "Lift Gate" For Pickups

"Our new removable LiftGator fits directly into your pickup's receiver hitch and lets you load or unload up to 1,000 lbs. by pressing a button. "You have a lift gate when you need it, and you get your truck back when you don't," says Justin Russo about his company's new LiftGator. It was introduced at the recent World Ag Expo near Tulare, Calif.

The electric-powered LiftGator rides on 4 small rubber wheels and operates off the pickup battery. It consists of a 4-ft. sq. aluminum platform that folds out and lowers to the ground. A pair of telescoping metal support posts provide support.

The operator uses a dolly or cart to load an object onto the platform, then presses a button to lift the platform up to the level of the

pickup bed. The platform can then be folded back up and the legs retracted, allowing you to drive the pickup with the tailgate installed. Or, you can remove the LiftGator from the receiver hitch and re-install the pickup's original tailgate.

"It's built strong enough to support tools such as air compressors, welders, and generators. There's no need to modify the pickup at all," says Russo.

The LiftGator sells for \$2,995 plus S&H. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Justin Russo, Superior Solutions Mfg., 955 Morro St., San Luis Obispo, Calif. 93401 (ph 805 448-7183; Justin@LiftGator.com; www.liftgator.com).