

“Grooving Gun” Boosts Traction On Worn Tires

“Our new grooving gun is designed to boost traction on worn tires,” says Rich Ilg, Nextire Inc., Roseville, Mich.

The grooving gun operates on 110 volts and heats a durable horseshoe-shaped razor blade. Pushing the blade across the tire creates a groove that can be anywhere from 1/16 in. to 1 in. wide and up to 1 in. deep.

Nextire designed the grooving gun primarily for solid rubber skid steer and forklift tires. “Grooving can give solid rubber tires about 20 percent more traction life,” says Ilg. “Most manufacturers of solid tires put a wear bar anywhere from 33 to 66 percent below the traction depth, which means the tire will run smooth for almost half its life. However, when skid loader or forklift tires wear down that far most farmers get frustrated with the lack of traction the tires provide and buy new ones.”

He says the grooving gun gives you traction for the full life of the tire. “You can groove your tires to keep them going through the winter, and then maybe re-groove them again the next fall. The sharp groove edges on the tire have much more bite than a worn tread bar and can vastly improve a tire’s traction.”

The grooving gun is equipped with 2

knobs. One has numerical settings from 1 to 4 that indicate the depth of cut, and the other has a high-low setting that works similar to a high-low transmission range. The combination can result in 8 different temperature settings. “If you’re grooving a tire and see smoke, you’re going too slow or have the setting too high,” says Ilg.

He says it takes about a half hour to groove a skid loader tire with 18 to 21 1-in. wide cuts across the face of the tire to a 1-in. depth.

He recommends keeping the tire on the vehicle during the grooving process in order to keep the tire stable. “You want to make sure the tire doesn’t ‘dance’ as you go across it with the gun. You can draw template lines across the tire to guide your cut, or if the tire isn’t worn completely down you can just follow what’s left of the tread. You should be able to cut grooves to the depth of the wear bar that’s molded into the side of most tires.”

The grooving gun sells for \$500; a package of 12 blades sells for \$25. “A package of 12 blades usually allows you to regroove a set of tires 2 to 4 times,” says Ilg.

He recommends weighing the cost of a grooving gun against the hassle and downtime of having your tires grooved in town. “It can easily cost \$300 to \$500 to have



Nextire grooving gun heats a horseshoe-shaped razor blade that creates grooves in tire up to 1-in. wide and 1-in. deep.

your local dealer groove a set of four 10 by 16.5 skid loader tires,” says Ilg. “Most people can get anywhere from 500 to 800 more hours out of a grooved tire. That can extend the life of the tires by 6 months to 2 years, depending on how much you use them.”

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Tow-Behind “Super Scooper” Cleans Up Pastures

Anyone who has spent time cleaning up horse manure with a shovel and wheelbarrow will like this new “Super Scooper” invented in Australia. It’s designed to be pulled behind any garden tractor or 4-wheeler.

“It rides like a sled across the ground to pick up manure, and then easily converts to a trailer for transport to the dump site,” says U.S. distributor Dave Martin.

The Super Scooper measures 49 in. long by 47 1/2 in. wide and 12 in. high and weighs about 88 lbs. It’s equipped with a reversible drawbar and a pair of wheels that fold up out of the way during cleanup and fold down for transport.

The bottom of the unit is equipped with a metal blade that cuts through the manure and moves it into the box. Once the box is full, you pull a pin and fold the wheels forward and under the box to lock them in place.

Weight limit is 130 lbs. The Super Scooper also doubles as a yard trailer, and can carry two 55-lb. hay bales.

Sells for \$1,300 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Big Red Barn Products, LLC, 13165 Maxwell Road, Carleton, Mich. 48117 (ph 734 224-2179; dave@bigredbarnproducts.com; www.superscooperus.com).



“Super Scooper” rides like a sled across the ground to pick up manure, and then converts to a trailer for transport to the dump site.

In-Line “Deer Drag”

Deer hunters looking for an easier way to transport dead deer out of the woods will like this new deer dragging system that allows 2 people to walk single file while dragging a deer.

“It distributes the load evenly between 2 draggers,” says Wayne Sokoly, Big Whitetail Dreams, LLC, Park Ridge, N.J.

The Double Deer Drag consists of two 1-in. wide hand straps, each equipped with a pair of loops that wrap around your wrists. A 4-in. loop at the base of each strap goes over the deer’s horns or around its neck. The distance between the deer and the second dragger can be adjusted by wrapping more of the strap around the horns or neck.

“The hand straps become one with your arm, seamlessly connecting the draggers, the Deer Drag, and the deer,” says Sokoly. “It works a lot better than using the traditional stick and rope method because two draggers walking shoulder to shoulder will torque the stick back and forth, depending upon which person is stronger or pulling harder. Their fingers quickly get fatigued from being wrapped around the stick, and when walking shoulder to shoulder through thick brush they have to take a more indirect route.

“Enabling 2 draggers to walk single file



In-line deer dragging system allows 2 people to walk single file while dragging a deer.

makes it a lot easier and you can walk down narrower trails with no problems.”

The Double Deer drag sells for \$23.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wayne Sokoly, Big Whitetail Dreams LLC, P.O. Box 343, Park Ridge, N.J. 07656 (ph 551 579-0318; thedeerdragger@gmail.com; www.doubleddeerdrag.com).

Portable Milkers Perfect For Small Herds

Small herds of a few animals need a small milking system, suggests Dan Beffa, Dansha Farms. He makes small vacuum milkers that can run off 110 or 220 power or a 12-volt battery. The portable milkers work for anyone with a few animals, whether sheep, goat, cow or even camel.

“Most of my customers are everyday people milking goats, sheep or cows but I have customers in China who milk camels,” says Beffa. “We offer small and large teat cups to match the animal.”

Beffa started keeping and milking goats when he retired. “Milking by hand killed me, so I first came up with a hand pump,” he recalls. “The rest is history.”

Now he makes and sells a variety of milking equipment, including 1-teat and 2-teat machines with quart, half gallon and gallon-size containers. The milkers use vacuum instead of pulsation, and teat cups are hard plastic syringe barrels.

Options include hand-powered milkers, rechargeable battery-powered systems that milk up to 2 gal. per charge and 12-volt, AC/DC-powered systems that can be powered by a 12-volt battery or plugged into a wall outlet. Two-teat cup systems come with a teat cup plug for milking one teat at a time.

“My milkers work great for people with arthritis who can’t milk and those who don’t like to milk,” says Beffa. “We have a lot of veterinarians who buy them. My best seller is the battery-powered machine with battery charger.”



Dansha Farms makes small vacuum milkers that can run off 110 or 220-volt power or a 12-volt battery. Photo shows a 12-volt, 1/2-gal. milker.

Prices range from \$68 for the 1-teat, 1-quart, hand pump machine to \$134.95 for the 2-teat, 1-gal., 12-volt DC vacuum machine with optional wall outlet plug. An optional vacuum gauge is priced at \$39. Dansha Farms also sells a custom milking teat and hoof care system for \$325. Beffa says it includes everything needed for teat and hoof care, including sanitizers, hand powered milking system, hoof pick, file, trimmers, bottles, bag balm and more.

Check out a video of the 12-volt milker at farmshow.com.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dansha Farms, 516 SE Mabry Trl, Lee, Fla. 32059 (ph 850 464-2881; info@danshafarms.com; www.danshafarms.com).