

# Made It Myself

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## Stabilizer For Disk Wings

"Flapping wings are for the birds, not for disks," says George Wiemers, Greenview, Ill., who took the "flap" out of his disk wings with a home-built stabilizer. He's used it for four seasons on his Deere model 331 disk (27 ft., 10 in. wide) and feels it will easily adapt to most any make of wingfold disk.

On each wing Wiemers uses the combination of a 48 in. by 4 in. hydraulic cylinder and a large coil spring that will handle 1,200 lbs. of pressure. He estimates that actual pressure exerted on each wing and spring for field operation is right at 400 lbs. He put about \$600 into the two cylinders, coil springs and mounting brackets.

Wiemers notes that the most pronounced improvement for



the wing supports is on hard ground, such as the first time over in the spring. He sets tension on the wings when he starts a field, then completes it without further adjustment.



## Straight Hitch For Goosenecks

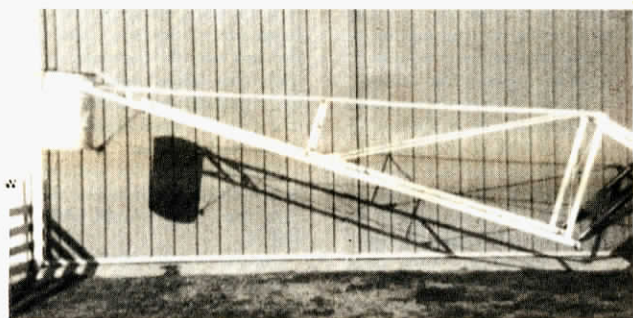
"With this hitch I designed for my 300 bu. gooseneck grain wagon, I can now haul seed with my grain truck and pull the wagon, loaded with fertilizer, behind during spring planting. I can easily switch back to the gooseneck hitch by removing eight bolts," explains South Dakota farmer Richard Anderson, of Claremont.

He built the tongue from 4-in. square tubing. It runs out from the trailer frame and past the gooseneck hitch at the same

height as the truck hitch. The trailer hitch is reinforced with angle iron bracing. Anderson notes, by changing the hitch height, the trailer could also be hooked behind the tractors.

He had the hitch built in a local welding shop, but says that most farmers with a good shop and a little time could build the hitch themselves.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard Anderson, Claremont, S. Dak. 57432 (ph 605 294-5816).



## Build Yourself A Loader Boom

Dudley Johnson, Kanawha, Iowa, wanted to paint his 2-story house but he didn't have an extension ladder. So, he made a boom to fit on his tractor that would reach those tough-to-reach spots.

Johnson explains: "First, I removed the pitch control bucket from my loader and mounted the boom on the loader frame. The boom will reach up 28 ft. in the air. It's made from tubing and rod, and cost about \$85 to make. The barrel is a 55 gal. drum. A cable fastens to the bottom of the barrel and runs up through a pulley on the boom frame and back to the lowest pivot point on the loader. This keeps the barrel in a vertical position as the boom is raised.

"A heavy spring fastened on the top of the barrel to the boom frame keeps the barrel stable. To make it easier to climb into the barrel, I cut a piece out of the top. A hinged rod flips across this cut-out portion as a safety

measure.

"When I'm painting a building, I run a light-weight cable from the barrel to the hydraulic lever on the tractor. By parking the tractor parallel with the building and having someone lift me up, I can gradually let myself down by pulling gently on the cable. I have a restrictor (orifice) mounted in the hydraulic lines so, if a hose should break, the boom will settle gently to the ground.

"I also use the boom for trimming trees, fixing roofs, and for changing storm windows. Last fall, I removed the barrel and fastened a 3-pt. hitch bar in its place and lifted the rafters for 3 new machine sheds. Some of the beams were 56 ft. long. The contractor said he'd never seen anything work so slick."

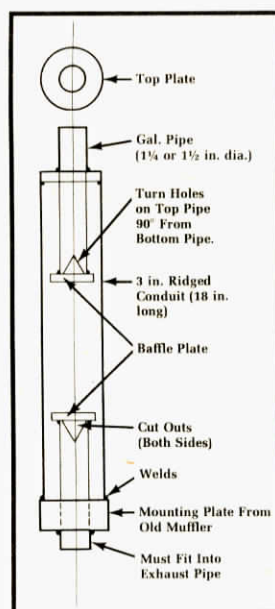
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dudley Johnson, Kanawha, Iowa 50447 (ph 515 762-3342).

## Build Your Own Replacement Mufflers

"Store-bought replacement mufflers never lasted more than a year on my farm," says Roland Widdowson, Oberlin, Ohio, who gave up on factory mufflers and began building his own. The first one he built has now been working successfully for seven years.

Here's how Widdowson makes his sound stoppers:

"I use the mounting plate on the old muffler, either as a pattern or as it is, and mount an 18-in. long piece of 3-in. dia. rigid electrical conduit on it. Inside, at the bottom of the conduit, I weld a 1/2-in. piece of galvanized pipe that reaches up into the conduit about 6 in. I cut a 'V' in the top of this smaller pipe and cap it with a metal plate that acts as a baffle. On the top end of the muffler, I cut a metal cap to fit inside the 3-in. pipe, leaving a hole in it for another piece of 1/2 in. pipe. This upper pipe reaches down into the 3-in. pipe about 6 in. and I cut a 'V' into it also and cap it. The 'V's' force the exhaust to take an indirect path to exit the muffler and deaden the sound. I've found that this design is a little noisier than a factory job but seems to last indefinitely. I've built mufflers for three



smaller John Deere tractors, always using pipe salvaged in junkyards. The idea should work for any tractor."

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, R.L. Widdowson, 44030 Hughes Rd., Rt. 1, Oberlin, Ohio 44074 (216 775-2538).