

# Reader Letters



With reference to your article "Pull-type cart for New Idea Uni-System" in Vol. 12, No. 5, you describe the device as "a new pull-type conversion cart". Perhaps the concept is new to Mr. Montag, but it dates from about 1960 when New Idea bought the patent from the Minneapolis-Moline "Brown Mule" and called it the New Idea 700. A total of 400 "PT" sheller/cart combinations were built in 1961-62; a total of 400 "UP" husker/cart combinations were built in 1962-63. These were relatively successful as the mounted sheller-husker units sold 650 and 350 during the same time periods. The only difference in the pull-type carts for the sheller vs. the husker is the larger 9.00 by 24 tires on the sheller vs. 7.50 by 24 on the husker, and some minor differences in control levers. I own one of each machine, along with a growing collection of M-M iron, some of which was displayed at Ag Expo in Amana, Iowa last year.

Bill Ellis,  
322 15th Ave.  
Moline, Ill. 61265

Oh Deere, I challenge you! How about designing and manufacturing a constant ground speed governor for tractors? It would be useful while applying chemicals with tillage equipment, especially on hills, and while planting. Such a governor would allow the engine to run about 200 rpm's higher as you go uphill and 200 rpm's lower as you go downhill, keeping a constant ground speed and chemical application rate. Also, how about manufacturing a governor that wouldn't allow more than a pre-set, adjustable amount of wheel slippage? For example, for plowing in hard spots you could set the governor for 10% maximum wheel slippage. As soon as slippage exceeds 10%, the throttle would automatically cut back until the plow slowed down. The plow would pull easier and do a better and more efficient job. After you were out of the wet spot, the tractor would automatically return to full speed until you came to the next problem area. This type of governor also could help for plowing frozen ground and would have many other applications.

D. Junior Stoesz  
Rt. 1, Box 193  
Butterfield, Minn. 56120

Your readers may be interested in the unique wood burning stoves built by several junior and senior high school students in my FFA class. The stoves, which are built from well pipe casing, can be used either as camp stoves or as home heating stoves. They're built from 1/4-in. steel plate and are 12 to 24 in. in dia. and up to 4 ft. long. The front portion of the cooktop, which is equipped



with a lid along its edge, can be used to keep a coffee pot warm. The stoves are equipped with a front-loading door and a 3 1/2-in. dia. rear flue pipe with built-in damper controls. Students build the stove by cutting off the top 4 to 6 in. from the front two-thirds of a

horizontally-laid section of pipe, leaving a "half moon". A flat plate welded to the top of this "half moon" serves as the cooktop. Another flat plate, with a hole in it, is welded to the front end of the pipe. A door frame built from 1-in. angle iron supports the hinged door which is equipped with a 1-in. dia. rod to serve as a handle. Then the flue pipe and damper are welded on. Wood burns on a rack inside inside the stove, which can be equipped with three or four 2-in. dia. pipes serving as legs. The legs are supported by 1-in. sq. tubes welded to a 15-in. wide base made from 1/4-in. metal. The photo shows students Corie Laner and Ryan Dore and the stove they built. One student sold his 18-in. long stove for \$350. The blueprints can be purchased for \$2.

Pat Theriot, FFA Advisor  
Breaux Bridge High School  
Rt. 1, Box 1445  
Breaux Bridge, La. 70517  
(ph 318 332-2688).

I welded a hook to a linoleum knife to remove strings from round bales. It works great.

Dale McGlynn  
Twin Butte, Alberta



My two-wheeled car gets a lot of attention at fairs and parades. I built it using an old lawn mower and car parts. It travels on the two car wheels without tipping over. As FARM SHOW readers who read about the 2-wheel car several years ago know, the secret is that the two tires are underinflated. There are two small wheels inside each tire which actually support the car so it really rides on 4 wheels.

Kenneth Pauls  
Box 34  
Eldon, Iowa 52554

In the November-December issue of FARM SHOW (Vol. 12, No. 6, 1988) there was an article describing the conversion of a Gehl silo blower into a snowblower. Please be advised that there are numerous engineering considerations that would have to be addressed before the safety of such a conversion could be determined.

It is because of such safety concerns, among others, that the Gehl Company does not recommend or endorse conversions like that undertaken in the article.

Daniel A. Riedl  
Staff Counsel  
Gehl Company  
143 Water Street  
West Bend, Wis. 53095

I'm writing in response to a nominated "worst buy" that appeared in Vol. 12, No. 5 about an Allis Chalmers 7080 which had a faulty cable shift. I have an Allis Chalmers 7020 tractor and also have had trouble with the cable shift. I've had the tractor about two years and have broken the park cable twice. The first time was about six months after I got the tractor. The second cable broke after only nine months of use. I wasn't about to continue replacing \$25 cables every nine months so I developed a conversion kit which so far has solved the problem. I cut the broken cable in half and reroute it to fit the kit so

there's no need to buy a new cable. I also put a pull spring on the bottom of the park shift lever to pull the shifter down just a little further. This allows the range shifter to work much more smoothly. The cable tended to bind while shifting to low range and this spring virtually eliminated that problem. For more information about the kit contact:

Ralph Yeager  
6725 Smith Road  
Loveland, Ohio 45140

We build lightweight yet strong farm gates using well sucker rod and heavy-duty 15-ft. wire livestock panels. They're neat, good looking and they won't warp like wooden gates.

Tony Kleming  
Rt. 4  
Quitman, Miss. 39355

I'm sending along a photo of a Romonov ewe and the 6 lambs she recently gave birth to. There are only a few Romonov sheep in North America. The breed originated in Russia and was brought over by the Cana-



dian government for experimental purposes. The breed is known for multiple births, which they have most of the time. Average lambing rate is about 2.9 lambs. They are very prolific because they breed year around as compared to the seasonal breeding of most breeds. They are good mothers - all six of the lambs pictured are doing well. Crossbred lambs are born very easily and are up sucking in just a few minutes. One characteristic of the breed is that they have short tails.

We have a limited amount of breeding stock available.

Lawrence Beyer  
General Delivery  
Canyon, British Columbia  
V0B 1C0 Canada  
(ph 604 428-5537)

To make a single shot 22 rifle easier to use, drill 1 or 2 holes through the base plate slightly larger than the size of a 22 shell. The hole can be 2 or more inches deep. You can fill the holes with spare shells, keeping them in with rubber plugs. Works much better than carrying loose shells in pants or jacket. We used this idea for 40 years. We call our 22 a "single shot repeater".

Denis Phillips  
Box 494  
Tisdale, Sask. S0E 1T0  
Canada

We built this combination seedbed preparer-cultivator for use in our garden. It tows behind a garden tractor or ATV. For seedbed preparation, the plow gangs - S-tines followed by spring harrow teeth - are set in the deep position. To cultivate, the gangs are



raised with a simple hand lever. Works great even around small plants.

Bud Jensen  
404 W. Plum St.  
West Union, Iowa 52175

I'm writing to let you know FARM SHOW "Best & Worst Buy" reports get results. Recently you ran a report about my problems with my barns built by Morton Buildings Inc. Two days after the paper came out, my phone was ringing. The Morton branch office was bending over backwards to make amends and correct the problems in my two barns. The main office in Morton, Ill., called them and wanted to know who I was and why these things hadn't been corrected. Everything has now been taken care of to our satisfaction.

Warren Lathe  
Rt. 3  
Brattleboro, Vermont  
05301

I've discovered a handy new "cold repair" for aluminum spray tanks, and other equipment made out of aluminum. My herbicide sprayer has a 200-gal. aluminum tank. Several years ago I discovered a leak in the tank just after putting it away for the night. It was still more than half full with tank mix.

After loosening the tank and turning it until the leak was above the liquid level, I was able to dry out the back section and sand and clean the metal around the hole. I mixed up a small amount of epoxy auto body repair filler, the type that has a hardening which you mix in separately. I applied a layer to the tank, overlapping the entire sanded area.

The next day I was able to go ahead and spray the rest of the cropland normally. Since then I have repaired more leaks around the bottom of the tank by the suction hose fitting. We still use the sprayer regularly with no further leaks. The repairs, which were very easy to do, should last the life of the tank.

Joseph G. Scott, Jr.  
Rt. 1, Box 141  
Hebron, Md. 21830

We increase the speed of our tractor ptos by running transmissions backwards. One of our first conversions was to hook up the pto to the output side of a 5-speed transmission from an old International KB-7. We used it to run an old McCormick hammermill which we converted from belt to pto drive. By putting the transmission in third gear, we can turn the mill at about 1,400 rpm's using a 540 rpm pto. The most recent conversion we made was to drive a 25 kw generator. We used a 3-speed Dodge pickup transmission, running it in second gear. The generator runs at optimum speed with the tractor at idle.

Butch Beck  
Rt. 4, Box 305  
Hope, Ark. 71801

Two years ago I read in FARM SHOW (Vol. 10, No. 5) about Ernie Spink's high-speed etching drills which he used to make ornate sculptures out of eggshells and to make etchings on glass or mirrors. I ordered a drill from Ernie and have been doing etching from my home ever since. It's a good business because I have four small daughters and enjoy working at home. Some time back a customer asked me if I would do an etching of their farm on a mirror. It turned out so well I've done several more through word-of-mouth advertising. I work off aerial photos, and also photos taken from the ground. A 28 1/2 by 20 1/2 in. mirror, made by hand by a local craftsman with a beautiful frame and etched with a picture of your farm, sells for \$125.

Kim Walk  
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