

Reader Letters

A very dear friend is disappearing from the American farm scene — the narrow front axle or "tricycle" front row-crop tractor, which once dominated the tractor market, has, unfortunately, lost its popularity. I feel that these old reliables deserve at least a bit of recognition before they fade away completely.

I own both tricycle tractors (including a perfectly restored 1935 John Deere that has been in the family for three generations) and wide front tractors. You can bet that if I have a choice of which tractor to use, I'll crawl on one of the "trikes". They're so handy when it comes to backing wagons, maneuvering in crowded spaces and so forth that I don't know what I'd do without them.

One day last summer, I was returning a borrowed hay rack to a neighbor. After I'd easily maneuvered it back into its proper stall, he commented that I was driving one of the handiest tractors ever made, and that it was too bad new tricycle-front tractors were no longer available. That started me thinking that perhaps other farmers throughout the U.S. and Canada feel the same way. We are presently making plans for the Tricycle Tractor Club of America (TTCA). Membership would include being pictured with your favorite "row cropper" in the first annual TTCA yearbook. While the main purpose of the organization would be for fun, we might even start a revolution for return of narrow front axle tractors. We'd like to hear from anyone interested in joining such a club.

Tricycle Tractor Club of America
c/o Doug Cling
Rt. 2
Mediapolis, Iowa 52637.

Your FARM SHOW readers sure "ate up" the mention you made recently regarding availability of our Agricultural Travel Guide book. We sold several hundred copies and are still getting orders.

Frank and Pam Lessiter
Brookfield, Wis.

Editor's Note: Here, for those of you who may have missed it, is a recap of what the popular 128-page Guide is all about. Designed to help vacationing farm and ranch families combine business with pleasure, it shows exactly where to see more than 2,400 latest farming ideas in use. Conveniently arranged in alphabetical order by state, city and town, it lists farms, feedlots, experiment stations, processing plants and many other types of agricultural attractions where visitors are welcome. The authors also suggest tips on how to qualify part of the trip as a tax-deductible business expense.

If you'd like a copy, send your check for \$4 to: Agricultural Travel Guide, 16000 Choctaw Trail (FS), Brookfield, Wis. (ph 414 786-8069).

You ran an editorial report on our Un-Sku Jar Opener in FARM SHOW last summer. (Vol. 3, No. 3). We were flooded with orders! They are still coming in a year later. We are most appreciative.

Dugg Holmes, Pres.
Multi-Marketing and Mfg.
5070 S. Zinnia Ct.
Morrison, Colo. 80465

I'd like to hear from someone who can tell me how to take methane gas out of drinking water. Samples of our drinking water have tested high in methane gas which, around here, they call "drift gas." How do we get rid of the gas to make the water fit to drink?

Lester Peterson
Rt. 1
Ames, Iowa 50010

Enclosed is a list of 15 friends who I'm sure will enjoy FARM SHOW as much as I do. I anxiously await each issue.

I got tired of government intervention and sold most of my farm and started a machine shop. In repairing machinery, I try to figure out why a part failed so it won't happen again. It is a testimony to our free enterprise system when a machine made by a small, independent company far surpasses, in quality and design, a machine from a large union-run company.

I firmly believe that most major problems facing all of us today are the result of our present government and court system abandoning or perverting some important principles laid down by our Founding Fathers in the original constitution.

Gil Mangels
East Lake Shore
Bigforks, Mont. 59911

I'm wondering if FARM SHOW could tell me the name of a company or two that makes steam or gas turbines. Nobody else I've contacted has been able to put me in touch.

Austin A. Searles
Lynch, Neb.

Editor's Note: Our files show at least two suppliers: Carling Turbine Co., Carlson Building, 8 Nebraska St., Wooster, Mass. 01604; Terry Turbine Corp., P.O. Box 55, Windsor, Conn. 06095.

I'd like to ask a favor of FARM SHOW and its many readers. I'm trying to locate a 1950 Studebaker Champion Starlite Coupe. I used to run around with this particular model when I was young. I've been searching far and wide, trying to find one I could buy to restore.

Chuck Burger
Rt. 5, Box 128A
Mankato, Minn. 56001

I really appreciate FARM SHOW and think it is a great service to all farmers. If the testimony by farmers about their "worst buys" and "best buys" doesn't improve products and equipment, nothing will.

Reed Hindman
Minnesota, Kan.

I always look forward to each issue of FARM SHOW magazine.

I don't understand why a Minnesota farmer, quoted in your Best and Worst Buy section recently, has had trouble breaking scrapers on his Model 230 Deere disk. Perhaps it's because he has the rigid scraper instead of the self-adjusting type. We have a disk just like it, except ours is a 28 ft., and have worn out a set of scrapers on it without breaking a single one. I've owned four

Don't Miss A Single Issue

Many new subscribers have asked if they can obtain back issues of FARM SHOW. The answer is yes.

We have a limited supply and are offering them on a first come, first serve basis. Here's what's available:

- 1977 — Two of the 6 charter-year issues (Vol. 1, No. 4 and Vol. 1, No. 5) are still available.
- 1978 — All 6 issues still available.
- 1979 — All 6 issues still available except one (Vol. 3, No. 5) which is sold out.
- 1980 — Back issues of both previously-published issues for 1980 are still available (Vol. 4, No. 1, and Vol. 4, No. 2).

Send your check for \$1.00 per copy to: Back issues, FARM SHOW Magazine, Box 704, Lakeville, Minn. 55044. Make your check payable to "FARM SHOW".

different models and never broke one. However, I've never seen a 230 disk in this area equipped with rigid scrapers. They could be his problem.

Calvin Jurgens
Thornton, Iowa

I was pleased to see the article on the Melfort Haytower System published in FARM SHOW. However, there was one statement which was inconsistent with Dr. Beacom's test result. It should read, "The steers fed with ground Haytower hay gained 3 lbs. daily." The story said 4 lbs. We're also suggesting that moisture content of forage put in should be targeted at 40%, although occasionally a few loads of hay up to 50% can be stored.

En-Zen Jan
Systems Engineer
Research Station
P.O. Box 1240
Melfort, Sask., Canada

We find every issue of FARM SHOW chucked full of helpful information. It's one of the few journalistic endeavors applicable to any size farm or ranch operation.

Our family farm is in Northeastern Nebraska. We raise, process and market organic grains for human consumption. We grind flours, hull and clean grains, and make oatmeal. Our operation is considered small in economic terms but appropriate in ours.

Richard Dye
Do-R-Dye Farm
Box 50
Rosalie, Neb. 68055

Your "Update On Farm Alcohol Stills" on pages 10-11 of the January-February issue (Vol. 4, No. 1) listed capacity of Jim, Ray and Darrell Wood's alcohol plant at 3 gal. per hour. This is incorrect. The plant's capacity is 30 gal. per hour. Would appreciate your correcting this. Thank you.

Mrs. Darrell Wood
Rt. 1, Box 316
Manhattan, Kan. 66502

Do Your Friends A Favor!

Put them in touch with FARM SHOW. Just send us the names of neighbors, friends or relatives you think would like to see this new magazine regularly. We'll send them a free copy. We'll also tell them, with your permission, that it was you who suggested we send them the free copy. Be sure to include zip codes.

Yes, it's okay to tell each name below that:

_____ (print in your name) asked us to send you this free copy of FARM SHOW magazine."

Send each of them an issue but don't use my name.

1. _____
(Name - please print)

(Address, City, State, Zip)

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

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