

Master Mower comes with an 83-in. wide, 9-in. high deck that can pivot up to 12 degrees side-to-side for mowing along slopes.



Heavy-Duty Mower Built To Last

Don't call about the Master Mower built by Meadowlarc Welding if you want a low-cost, rough-cut mower for your skid steer. The Master Mower is a premium mower that is built to last.

"We bought the rights to the Master Mower and redesigned it, streamlining the look and making it stronger and more rugged," says Scott Schulz, Meadowlarc Welding. "We even fabricate our own front swivel wheels to be sure they will stand up to the job."

Meadowlarc uses 1/4-in. steel plate for the deck and for the 36-in. dia., 3 1/2-in. high stump jumper. The deck for the standard 76-in. mower is about 83 in. wide and 9 in. high without the wheels.

"One of the features our customers like about the Master Mower is its ability to pivot up to 12 degrees side to side for mowing along slopes," says Schulz. "Of course, it also works fine tipped back to 90 degrees if desired."

Meadowlarc uses a heavy-duty hydraulic motor and gearbox to drive the rough-cut mower blades. Hydraulics are installed to match the skid steer, whether a low-flow or high-flow system.

Upgraded "Chain Guard" Kit

"I've had a lot of interest in my homemade 'chain guard' that replaces the mower discharge chute on my riding mower (Vol. 41, No. 5). I recently developed a kit that lets you make your own chain guard," says Al Robbins, Friendswood, Texas.

Robbins got tired of the grass discharge chute on his Deere ZTrak zero-turn riding mower getting in the way all the time, so he replaced it with a "chain guard" that results in easier trimming and parking in tight areas.

He hung a series of short galvanized steel chains from a piece of all-thread rod, with the chains free to swing back and forth. He puts 1/2-in. wide rubber spacers between chains to hold them in place.

"The chains stop stones from flying out but let the grass clippings go through. Because there's no discharge chute I can mow close to trees and buildings on either side," says Robbins.

He says his new design is much simpler and easier to put together because it eliminates the need for an all-thread rod and spacers. If you have a mower with a curved discharge chute, he can curve the angle iron to fit.

The kit contains a length of galvanized metal angle iron with a row of pre-punched holes on top, where the angle iron bolts onto the deck. One side of the angle iron has a row of pre-punched holes where small bolts, lock nuts and washers are used to attach the chains.

"The new design allows you to make use of twisted chains, which work better than straight chains because the twisted design makes a better barrier," says Robbins. "I use lock nuts on the bolts to secure the chains so they can't work loose and fall off. I spray



Mower's heavy duty "stump jumper" protects blades from obstacles.

The Master Mower is priced at \$8,500 and weighs in at about 1,500 lbs. for the 76-in. swath mower.

"We also build an 86-in. mower," says Schulz. "Of course, since we fabricate each deck in our shop, the actual width can be customized to whatever the customer wants."

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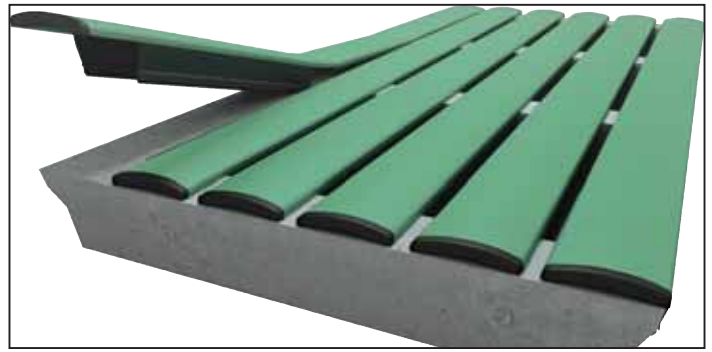
Photo shows how redesigned chain guard can be mounted on a curved chute. Bottom photo shows straight model on a Kubota riding mower.



the angle iron with clear paint to keep it from rusting."

The kit has all the parts needed to put a chain guard together and starts at \$40 plus S&H for a 12-in. straight discharge unit. Completely assembled units are also available for \$60 plus S&H. The chain guard can be built to any desired length.

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"Slat Mats" clip onto concrete slats. The smooth curve on top helps manure drain down between slats.

Cow-Friendly "Slat Mats" Improve Footing, Cleanliness

Your cows will like this new type of floor mat that clips over the top of concrete slats to create a more comfortable surface for your cattle, says Shane Schechinger of NextGen Group, LLC, in Harlan, Iowa.

Developed in Ireland, "Slat Mats" are made from virgin engineering grade plastic. They're designed to clip over the top of concrete slats with a spring-loaded gripping system, which helps them stay in place and provides the cattle with a softer surface with more "give" to walk on. The mats have a smooth curve on top that diverts manure to the gaps between floor slats, resulting in a cleaner, dryer and healthier animal, says the company.

"Slat Mats are made from 3 different materials - a durable outer skin, soft interior core, and a rigid base - that results in a soft mat with a good grip. Cattle gain traction through compression of the mat's interior core so there's no need to have a texture on the outer skin, which keeps the mats clean and dry," says Schechinger.

"Most other livestock floor mats are made of a single rubber material which is hard and mainly flat. The curved surface of our mat allows manure and urine to drop into the pit quickly, which results in a cleaner, dryer floor that helps keep animals clean. Because of the cleaner floor, cattle are confident in their ability to rise or lie on the mats so feeding frequency is increased and resting ability improved significantly."

Slat Mats are available in 3 different mat designs, depending on the weight of the



Mats provide cattle with a softer surface with more "give" to walk on.

cattle. "The beef and dairy mat is best for 600 lbs. plus; the backgrounding or pink veal mat is for 300 to 700-lb. animals; and the calf mat is for 100 to 400-lb. animals," says Schechinger.

"Mat sizes range from just over 4 1/2 in. to 8 in. wide, and are compatible with some slats presently made in the U.S."

The mats are custom-designed for each customer's barn, and the company provides a special tool to install them. "We measure, cut, and notch all mats before they're delivered, so there shouldn't be any waste when you're done installing them," says Schechinger.

Slat Mats are available in both green and white. They retail for \$9.50 per sq. ft.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, NextGen Group, LLC, 623 RD. M47, Harlan, Iowa 51537 (ph 844 752-8628; sales@next-gen-group.com; www.next-gen-group.com).



Aftermarket wide wheel tubs allow you to fit bigger wheels and tires to your pickup.

Wide Wheel Tubs For Pickups

You can fit bigger wheels and tires neatly underneath your 1973 to 1987 Chevy or GMC Fleetside pickup, or 1973 to 1991 Chevy Blazer or GMC Jimmy, with these new aftermarket wide wheel tubs from Auto Metal Direct.

The wheel tubs are stamped from heavy gauge steel like the original factory wheel wells, but are 4 in. wider. They range in price from \$149 to \$159, depending on model.

"All these wheel tub models maintain the

look and styling of the original pickup bed and come with the correct style flange for mounting," says marketing director Mike Gray. "They work great for hot rodders and off-road vehicles, or people who just want a work truck with bigger tires."

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