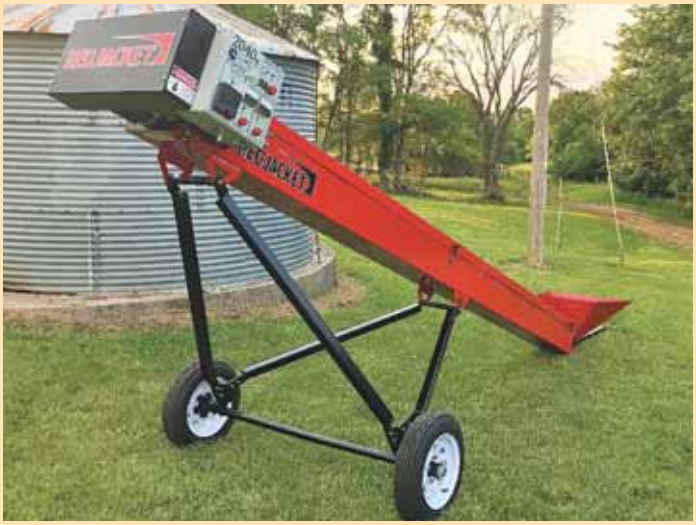


"Our electric-powered soybean roaster is an inexpensive way to grow your own soybeans and roast them to make high value feed," says inventor Silas Clark.

Electric Soybean Roaster "Makes High Value Feed"

"Our new electric-powered soybean roaster cooks beans without using any flames or flammable hot oil, eliminating fire and safety hazards. It works great for small to medium-sized farmers who want to grow organic or non gmo soybeans for their own feed use," says inventor Silas Clark, Baldwin City, Kansas.

"It's designed for around-the-clock roasting without direct operator supervision. There's no danger of fire so you don't have to watch it at all. And no extra cooling machinery is necessary because of the slow roast design."

The patent pending Red Jacket Model 1040 soybean roaster consists of an auger inside a 12-ft. long insulated rectangular tube, which is heated its entire length by replaceable radiant induction heaters. Beans feed into the roaster from a hopper at one end and slowly travel the length of the electrically-heated oven chamber. They exit near the top end fully roasted.

Roasting temperature is continuously monitored and adjusted by a digital temperature controller.

"It's an inexpensive way to grow your own soybeans and roast them, instead of having to buy soybean meal or roasted beans," says Clark. "Full fat roasted soybeans are superior in many ways to bean meal for organic, non-gmo, and conventional feed rations.

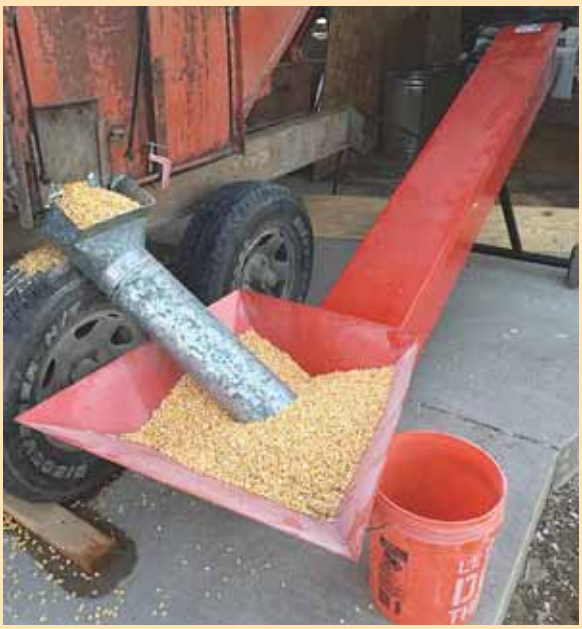
"Our model 1040 can produce up to 2,400 lbs. per day and requires 50 amp, 220-volt single phase electrical service. It sells for $8,800, which is much less than other soybean roasters on the market. We also offer a 26-ft. long 2040 model for larger farms that can produce up to 4,800 lbs. per day. It sells for $12,200. Electrical usage for either model is $14 per ton at 12 cents per kilowatt hour.

"We also offer an optional roller mill attachment that can be used to make premium flaked grain products. It sells for $1,000."

According to Silas, the new roaster has a family history that goes back 3 generations. "My grandfather, LeRoy Clark, originally designed a roasting auger for his row-crop and hog operation in the early 1970's. He raised corn and soybeans and was able to feed his farm-raised and roasted grains to his hogs to lower his feeding costs and add value to his row-crops. LeRoy's son, Fred Clark, further improved the design and built his own roaster in 1998 to produce roasted soybeans for his family's poultry operation."

Check out a video of the roaster at www.farmshow.com.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Silas Clark, 759 E. 1100 Rd., Baldwin City, Kansas 66006 (ph 785 979-9304; clarkfarmproducts@gmail.com).



Beans feed into roaster from hopper at one end and slowly travel up an electrically-heated oven chamber. They exit near the top end fully roasted.

Gene Cunningham turned his 20-year-old Toro zero-turn riding mower into a tracked "sap hauler" machine. He uses it to pull a small trailer with a 65-gal. tank.

Riding Mower Converted To Tracked "Sap Hauler"

Thanks to a good supply of salvaged materials and strong mechanical skills, Gene Cunningham turned his 20-year-old Toro Z zero-turn riding mower into a tracked "sap hauler" machine. He says it comes in handy for a variety of jobs. Also, as a disabled vet with limited walking ability, he likes being able to get up close to everything.

"It'll go anywhere a 4-wheeler will go, but has much better flotation. I've driven it in snow 4 to 5 ft. deep," says Cunningham, a retired engineer who runs a small hay and livestock operation and also produces maple syrup from about 200 taps. "I use it to pull a small trailer with a 65-gal. tank full of sap. I use 5-gal. buckets to fill the tank in the woods and then drive home, pull up beside a collecting station, and pump the sap out.

"I built it mostly from salvaged materials. I already had the mower, and a friend gave the tracks to me. I spent a total of less than $2,000 to build both the machine and trailer."

He lengthened the machine's frame 2 ft., cutting the mower's front axle off and replacing it with a boat trailer axle. He also moved the rear axle back, then mounted ATV wheels all the way around. The 6-in. pneumatic wheels off an old hay tedder serve as bogey wheels, and the 13-in. wide tracks are off an Argo tracked amphibious vehicle.

The support pipes from a trampoline were used to build a rollbar, and he built an access platform on front from square tubing and an old radiator screen. A pair of fiberglass sideboards, salvaged from a camping trailer, help keep mud and snow off the driver.

The mower's engine was worn out so Cunningham replaced it with the 18 hp. engine off a home generator, also building a sheet metal hood for it.

He also used Argo tracks and ATV wheels and axles to build the trailer, adding a frame made from angle iron and square tubing off an old side delivery hay rake.

"I'm well satisfied with how it turned out," says Cunningham. "I had been using an expensive commercial tracked machine, but it broke down frequently and I spent a lot of money trying to fix it. I tried using a snowmobile with a trailer to haul sap, but having to drive on bare ground at times was hard on the machine.

"It turns on a dime, like a skid loader. If I have to turn very tight the tracks sometimes will slip on the drive wheels, but it's not a big problem. Also, the machine could use more power when climbing steep hills."

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To make it easier to get on and off his garden tractor, H.T. Kuyper replaced the factory steering wheel with an oak crossbar and put caster wheel knobs on each end.

Steering Bar Replaces Wheel

"Not long ago I was reading stories in FARM SHOW's archives and I came across an article published in a 1993 issue about a man who replaced his steering wheel with a knob. It got me to thinking about a problem I have," says H.T. Kuyper, Kewadin, Mich.

"I'm a tall person and I usually have a difficult time getting on and off garden tractors. I have to modify just about every machine I own because the seats will not go back far enough. Also, it seems the steering wheels are too low so they're either rubbing my legs or down between my legs.

"So I came up with this idea which seems to work well. I first removed the factory wheel (they don't make that easy to do) and then made a bracket that attaches to the top of the steering spline. I bolted an oak crossbar to the top of it and put knobs on each end made from casters off an angle iron bed frame.

"The tractor is now amazingly easy to steer and I have a clear step-through entrance when getting on. And it doesn't rub on my legs while driving. It was a successful idea for me."

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