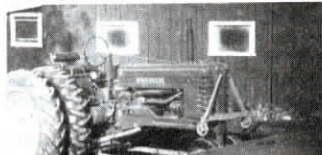


Reader Letters

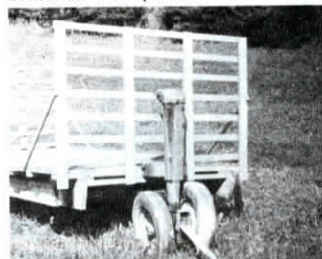


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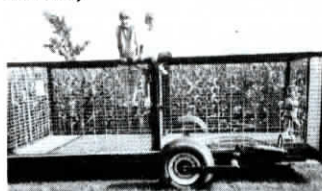
to the fact that I used whatever materials I had on hand. I had to put one hinge point on the steering linkage not quite where I wanted it so the result was that if one front wheel drops into a low spot, and the one on the other side is on a high spot, the toe-in changes about 1/8 in. Otherwise, it works fine. (Alva Hosterman, Rt. 1, Box 1750, Dunnegan, Mo. 65640)



I'm sending along pictures of some things I've put together here on the farm. The first photo shows a John Deere "B" which I fitted with dual wheels for plowing snow. I also fitted it with a home-built snowplow which is raised and lowered by steel cable running through pulleys on the front of the tractor and back to the rear 3-pt. hitch.



The second photo shows a small utility wagon I built for the farm that uses the front end of a John Deere "B" tractor. The tongue attaches directly to the front-end axle, which casters for easy turning. (Tom Kutruff, Rt. 1, Box 37, Altoona, Penn. 16601 ph 814 944-9205)



I built this hog hauler out of parts from an International 400 Cyclo 8-row planter. I used the axles, hydraulics, angle iron, and square tubing to make the cart, which measures 6 by 14 ft. with 50 in. sides and 1/8-in. diamond plate floor. The sides are made out of Behlen corn crib panels, which are much heavier than normal cattle panels. The trailer lowers flat to the ground thanks to lift mechanisms and cylinders taken from the planter. One cylinder mounts on each side. Four 3-in. I beams run lengthwise under the floor of the trailer.

I've used this trailer for three years with no problems at all. In fact, it works so well I've started building them commercially, buying up old IH planters and selling off any parts that I don't need which are still in good condition. Hog cart sells for \$2,250. (Clifford Belsly, 1665 Lourdes Rd., Metamora, Ill. 61548 ph 303 383-4847)

We're manufacturing a 30-ft. minimum-till fertilizer placement toolbars with fluted coulters ahead of deep-till chisel shanks. The 3-pt. toolbar can be towed lengthwise down the road and is equipped with fold-up wings. We also run a farming operation and were disappointed with the quality of existing equipment on the market. So we built this unit extra heavy duty with an extra

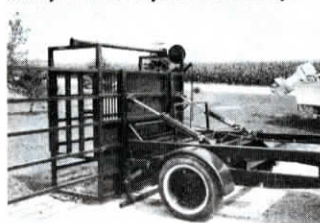


strong hitch. It's built heavy enough to withstand even the most difficult soil conditions.

We're also opening a sprayer parts and accessories warehouse in the Rockford, Ill., area where we will offer a complete line of sprayer parts and accessories, as well as complete sprayer units and other spray equipment. Contact us for a free catalog. (Kim Kruse, Ag-Products, Inc., 8650 Rothwell Road, Davis Junction, Ill. 61020 ph 815 962-1244)



Old file cabinets inside our shop provide dust-free storage for power tools such as grinders, air hammers, air chisels, small battery chargers, paint sprayers, etc., as well as operator manuals and books. We bought the cabinets cheap at an auction in Des Moines. An insurance company had moved into a new building and installed new cabinets to match the building's new decor. They sold their existing cabinets. Some of them had never been used and still had the price tags on them. We set the cabinets on concrete blocks to keep the bottoms from rusting. (John Ricke, Rt. 1, Box 145, Williams, Iowa 50271 ph 515 854-2668)



I own a welding repair and fabrication shop and have been building cattle tilt tables since 1980. The original model has handled about 60,000 head of cattle and is still in use today. I've made improvements to it over the years, most of them suggested by farmers and custom trimmers who've used the tables. I've been told by many custom trimmers that they're the best designed and heaviest-built table on the market for the money.

I've been selling the units through the International Hoof Trimming School in Delaware, Ontario, but would like to expand my selling market. Many individual farmers with larger herds could justify owning one of these units. Portable models (shown) with self-contained hydraulic pumps sell for



We build sprayer caddies that pull behind planters or field cultivators (Vol. 16, No. 2) and thought your readers would like to see the 1,600-gal. tandem walking beam axle model that we recently built for Merlin Martin, Clayton, Ind. He pulls it behind his 24-row planter and uses it to apply liquid fertilizer. He can plant about 100 acres before he has to stop and refill.

A pair of 500-gal. saddle tanks on the planter supply starter fertilizer to the openers through a ground-driven piston pump mounted on the planter. When the fertilizer supply runs low in the saddle tanks, Martin flips a toggle switch on the tractor to activate a pump on the caddy which sends fertilizer forward through a hose to refill the saddle tanks. Most 24-row planters aren't sold with fertilizer application tanks because the weight of the fertilizer would interfere with folding of the planter for transport. A local implement dealer mounted the two 500-gal. tanks on the planter and pulling our

1,600-gal. tank behind it, Martin can apply a lot of fertilizer without having to worry about folding the planter.

The sprayer caddy can also be used behind a toolbar or cultivator to sidedress corn, or behind a field cultivator or large spray boom to apply preplant herbicides as well as liquid fertilizer. On our own farm we pulled a 1,000-gal. model behind a soil finisher to incorporate herbicides, behind a toolbar to spot spray soybeans, and behind a cultivator to side dress corn.

The sprayer caddy is normally available with 500, 750, or 1,000-gal. tanks. We now mount all of our 1,000-gal. tanks on walking tandem axles for better stability and less soil compaction. The caddy can be equipped with either a ground-driven piston pump or a hydraulic pump. Sells for \$4,500 to \$5,500 depending on size of tank and pump. We custom built the 1,600-gal. model for about \$8,750 (Karl Hiller, Hiller Carts, Inc., 8924 Venice Twp. Rd. 191, New Washington, Ohio 44854 ph 419 492-2848).

\$5,050 (Canadian). They come with a 45-min. basic hoof trimming instructional video tape from the International Hoof Trimming School. Stationary, 3-pt., and truck-mounted models are also available. Delivery is available (Bill Berkelman, Berkelman's Welding, Rt. 7, Aylmer, Ontario, Canada N5H 2R6 ph 519 765-4230 (business) or 519 765-4554 (home).



I hand-carve wooden tractors, combines, birds, fish, ducks, owls, etc., on consignment with such life-like detail that many people think I make them from kits. I've carved old Deere A and B, Farmall, and Allis-Chalmers tractors, two combine models, and a road grader and airplane. I recently carved a Massey Harris 33 tractor using photographs in a book. The combines are 2 ft. high and 3 ft. long complete with wooden wheels and grain auger. The wheels even have lugs. I generally use basswood to carve my models. Each model is hand rubbed and "burned", then painted. I'm now making

an old-fashioned corn shucking wagon with big bang boards on each side and wooden spoke wheels. (Frank Gonsior, Rt. 2, Box 208, Central City, Neb. 68826 ph 308 548-2603).

In the "Best & Worst Buys" section of your last issue, Grant Shipley, of Chickasha, Okla., was quoted as saying he was very pleased with his Jarvosky 39-ft. field cultivator made in Russia. I happen to know that the company is located at Bessie, Okla, which is a long way from Russia (W.R. Christner, Wauneta, Neb.).

Editor's Note: Our mistake, and we also misspelled the name. Jarvosky Welding makes a line of field cultivators, drill hitches, and round bale handling equipment. Their address is: Rt. 1, Box 25, Bessie, Okla. 73622 (ph 405 337-6565).

A year ago FARM SHOW featured our "Profit Hopper" dry fertilizer hoppers for White row crop planters (Vol. 16, No. 1). They're now available to fit Deere, IH, and Kinze planters. The fiberglass hopper extensions nearly double the capacity of the planter's existing fertilizer hoppers. They're covered by watertight lids with fill openings. A plastic auger mounted along the top of the hoppers is driven by a hydraulic motor on one end of the hopper and is hinged on the bottom so that



I built this tractor-trailer rig to teach my grandchildren how to drive. I used parts from three different garden tractors to make the tractor which is powered by a 7-hp. Kohler engine and fitted with a 5-speed friction drive transmission, which means they have to learn how to clutch. It's geared down so top speed is just 6 to 7 mph. The sides are made out of wood and I fashioned the hood out of fiberglass. Both the trailer and tractor

are painted bright red. The trailer has a 5th wheel hitch so they can learn how to handle it, backing up and so on. My grandchildren, ranging from age 3 to age 11, love to drive it. I set up a course with orange traffic cones for them to practice on. It's fun and they learn a valuable skill. (Rich Kuehnert, 3627 Kroemer Rd., Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46818 ph 219 483-5221)