

Giant Cornhole Event Supports Farm Rescue



Everything was giant, from the 68 by 34-ft. board and oversized “bean bags” to the John Deere 8RX tractor that pulled back a bungee cord attached to two poles.

John Deere and Busch Beer teamed up recently to create “Officially, the unofficial largest cornhole board in the world.” The May 21, 2022 event in Big Bend, Wis., kicked off a campaign selling Busch Light beer in “For the Farmers” cans with a Deere tractor image to raise money for Farm Rescue, a Midwest nonprofit that helps farm families. Deere and Busch pledged to donate \$100,000 each to Farm Rescue.

Everything was giant, from the 68 by 34-ft. board and oversized “bean bags” to the John Deere 8RX tractor that pulled back a bungee cord attached to two poles. Winners from a cornhole tournament took turns pulling the cord to release the bags, along with celebrities such as the Shark Farmer and the You Betcha Guy.

“It was pretty entertaining to watch in person, and a few of the big bags even went

in the hole,” says Dan Erdmann, program manager for Farm Rescue. “It’s not every day you see a Deere tractor launching oversized bean bags onto a larger-than-life cornhole board, so it was a pretty special event to be part of.”

Erdmann and other volunteers educated visitors about Farm Rescue’s mission to help farm families who experience major illness, injury or natural disaster to plant, hay, harvest crops or feed livestock in North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Montana, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas.

Both Busch and John Deere have been generous supporters, Erdmann says, and they came up with the idea to team up for the cornhole event and beer can promotion.

“We’re excited, humbled and very pleased to have the opportunity to expand our mission as a result of this team effort,” he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Farm Rescue, P.O. Box 28, Horace, N.D. 58047 (ph 701-252-2017; dan@farmrescue.org; www.farmrescue.org).



Event raised money for Farm Rescue, a Midwest nonprofit that helps farm families.

Pressurized Yard Sprayer Has Break-Away Booms

Retired engineer and lifelong tinkerer Tony Bunniss built a pressurized lawn sprayer to make treating his large lawn easier.

“I believe that it’s fairly unique,” says Bunniss. “The sprayer is 10 ft. wide, but even at that width, if the tractor fits between two trees, the sprayer follows with no problem because the spray arms pivot back if they hit an obstacle such as a tree or post.”

Building this sprayer was fairly simple. Bunniss rebuilt a small 3-ft. sprayer he bought years ago by replacing the weathered hoses and adding new paint, gauges, valves, a hand sprayer, a coiled hose, and new spray tips. Other additions included a drainpipe and valve on the liquid tank to make it easier to flush out when the spraying was finished.

The sprayer is powered by air pressure,



Liquid tank can’t be pressurized unless the filler plug is locked in, and the iron lock is over the top of the plug.

which is supplied by a portable tank into which Bunniss attached a 125 lb. relief valve. This holds enough air to spray two tanks of liquid. Everything on the sprayer is designed for variable spraying rates. The pressure, tips that you use, and the speed you are spraying, are all factors when determining how much weed spray you want to use per acre.

The spray tips he uses are color-coded for quicker decision-making. Says Bunniss, “I usually use the yellow tips at 20 psi, which will put down about 5 gals. per acre at 8 mph, which is wide open with my Deere 420 garden tractor.”

The fill port on the top of the tank is also Bunniss’ invention. He designed it with safety in mind so the liquid tank can’t be pressurized unless the filler plug is locked in, and the iron lock is over the top of the plug. After spraying is done, the tank, hose, tips, and sprayer are flushed with clean water. Next, the drain ball valve under the tank is opened so the water drains out. Bunniss always tries to leave it in the sun to dry out at this point.

The liquid tank was salvaged from an old air compressor, and he uses the air tank for filling flat tires (the bungee cord attachments



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make it easy to take on and off).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tony Bunniss, Webster, Minn. (glennlee1964@gofast.am).

Planters Made From Pressure Tanks

“I make attractive planters from old fiberglass water pressure tanks. Pump installers are glad to get rid of them, so they don’t cost me anything,” says Ralph Volkman, Black Creek, Wis.

“I use a 4-in. grinder with a cut-off blade to simply cut off the top of the tank. They come with their own stand. There are different sized tanks, so it depends on what people

want to plant.”

Volkman sells his planters locally for \$7 to \$10, depending on the size.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ralph Volkman, Black Creek, Wis. (ph 920-841-0327).



Fiberglass water pressure tanks are cut using a grinder with a cut-off blade.

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