

"Made-It-Myself" Ideas From The UK

Farmers Weekly (www.fwi.co.uk), a British publication, hosts an annual Inventions Competition. Here are a few ideas that caught our eye.



Photo Credit Malcolm Pattullo, courtesy of Farmers Weekly

Cover Crop Broadcaster

Malcolm Pattullo, a 24-year-old British farmer, built his broadcaster to spread seed mix into standing crops 2 weeks before harvest. He used a pneumatic front tank formerly used for fertilizer. This is 3-pt mounted to the main frame and can be quickly removed when not in use. Pattullo used an old wheelbarrow wheel that was hydraulically pushed onto the tractor's rear tire to simulate its ground drive.

The hopper fan blows seed through plastic tubes to heads along the boom, which are fed to spreader plates.



Photo Credit Meredith George, courtesy of Farmers Weekly

Budget Grain Dryer

UK farmer Meredith George can economically dry grain or wood chips by using a false mesh floor in a grain trailer and blowing air (heated or fresh) down a central pipe.



Photo Credit John Coleman, courtesy of Farmers Weekly

Bulldozer Post Driver

Irish farmer John Coleman made a simple post driver that mounts to the side of the bucket on his International TD8B

crawler. Coleman attached it to the crawler using a scissor linkage he built from heavy box-section steel.

The advantages are that he has less ground compaction than a tractor, and side-mounting means he can drive right along the fence line without turning.



Photo Credit Rob Gash, courtesy of Farmers Weekly

Chaff Deflector Plate

Rob Gash added an angled deflector plate to his Case IH 9240 combine to spread chaff more evenly.

Made from metal plate surrounded by rubber flaps, the plate can be moved with an actuator motor he has wired to the same switch as the chopper hood. It directs the chaff to the outer vanes of the spreader and across the entire header width.

The plate has eliminated excess chaff under the straw swaths when tilling and direct drilling.

According to Rob, there are no such issues when running the factory-fitted Redekop chopper, which he says destroys the straw and reliably blasts all material full-width.



Photo Credit Andrew Marchington, courtesy of Farmers Weekly

Handy Wire Winder

Looking to speed up the time it takes to take apart fencing, Andrew Marchington built a trailer with a pivoting drawbar that can run to either side of the tractor, eliminating wire hitting the wheels as it's wound.

It's ground-driven, using a series of chains and sprockets that feed three belts to turn the spools. The wires are strung through "eyes" that move back and forth on a zig-zag mechanism for even winding.



Drone 'Swarms' Increase Capacity

Drone aircraft are rapidly becoming common tools for checking on crops and livestock. A recent FAA ruling has increased their utility.

Currently, drones larger than 55 lbs. require a pilot and a line-of-sight spotter. Texas-based Hylio received an exemption to fly up to three 165-lb. drones in a "swarm" under the oversight of a single pilot.

The FAA is not only developing a rule allowing others to do the same, but the regulator is also considering changing the line-of-site rule. Drone operators may soon be able to send even larger drones (over 200 lbs.) in swarms and out of sight to spread seed or spray crops. The technology to do so already exists. Hylio estimates that with even three of the 165-lb. drones, they'll be able to spray 200 acres per hr. at a much lower cost than ground equipment.

News You Can Use!

There's a lot going on here at FARM SHOW, and it's all good!

New Book! We've just come out with what we think might be one of the most fun and useful books we've ever published. Bring Old Farm Equipment Back To Life - Vol. 2 is a collection of hundreds of the best stories we've published on finding uses for old equipment. You get this book free with a 1, 2, or 3-year new, renewal, or



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Photo From Facebook

3-Axle Prototype Harvester

This 3-axle combine harvester, seen by an amateur videographer, is making headlines on social media. A transport vehicle carrying a prototype 3-axle harvester was spotted in France. Uncovered and traveling on public highways, this massive machine looks long and just narrow enough to comply with European road restrictions.

Krone was rumored to be in development of a forage harvester with over 1,300 horsepower. We couldn't find any further information on this beast at press time.

Liberty Quotes

"God grants liberty only to those who love it and are always ready to guard and defend it." Daniel Webster

"Each day, it seemed, another law was passed to impoverish and diminish them, punishing them for whatever success they achieved and rewarding their less competent and industrious neighbors." L. Neil Smith

"A society that does not recognize that each individual has values of his own which he is entitled to follow can have no respect for the dignity of the individual and cannot really know freedom." Friedrich August von Hayek

"An equal application of law to every condition of man is fundamental." *Thomas Jefferson*

"A society that puts equality...ahead of freedom will end up with neither equality nor freedom." Milton Friedman

"Never do anything against conscience, even if the state demands it." Albert Einstein

"We are so concerned to flatter the majority that we lose sight of how very often it is necessary, in order to preserve freedom for the minority, let alone for the individual, to face that majority down." William F. Buckley Jr.

Ole filled his car with gas at a self-serve station. After he had paid and driven away, he realized he'd left the gas cap on top of his car, and it was now lost. Ole thought about it for a minute and figured other people may have done the same thing, and that it may be worth going back to look and see if he could find another one.

Sure enough, he hadn't been searching long, and he found one. He tried it, and it went into place with a satisfying click. "Great," Ole thought, "I lost my gas cap, but I found another von dat fits and dis vons even better because it locks."

Lena was a bit overweight when she went for her annual doctor's visit. The doctor told her, "I want you to eat regularly for 2 days, then skip a day, and repeat this procedure for 2 weeks. The next time I see you, you'll have lost at least 5 pounds." When Lena returned, she'd lost nearly 20 pounds. "Why, Lena, that's amazing!" The doctor said. "Did you follow my instructions?" Lena said, "Yes, but I've got to tell you I thought I vas going to drop dead on dat third day!" "From hunger, you mean?" said the doctor. "No, from skipping all day!" said Lena.