

Made It Myself

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Tandem Axle "Cab-Over" Truck Built Out Of 3/4-Ton Pickup

"It looks like a miniature semi truck, but I use it more like a small tractor to haul round bales, big loads of salt, implements, etc.," says O.J. Hanson, Kaycee, Wyo., about his tandem axle "cab-over" truck built out of a 1970's-era Dodge 3/4-ton crew cab 4-WD pickup. It has a 12-ft. flatbed behind the cab that can be equipped with livestock or grain racks.

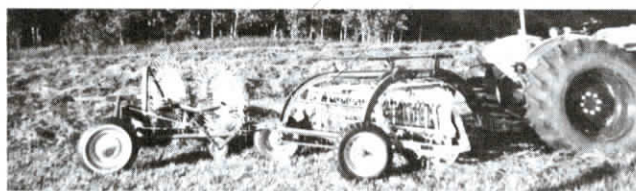
Hanson's friend, David Calvert, of Alcova, Wyo., built the truck. He cut off the original pickup cab and replaced it with a GM semi truck cab, cutting off some of the bottom of the cab to make it shorter. He lengthened the frame 2 1/2 ft. on each end and added an International tag axle on back and a Chevrolet 1-ton truck axle in front. He replaced the original pickup engine with a Cummins 6-cyl. diesel engine and installed a 5-speed transmission. The truck still has the

pickup's original 7.50 by 16 tires, steering wheel, and dash.

"It's easy on fuel and gets 20 mpg hauling a 4-ton load," says Hanson. "It rides kind of rough because of the weight and because a lot of leaf springs were used to support the engine. It's been to both coasts and from the Mexican border to Alaska.

"The naturally aspirated engine doesn't have a lot of power, but I plan to turbocharge it. It goes only 60 to 70 mph. It has a bench behind the seat for storage. The bucket seats are out of an old car and there's a carpeted lid between them that can be lifted up in order to service the engine. However, that makes it hard to keep the cab clean. I'd rather have a tip-over cab."

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Front Mount Swath Turner Converts To Dual Wheel Rake

"It lets me rake 18 ft. of swathed hay at a time or combine two 9-ft. windrows into one," says Allan Kowalik, Cherrhill, Alberta, who converted a front mount, 2-wheeled Tenuti swath turner into a 9-ft. wheel rake that he pulls behind his 9-ft. New Holland 256 side delivery rake.

Kowalik used 2 1/2-in. dia. steel pipe to build an undercarriage and axle for the wheeled swath turner, welding Ford car spindles onto the axle and mounting 15-in. wheels on them. The Tenuti's square tubing frame slides into a 2 1/2-ft. high upright that he welded onto the axle. He mounted an adjustable drawbar hitch on back of the New Holland rake. By pulling the drawbar pin and separating the wheels from the undercarriage he can mount the swath turner back on front of the tractor.

"It works beautifully and saves a lot of trips over the field," says Kowalik, who

uses his David-Brown Case 990 to pull the two rakes. "It picks up the row left by the New Holland rake and also the next row over. I only needed another 2 1/2 ft. at the end of the New Holland rake in order to move two windrows instead of one. I couldn't see pulling a 9 1/2-ft. rake up and down the field just to move 6 ft. of hay.

"I bought the Tenuti for \$400 at an auction and spent another \$400 for spindles, tires, and wheel rims. I painted it red and yellow to look like the New Holland rake. It looks so professional that some farmers have asked me where I bought it.

"It has a fairly long hitch so it makes perfect corners without missing any hay."

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He Uses "Air Power" To Clean Grain

Last summer Heinz Henricksen, Bienfait, Sask., had a lot of weed-infested grain that had to be cleaned before it went into storage. He got the job done fast - at a rate of 600 bu. per hour - using his home-built "air flow" grain cleaner.

"It removes nearly all the weed seeds from my grain yet I built it for less than \$300," says Henricksen, who says his grain cleaner compares favorably with the best commercial units on the market.

The trailer-mounted cleaner uses air instead of screens to clean grain. It consists of two large home-built fans housed inside a large metal drum. Freshly harvested grain is augered into a slant-bottom hopper on top (salvaged from an old combine). It feeds grain into a hopper just below it. A belt-driven square steel shaft mounts at the bottom point of the lower hopper. As it rotates, it allows a thin "sheet" of grain to fall straight down. Lighter material such as weed seeds, chaff, and dust is blown out onto the ground at the end of the trailer while heavier, clean grain falls into another hopper where it's augered out into a bin. "I use it during harvest whenever we have a dirty crop like we did last sum-

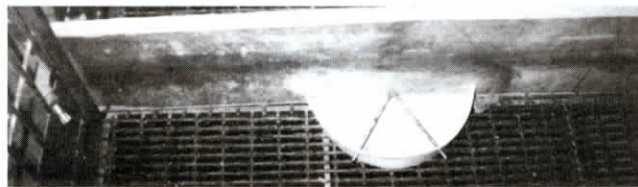
mer. It handles up to 600 bu. per hour. I got the idea from a Manitoba farmer who had built a small wooden one.

"Both fans are shaft-driven by a hydraulic motor that's powered by a tractor's remote outlets. I use the tractor throttle to adjust fan speed.

"I stand on a platform next to the hopper as it's being filled so I can get the cleaner adjusted properly and shut it down if anything goes wrong. The bottom hopper that catches clean grain moves back and forth so you can adjust it depending on what kind of trash you're trying to blow out of the grain. The hopper is mounted on rollers and is moved by turning a steering wheel."

Each fan has 10 blades. Henricksen used flat steel to make the blades, curving them slightly to catch more air, then welded them onto a shaft. "The fans are separated by a plywood divider so they don't 'fight' each other, causing reduced velocity," notes Henricksen.

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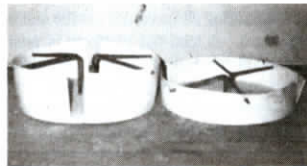
New Feed Pan Stops Waste

All it takes is a few minutes and about a buck's worth of materials to make these feed-saving creep feeders, according to Scott Thooft, Russell, Minn.

Baby pigs seem to waste less feed with the feeders, which are made out of plastic pails, "because there are less places for them to push feed out."

To make the feeders, Thooft cuts the bottom out of 5-gal. plastic pails so they're several inches deep. He cuts slots in the sides so they'll slide under the pen dividers.

He uses two pieces of 1/4-in. metal rod for crossbars that strengthen the feeders and reduce feed waste. Length of the crossbars depends on width of pen dividers and depth of feeder. The two pieces



are welded together at an angle and stick through the sides of the feeder.

It takes about 20 minutes to make one creep feeder, and cost is about \$1, Thooft says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Scott Thooft, R.R. 1, Box 116, Russell, Minn. 56169 (ph 507 823-4763 or 865-4436). Reprinted courtesy National Hog Farmer.