

12-Row Front-Mounted Cultivator Revamped To Fold Hydraulically

Last spring our neighbor purchased a new John Deere 12 row (30-in. spacing) front-mounted cultivator. The first problem he had was that Deere does not manufacture this cultivator to fit any larger tractor than a 4440. The neighbor has a 4640.

We made adapters to mount the cultivator on the 4640 without "butchering" the original frame. The adapters can be removed so the cultivator frame will be back in its original state for re-sale, or for mounting it back on a 4440 or some similar tractor.

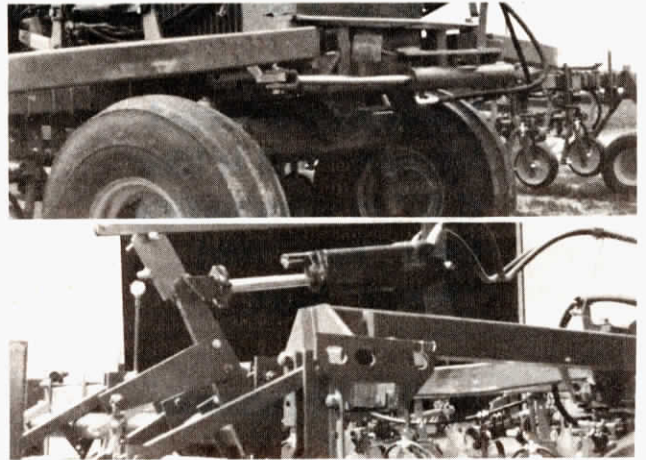
The next problem the neighbor had was that he could not fold or unfold the cultivator in the field without the aid of another man, a tractor and loader, blocks, and a jack. He would have to pull each side of the cultivator around with another tractor and then either jack or lift the frame onto its latching pins with a loader.

When he wanted to fold the cultivator to move, he needed another tractor to pull each side around in front of the tractor so he could get the transport bars hooked together on the ends of the cultivator.

After several hours of figuring and building, we came up with a hydraulic fold cylinder, and a roller and ramp device which lifts the frame up onto its latching pins.

Now, when the neighbor goes to the field, he gets out of the tractor, removes the transport bars which hold the cultivator in front of the tractor for road travel, gets back into the tractor, then pulls the hydraulic valve while he drives forward slowly. When the cylinder reaches the end of its stroke, he gets out of the tractor, puts in the latching pins, and then begins cultivating.

When he wants to move, he pulls the latching pins, then

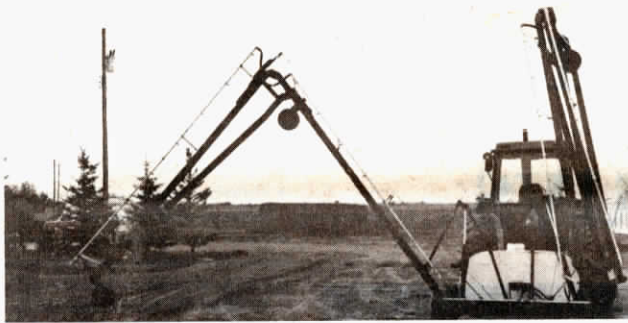


pulls the hydraulic lever while he backs up slowly. When the cylinder is retracted, he gets out and puts the transport bars on and drives off.

I think John Deere named this cultivator properly when they called it a model FM 12-30, which must have meant

"Floundering Monster Twelve Rows Wide", because that is exactly what it was before we put hydraulic fold on it and the other improvements.

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Sprayer Booms Fold Hydraulically

If you've been wondering how to build a wide crop sprayer that folds in seconds to tractor width for road transport, try this do-it-yourself idea on for size:

Born in the farm workshop of Earl and Harlan Skriver, Tilley, Alberta, Can., it features two 56 ft. long booms that fold hydraulically in seconds right from the tractor seat.

The booms are hooked to dual hydraulics so that each can be raised or lowered indepen-

dently, right from the driver's seat. For transport, the booms fold and lift vertically. Two small wheels support each boom in the field.

Each boom hinges in the middle, with each section being right at 13 ft. long. This center-hinging design helps eliminate "boom bounce" when traveling down the field at high speeds, says Earl. A hitch on back of the spray rig is used for pulling a ½-ton pickup from field to field.



Hay Hauling Trailer

Stuart Even, of Bushnell, S. Dak., used three mobile home axles to make a solid base for the homemade hay-hauling trailer that he uses to deliver hay in a 100-mile radius of his farm.

A set of over-size hubs let Even use heavy-duty tires on the 8 by 30-ft. trailer. The bed is made of welded channel and

flat iron. By building it himself, Even figures he saved about half the cost of a comparable size commercial trailer.

Extra fuel tanks mounted on the 8 by 8-ft. bed give him the range for long trips, yet leave enough room to stack additional hay.

Tractor Winch Does What Wreckers Can't

F.W. Carey, Jr., of Pocomoke City, Md., needed a heavy-duty winch that could do things wreckers weren't made to do. After trying various truck mounts, he finally tractor-mounted a heavy-duty winch from an old wrecker.

The winch mounts on a Cat. I or II 3-pt. hitch and is driven with either a hydraulic motor or tractor pto. Carey's frame will handle winches rated from 1,000 to 100,000 lbs. of pull. "During the past year, this

winch has paid for itself ten times over doing jobs ranging from pulling stuck combines to pulling out tree stumps in orchards," Carey told FARM SHOW.

Carey would like to find a manufacturer to develop the winch.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, F.W. Carey, Jr., Route 1, Box 238, Pocomoke City, Md. 21851 (ph 301 957-1234).

