



Self-Propelled Bale Mover Built Out Of Old Combine

"We took an old Massey 510 combine that had lots of years on it but not too much use and turned it into a handy self-propelled hauler for moving bales from the field to our storage shed," says Randall Rawls at Auburn University about the one-of-a-kind rig he and colleagues made last winter out of a rusted out combine.

"It's unique because the bales are carried out in front of the driver rather than towed behind," explains Rawls, who's superintendent at the Upper Coastal Plains Agricultural Substation at Winfield, Ala.

To convert the combine from rusty junk to a handy bale mover, they removed the

header and feeder house, then cut the frame off just behind the engine. All that remained of the original combine afterward was the engine, cab and big drive wheels.

The men next built a frame 20-ft. long by 10 1/2-ft. wide out of 6 by 1/2-in. angle iron and welded it to the combine's drive axle. They mounted the original steering axle from the back of the combine on the front of the 20-ft. frame. Power steering lines run from a pump on the combine engine up to the front axle.

Crossmembers made of 4-in channel iron 10-ft. wide with 4 by 4-in. pieces of



lumber fitted into them serve as a bale platform. A front-mounted rack made from pipe holds bales in place.

"We can set eight 1,100 lb. bales on it," Rawls says. "We moved about 300 bales with it last season and it worked great."

The operator sits up high enough in the cab to see everything in front of him, Rawls notes.

Total investment in the bale hauler was about \$500 in materials.

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Grain Feeder Made Out Of Tractor Tire

Old tractor tires can be used to make grain feeders that drop a precise amount of grain on the ground for range-fed cattle, according to Peter Brosinsky.

"I put 15 5-gal. pails of rolled oats or other grain in it for my range cows, hook it up behind my pickup, and then drive along dropping about 5 gal. of grain every 15 ft.," says the Bashaw, Alberta, farmer. "It works great and it only cost me about \$100 in materials."

Brosinsky made the feeder last winter out of a 34.0 by 38-in. tractor tire off a D21 Allis-Chalmers tractor.

He cut four 4-ft. dia. circles out of two 4 by 8-ft. sheets of 3/4-in. plywood. He puts two circles on each side of the tire, with one inside and one outside of the tire sidewall.

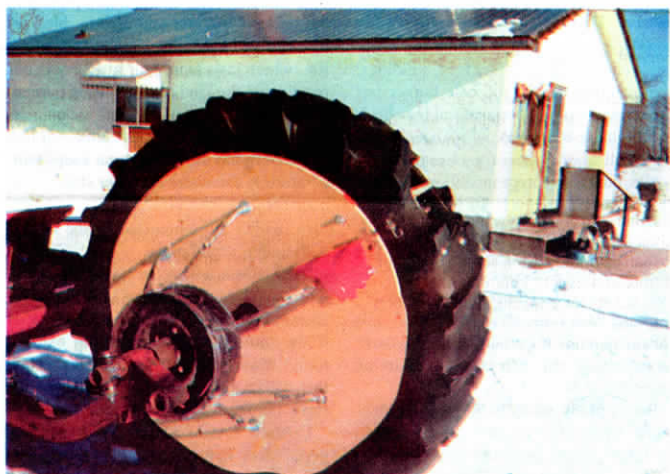
Six 3-ft. long rods run from the plywood on one side of wheel to an old wheel hub Brosinsky had on hand. Six 18-in. lengths of 2-in. dia. galvanized pipe fit inside the tire, pushing outwards on both sides to keep the tire spread to hold grain.

A hinged wooden flap inside the grain drop hole keeps too much grain from dropping out at one time.

The feeder mounts on Brosinsky's pickup-mounted bale hauler. A 4 1/2-ft. long piece of 4-in. dia. pipe runs through the wheel hub and center of the tire.

Biggest expense in making the feeder was the plywood at \$40 a sheet, Brosinsky says.

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