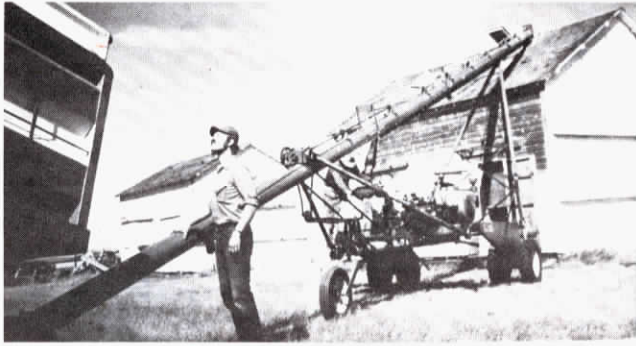


# FARM SHOW



## Slick Way To "Self-Propel" Grain Augers

As grain augers get bigger, they become hard to move and set up. So much so that many farmers would rather switch to grain legs than wrestle the heavy auger.

Not so at the Burton Farm at Vanguard, Sask., Canada. Their big 54 ft. long grain auger with an 8 in. screw can be raised and lowered by the touch of a lever and it can be moved just as easily.

That's because they mounted the auger on the chassis of an old Versatile self-propelled windrower and used the machine's engine and hydraulics to do the work.

"It's versatile — the windrower can be turned on a dime — and is easily placed into position at the granary," Ralph Burton told Farm Show.

The hydraulic system used to raise and lower the windrower table is used to raise and lower the auger. One man can easily handle the big auger and place the end of it in the filler hole at the top of the bin. When the bin is full, it's just as easy to lift the auger spout out of the filler hole and relocate the auger at another site.

Even moving the loader from

one farmstead to another is fast. At all times, the loader is under complete control. "It can be lowered so it is parallel to the ground which keeps it fairly low so it moves under power lines and telephone wires," explains Ralph.

To mount the heavy auger and still keep the load balanced, the swather frame had to be modified and the wheel repositioned so the auger could be mounted directly between the two drive wheels.

The original sickle drive is used to power the auger. "The drive to the auger caused some problems. Getting the mounting right to reduce wear on the drive belt was the worst," explains Ralph. After several attempts, he and his nephew David solved the problem by dropping the hangers on which the loader is mounted on the windrower by a couple of inches. "We ended up with a V-belt drive that won't squeak and rattle when the auger is under load," David points out.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW FOLLOWUP, Ralph Burton, Vanguard, Sask., Canada (ph 306 582-6128).

## "Made it Myself"

Some of the best new products we hear about are "made it myself" innovations born in farmers' workshops. If you've got a new invention or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so, where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors?

*Harold M. Johnson, Editor*

## Counter-Balanced Hog Loading Chute

Hogs can be loaded quickly from flat ground into any height deck of a semi trailer with this homemade counter-balanced loading chute.

The chute can be raised or lowered quickly and easily, yet will stay put. It is something you can build yourself and, to FARM SHOW's knowledge, is not being manufactured by any company.

One large California hog ranch manager says he can load 220 finished hogs in 20 min. — into 12 different compartments of a semi trailer — using the chute. It can deliver hogs up to the top deck of the semi which is 8½ ft. high. The chute is 28 ft. long, and hogs will walk up that steep an incline, with some persuasion.

To use the chute, it is quickly raised by hand to the proper height, the truck backs under, and the chute is lowered into place. Hogs walking up the chute hold it down.

The chute is 22 to 24 in. wide, which is important — two pigs at a time can walk up side-by-side, yet a market-size pig

walking up alone can't turn around. The floor of the chute is constructed of commercially-produced expanded metal flooring to provide sure footing. Holding the expanded metal down are 1 by 1 in. wood cleats every 1 in. across the chute floor. These cleats also help provide good footing.

The floor and sides of the chute are made of 3/4 in. plywood. One-inch angle iron is used to brace the sides and the bottom. At the bottom, they form triangle braces for strength. Hand rails run along the tops of the chute sidewalls.

The counter-balancing weights are made of 18-in. concrete pipe filled the first 4 in. with concrete, then filled on up with sand, allowing for any necessary weight adjustments.

The upright structure that holds the chute and weights is 14 ft. tall and is constructed of 3-in. steel pipe, a 4-in. steel I-beam at the top, and four pulleys. Steel cable works well to connect the chute to the weights through the pulleys.

