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THEY TURN TRACTORS OR SWATHERS INTO HIGH CLEARANCE SPRAYERS

In-Crop Spray Kits For Tractors, Swathers

You can turn a tractor or self-propelled swather into a relatively low-cost, high clearance sprayer complete with narrow tires and protective shielding that minimizes damage to standing crops, says Setter Mfg., Russell, Manitoba.

"It's a lot less expensive to convert an existing piece of equipment than to go out and buy a new high clearance sprayer," says Greg Setter, president. "The spray booms are easy to mount and lift up to 7 ft. high."

Setter says he can convert virtually any 2 or 4-WD tractor into a high clearance sprayer. The tractor kit consists of two 240-gal. (U.S.) saddle tanks, narrow 9.5 by 48 tires, poly shielding underneath and in front of the tractor, poly crop dividers ahead of the front and rear wheels, and a steel walk-around the front and sides.

The sprayer is powered by a hydraulic or centrifugal pump. Electric solenoid controls are used to adjust pressure and shut off booms, which are available in widths from 54 to 87 ft. Hydraulic wing tilt and a foam marker are optional.

"The shields under the tractor bend the crop over gently with minimal damage, leaving just two narrow wheel marks in the crop," notes Setter. "One person can install or remove the entire kit in about an hour. The dividers over the front wheels come off with four bolts per unit. Another four bolts - two on each side - come off to re-

move the front undercarriage shield. Two over-center hooks are loosened and two bolts removed to take off the rear undercarriage shield. The undercarriage shields are each 8 ft. long and wrap around the front end of the tractor all the way back to the pto shield. The boom frame mounts on the rear axles.

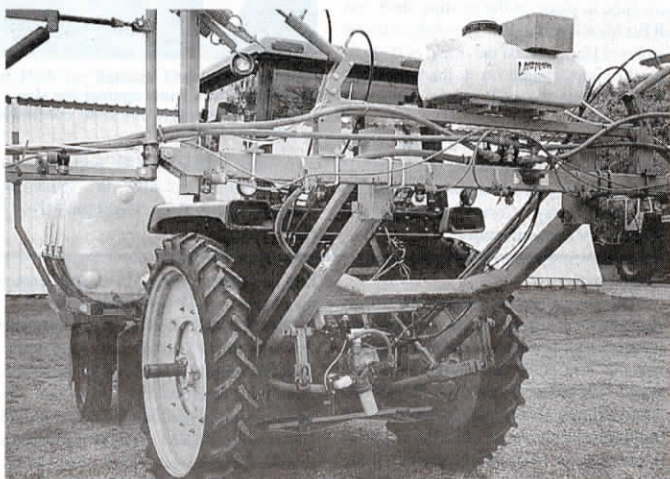
"To remove the booms the operator lowers the boom onto lift-off stands. Then a jack (included with the kit) is used to take the weight off four pins. Remove the pins and drive away."

A 2-WD tractor can be outfitted with a high-lift 87-ft. boom sprayer unit for about \$23,000 (U.S.).

To convert a swather, the sprayer unit is equipped with a 500-gal. tank, sprayer booms, frame, and mounting brackets. You just drive the swather tractor up to the sprayer unit. Guide the swather header mounts into the sprayer mounting brackets, secure the lock pins, and the sprayer unit is mounted. Boom widths range from 54 to 87 ft.

The pump on a converted swather is powered by swather hydraulics. Electric or hydraulic wing tilt is available. A swather can be outfitted with an 87-ft. boom for less than \$16,000 (U.S.).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Setter Mfg., Box 686, Russell, Manitoba, Canada R0J 1W0 (ph 204 773-2218).



Boom frame mounts on rear axles. Booms are available in widths from 54 to 87 ft.



Spielman mounted a tractor-pulled rock picker on front of his 1982 Deere 2320 self-propelled swather and equipped the swather with big flotation tires.

SWATHER EASILY CONVERTS BACK

Rock Picker Mounts On Self-Propelled Swather

Once a field has been seeded with small grains, it's virtually impossible to get back into it to pick up rocks without doing a lot of damage, unless you pick them out by hand. Mark Spielman, Twin Valley, Minn., got around the problem by mounting a tractor-pulled rock picker on the front of his 1982 Deere 2320 self-propelled swather and equipping the swather with big flotation tires. When he's done picking rocks, the swather converts back to harvest.

"It lets me pick up rocks in newly seeded fields without digging ruts and I have a much better view of the rock picker in front of me," says Spielman.

Spielman bought a used 5-ft. wide Schulte pull-type rock picker for \$5,000. It was designed to be either pto-driven or operated by hydraulics. He welded a hydraulic motor onto the picker, then mounted the picker on a homemade 5-ft. wide, 30-in. high steel rock basket that attaches directly to the swather in place of the header. The hydraulic motor is powered by an add-on hydraulic pump that's pto-driven off the swather. A hydraulic cylinder raises or lowers the picker. Spool valves in the cab are used to operate the cylinder and to control forward-reverse direction of the conveyor. Spielman replaced the swather's original front tires with 31-in. wide flotation tires on 20-in. wheel rims.

"It does so little damage to fields that I've even used it when grain is up and in the 2 to 3 leaf stage. It's easy to see the rocks against the green grain. I can hardly see where I went. I put depth stops on the hydraulic cylinder to keep the rock picker from digging too deep. I got the idea after I bought a new Deere air seeder with 10-in. wide sweeps that bring up a lot of rocks.

I'm often surprised at how many rocks I find. I might go out in the field thinking there's a basket full and end up filling four or five baskets.

"I also use it before seeding hay fields. The mower conditioner I use to cut hay throws rocks like 90 mph fastballs. I had three tractor windows broken by flying rocks.

"The rock basket between the picker and the swather slopes down at the bottom and has a door on back. To dump rocks, I pull on a rope inside the cab that's attached to a lever at the bottom of the door. It swings the door back and down. Once the door is open I slowly drive ahead to empty out the rocks. The biggest disadvantage is that it won't dump rocks into a pile. I have to leave them in a layer at the end of the field or on a driveway, etc., then later use a skid steer loader to pile them up.

"The basket is only about half as big as a conventional one. The picker and basket together weigh about the same as my 21-ft. swather header. To switch back to harvest, I disconnect the cables from the spool valves, remove the pto shaft, and pull four pins that connect the picker to the basket and the basket to the swather. I also remove the cylinder depth stops. It's hard to line up the short pto shaft with the knuckle on the picker. I plan to mount a belt-driven hydraulic pump on the swather to make hookup easier."

Spielman paid \$5,000 for the tires and \$1,000 for the hydraulic pump, hoses, valves, and cables.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mark Spielman, Rt. 1, Box 142, Twin Valley, Minn. 56584 (ph 218 567-8510).



To convert a swather, sprayer unit is equipped with 500-gal. tank, sprayer booms, frame, and mounting brackets. Note protective shielding on front.