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REVERSED PICKUP EQUIPPED WITH 12-FT. MAST ON BACK

Forklift Built From Old Chevy Pickup

"It saves us a lot of labor and cost much less to build than buying a new skid steer loader," says Jacob DeKorne, Ellsworth, Mich., about the self-propelled forklift he built out of a 1976 Chevrolet 1/2-ton shortbed pickup by reversing it and mounting an Allis-Chalmers forklift mast on back.

DeKorne operates a bee keeping business and uses the forklift to load pallets of bee hives onto his pickup, with four sets of hives per pallet. He then tows the forklift behind the pickup as he drives to his customers' farms, using it to set hives out in orchards.

He first rebuilt the pickup's 350 cu. in. V-8 gas engine and automatic transmission. He then removed the pickup cab and box and turned the steering wheel and seat around and repositioned the clutch and brakes. He made a new cab out of 14-ga. sheet metal and flipped the rear end over to put the forward gears in reverse. He cut 3 ft. off the frame, and moved the rear axle forward. The mast can be shifted up to 6 in. from side to side by extending or retracting a hydraulic cylinder that's connected to a steel shaft that slides inside a steel tube welded onto the bottom of the mast.

"A new Bobcat skidsteer loader would have cost at least \$18,000, but I didn't spend even half that much to build my forklift," says DeKorne. "I bought the mast from a forklift dealer for \$800. A hydraulic pump that's belt-driven off the engine crankshaft

is used to operate the mast and to provide power steering. The rig has three hydraulic cylinders - one to raise or lower the mast, one to tilt the forks up or down, and one to shift the mast from side to side. Being able to side-shift the mast makes it much easier to load pallets because we don't have to line up perfectly with the pallet.

"The cab has big windows on all sides. The front one is about 40 in. square and has two windshield wipers - one for the top part and one for the bottom. There's only one door and it's equipped with a recessed handle so nothing can catch on it. A steel box mounted on a running board holds tire chains, bee hive smokers, and other tools. Inside there's a radio, CB radio, and gauges for amperage, oil pressure, water temperature, and hours. We mounted a ventilation unit and electric fan from an old mobile home on top of the cab to provide ventilation. The cab also has a new seat that we bought from a forklift dealer.

"Only about 10 in. of the original driveshaft is left. We mounted a collar on it so that we can quickly disconnect the automatic transmission whenever we tow the forklift. The rig has only a 72-in. wheelbase and will 'fishtail' easily so we don't drive very fast with it."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jacob DeKorne, Box 93, 10758 Essex Road, Ellsworth, Mich. 49729 (ph 616 588-6062).



Feeder has fabric "skirts" around the top and bottom and a moveable, 24-in. deep skirt that lowers to seal off feed openings. A control box controls feeding times.

SIDES OPEN AND CLOSE TO CONTROL FEEDING TIMES

Hay-Saving "Electric" Round Bale Feeder

You've never seen anything like this new hay-saving round bale feeder with powered "skirts" around the outside that open and close as needed to control feeding times.

Unlike conventional open feeders in which 30 to 40 percent of hay can be wasted by animals free to feed whenever they feel like it, the new feeder cuts waste to virtually nothing, according to manufacturer Alan Curtis, Priest River, Idaho.

E.Z. Hay Feeder is a conventional round bale feeder with fabric "skirts" around the top and bottom and a moveable, 24-in. deep skirt - mounted on a metal ring that's slightly larger than the dia. of the feeder - that lowers to seal off feed openings. The ring attaches to three 24-volt screw actuators powered by standard 110-volt current that raise and lower the skirt. A small control box con-

trols feeding times and duration and a buzzer rings to warn animals when the skirt is about to lower. An electric wire around the top of the feeders prevents top feeding.

To run power to the feeder, Curtis recommends burying a 14-ga. wire inside 3/4-in. pvc pipe. The feeders should be placed on at least a 1 1/2-ft. mound of earth so water runs off.

Two models available. One, 50-in. high and 94 in. in dia., for up to 12 cattle, ponies, or Llamas, sells for \$1,595. The other, 62-in. high and 94 in. in dia., for larger animals, sells for \$1,665.

Battery and solar-powered models also available.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alan Curtis, Rt. 1, Box 262, Priest River, Idaho 83856 (ph, fax 208 263-0334).



Rebuilt industrial scrapers were designed for use by highway building contractors.

CABLE UNITS CONVERTED TO HYDRAULIC

Industrial Scrapers Rebuilt For Farm Use

"Our rebuilt industrial scrapers were designed for use by highway building contractors. They're built heavier than most light duty farm scrapers and are an outstanding value," says Jack Fehr, Manitoba, Canada.

Fehr buys the scrapers from highway contractors and converts them from cable operation to hydraulic for controlling depth, loading, and unloading with a hydraulic push-off gate.

"Farmers use them to dig ditches, build terraces, poultry barns, and many other jobs," says Fehr. "A 180 to 200 hp front

wheel assist tractor can handle 10-yard models. Larger models require a 4-WD tractor with duals."

A rebuilt 11-yard Caterpillar scraper sells for \$14,900 (Canadian); a rebuilt 14-yard Letourneau scraper sells for \$12,000 (Canadian). Fehr also sells rebuilt 3 and 4-yard scrapers from \$2,500 and 6-yard scrapers from \$5,000. He also rents scrapers for \$200 per day (Canadian).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jack Fehr, Rt. 2, Box 260, Morden, Manitoba, Canada R0G 1J0 (ph 204 822-3797).

Mobile Hydraulic Power Unit

If you've been looking for a portable hydraulic power unit, you'll like this new mobile unit that mounts on flotation tires making it easy to use anywhere on your farm, says Quality Plus Mfg., Oelwein, Iowa.

The unit is powered by a 13 hp Honda electric start gas engine. It delivers 2,250 lbs. pressure at 7 gpm's. "It's light enough that two people can lift it into the back of a pickup where it can be used to operate a hydraulic-powered sprayer, bulk seed handling system, or any other hydraulic equipment," says Dan Forsyth.

Sells for \$2,275.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Quality Plus Mfg., Inc., 630 7th St. S.E., Oelwein, Iowa 50662 (ph 319 636-2204).



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