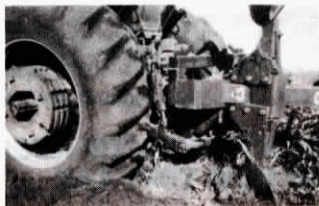




Pivoting 3-pt. Quick-Tach Hitch

"Many farmers are buying steerable, trailing equipment rather than mounted equipment because they just can't make turns. This hitch lets you turn with the less expensive mounted equipment. It also lets you use smaller size tractors because you get better traction with mounted equipment," says Rex Griffith, of Seneca, Kan. about his pivoting 3-pt. quick-tach hitch.



plow sit up and plow without any effort on your part," explains Griffith.

Two heavy pins at the base of the hitch slide back and forth when the tractor turns. The top point simply pivots in its mounting. The hitch adds no length to the tractor mounting. Griffith says it's designed so it won't slam around on a turn and it can be locked rigid for times when no movement is needed.

Griffith got the idea for the hitch about three years ago when he bought a 1586 International tractor with a "roll-over" four 18-in. bottom plow. "I had the latest equipment on the market but I couldn't make the turns on the terraces on my farm," says Griffith. "On turns, I had to brake and, depending on which way I was turning, the plow would dig deeper or shallower."

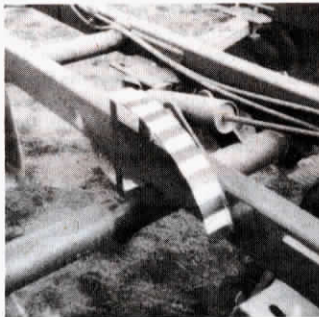
So Griffith built a quick-tach hitch, much like other hitches that adapt to the regular 3-pt., except that his pivots. After some 1500 acres with the hitch hitched to his plow, he says it has solved his turning problems. "Without the hitch we could only turn in about a 200-ft. circle. Now we can turn in 50 ft. What's more, it lets the

His prototype model is built to fit a Cat. III tractor but he says it could be built for the smallest to largest tractors, and used on any 3 pt. mounted tractor. He is now negotiating with a manufacturer to take over the production. He says it will cost "only slightly more than a conventional hitch."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rex Griffith, Rt. 1, Box 33A, Seneca, Kan. 66538 (ph 913 858-4774).

Disk Depth Gauge

"Here's a simple disk depth gauge that lets you send anyone out to disk, even if they're young and inexperienced, without worrying if they've got the disk at the right depth," says Walt Peterson, Idaho Falls, Idaho.



To build the gauge, Walt wrapped a steel strap around the disk's pivoting axle and bolted it on the underside so it can be loosened and turned. On the top side, he welded a round pin with the last inch or so bent to a 90° angle to act as a pointer. With the strap attached to the axle, as the disk is lowered into the ground, the pointer will turn. To indicate how far, Walt welded a half-moon 4 or 5 in. metal strap to the disk frame to act as an index marker, and made a line on it at the desired

disk depth. He notes that it could also be marked with numbers for various depths.

Walt says that, so far as he knows, the gauge can be adapted to most disks with little change. "It costs only a couple pieces of scrap iron and has improved our operation," he says.

FARM SHOW



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



Field Sprayer Built From Combine

Ray Reams, of Moscow, Idaho, says his home-built spray rig built around a self-leveling Massey-Harris Super 27 hillside combine has saved him a lot of "worry and hurry" at spray time when commercial rigs are not always available.

Besides that, the hillside rig makes spraying easier in the steep hills he farms. While the 20 to 25 year-old cutaway combine levels front to back and sideways, the 50-ft. wide spray boom runs at a height level to the ground, supported by discarded motorcycle wheels at either end of the boom.

Reams bought the old Massey combine for \$50 from a neighbor and cut away everything he didn't need. Front and

rear wheels run in a single track, 8 to 9 ft. apart. Rather than use a ground-driven pump, he runs the spray pump off the unloading auger.

The only disadvantage of the machine, according to Reams, is its relatively slow speed. "It travels about 6 mph on the highway and I spray at about 3 mph in the field. Power is good enough to work in a plowed field," he adds.

Reams' unique rig has been in use for 5 years now and he recently bought another Super 27 to build himself a second rig. He says there are plenty of old hillside combines around that would serve the same purpose in hilly fields.