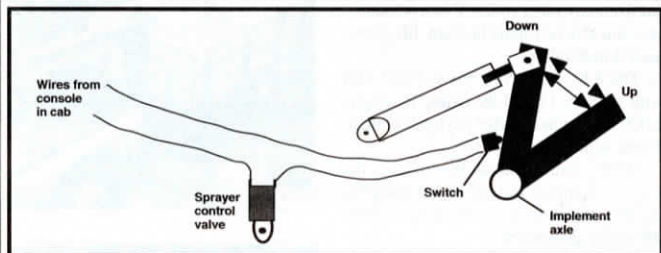


Made It Myself

(Continued from previous page)



Automatic Sprayer Shutoff

"When planting corn, I band 32 percent nitrogen and spray herbicides. To have one less thing to keep track of when planting, I installed a push-button starter switch on the planter axle to turn the spray control on or off," says Eugene Alt, Audubon, Iowa.

"There are several locations where you could mount the switch - on a hydraulic cylinder or any other mechanism that will move when the planter is raised or lowered and that will hold in a fixed position.

"The switch should be activated by a spring so it will maintain constant con-

tact. Once the switch is mounted, unplug one wire at the control valve and extend the wire to the switch, and then run it back to the control valve. You can still shut the sprayer off from the cab.

"I side dress nitrogen with the cultivator so I mount a similar switch on the 3-pt. hitch as well. You could use the idea on any field cultivator, disk, or other equipment where you want to shut off an electrical device automatically when the machine is raised or lowered."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Eugene Alt, 1720 Heron, Audubon, Iowa 50025 (ph 715 563-4115).



Home-Built Pull-Type Tile Plow Works Down To 5-Ft. Depth

After two wet falls in 1977 and 1978, Albin Murawski decided he had to find a way to tile his farm, which did not have a single foot of tile on it at the time.

A neighbor had built a 3-pt. mounted plow and he had read an article about a homemade pull-type tile plow in a drainage contractors magazine. So he decided to build his own.

"It took three men three weeks to build this tiler in January of 1979," says Murawski, who already owned a dozer and backhoe when he built the tiler. "Since then, we've put in over 20 million feet of 4-in. tile at an average of about 36 in. deep. It will work down to a 5-ft. depth if we rip it once at a shallower depth before making a second pass to lay the tile. At times, we've hooked two 4-WD tractors on front of the dozer to pull it through a hill, so we know it's built tough."

The men bought most of the steel to build the plow at a scrap yard, but used a commercial digging point that's replaceable. The plow was built with three 8-in. I-beams, with one 12 ft. beam down the

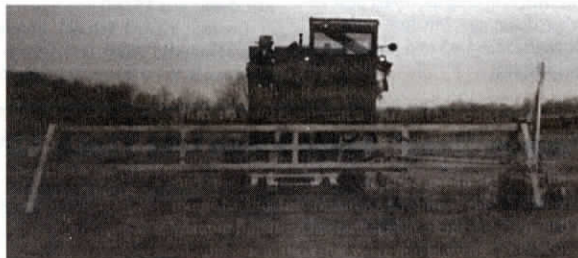
center and a 12-ft. beam angled off to either side. It's fitted with 52-in. wheels. A 2 3/4-in. dia. pin acts as a hinge point to lower the plow into the ground, and 1/2 in. steel plate was used for the sides of the plow itself.

The plow is 11 ft., 9 in. tall, formed out of 6-in. I-beams. Four 7-ft. long arms raise and lower it, holding it level when running through small hills or shallow troughs. A junked truck hoist provides lifting power on the hoist, and four press wheels from an IH planter guide plastic tile into the plow.

The unit was designed for 4-in. tile but Murawski has a boot he can use to install 6-in. tile also. A laser is used for automatic grade control.

"There are other tractor-pulled tile plows on the market now - both 3-pt. and pull-type - but we feel this is built as heavy and works as well as anything we've seen."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Murawski Farms, 7276 N. Van Dyke Rd., Port Austin, Mich. 48467.



Giant CRP Mower Built Out Of Combine

"We've seen lots of big self-propelled mowers in FARM SHOW over the years, but we've never seen one quite like ours," says Dan Nufrio about a 24-ft. wide front-mount combine mower attachment he and his late father, Rocco, built a few years ago.

"We've got 100 acres of CRP land here in eastern Indiana and we figured if we could cut a 24-ft. wide swath we'd be able to mow it all in less than 12 hours, instead of the three days it took to mow it with a 9-ft. mower," Nufrio says. "Plus, we figured if people saw that it worked well we might get some custom work, especially if a lot of land comes out of the program. Farmers are going to need something to start to get it back into condition."

The project started with a late 1960's Massey combine the Nufrios bought from a neighbor for \$250.

The men then built a triangular-shaped 24-ft. long by 10-ft.-wide by 6-ft. high mower attachment for the combine out of 4-in. square steel tubing. It mounts on the combine's hydraulic header lift cylinder with eight rectangular brackets they made out of 3/4-in. thick steel plate 12 in. long. The specially-built brackets let them quick-tach the cutter to the combine with four bolts.

Four 15-in. dia. crazy wheels off an old New Idea corn planter, two per side,

support the mower.

The Nufrios fitted the mower frame with a commercial 24-ft. cutterbar with standard 1 1/2-in. guards and sickle sections. A "wobble box" from an old haybine powers the cutterbar. It's belt driven off a gear reduction box and pulley connected by a shaft to the combine's header drive gear.

The big mower is designed to cut 6 to 8-in. off the ground at around 5 mph. "At that speed we figured we'd be able to make one round in our 1/2-mile long field every 20 or 30 minutes," Nufrio says.

"There are still a few bugs to work out," says Nufrio. "The cutterbar had problems cutting heavy infestations of thistle and foxtail, which are our worst problem weeds."

To improve feeding, the Nufrios built a reel for the mower out of two old 12-ft. long combine reels. The reel was driven off the combine's reel drive, but that proved unsatisfactory. Too much pressure on the drive side caused the reel to twist.

Nufrio says he may try an alternative to the current design. "I could probably mount eight 3-ft. wide lawnmower blades on the combine so it'd work just like a giant lawnmower," he says.

So far, he's invested about \$3,500 in the machine.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dan Nufrio, 881 W-Wallace Rd., Fountain City, Ind. 47341 (ph 317 847-2735).



One-Of-A-Kind "Sugar Wagon" Makes Sap Gathering Easy

To eliminate the job of lugging 1,600 buckets of maple sap out of the woods by hand every season, a Canadian sugarer built a one-of-a-kind "sugar wagon."

"Before I built this rig two years ago, we'd need six men to gather the sap between March 15 and April 15," says Willis Arthur of Huntingdon, Quebec. "Now we do it with one tractor driver and three men on the hoses and get twice as much done in the same amount of time. We've gathered as much as four or five tank fulls in six hours."

Arthur's "sugar wagon" consists of a 600 gal. stainless steel vacuum milk tank he got from a local dealer. It mounts in an old International 540 manure spreader.

Arthur fitted a vacuum pump run by a 5 hp gas engine on the front of the tank.

He ran two 3/4-in. dia. hoses from the vacuum pump to the tank and ran a 1-in.

dia. hose from the tank to a 5-gal. overflow pail. Two 35-ft. hoses and one 45-ft. hose, each fitted with a manual shut-off valve 2 ft. from the end, attach to the tank.

Arthur pulls the sap hauler through the woods with a Ford 5610 4-WD tractor. Workers stick the hoses into buckets to suck out the sap. With the vacuum pump running at 24 psi, each hose can empty a 2-gal. bucket of sap in 10 to 12 seconds.

"It makes sap-gathering a pleasure instead of a chore," Arthur says.

Including the new hose and gasoline engine he used, Arthur has \$1,750 (Canadian) invested in the machine.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Willis Arthur, 2281 Hwy. 138, Huntingdon, Quebec, Canada J05 1H0 (ph 514-264-6751).