

**“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? (Send to: FARM SHOW, Box 704, Lakeville, MN 55044).

Harold M. Johnson, Editor



King-Sized “Rock Picker”

“We had big stones in our fields that the cultivator couldn’t pull out. To get them out, we built our own king-sized rock picker which fits our front-end loader,” says Don Dubyna of Cando, Sask.

The rock picker has two replaceable teeth about 18 in. long that could be made longer for bigger tractors. The teeth are carbon-tipped for extra strength.

“You just stick the teeth in beside the rock and tip them up with the center hydraulic cylinder on the loader. Then, you lift the front-end loader and push with your tractor. Sometimes you have to try two or three dif-

ferent spots on a rock before you find a lip or flat spot to grab onto,” he explains.

Dubyna says his first model, equipped with only one tooth, had a tendency to slip sideways. Two teeth grip much better, he says. “We’ve pushed rocks out so big that the loader couldn’t lift them when the bucket was put back on. We had to drag them off the field.”

Dubyna’s interested in finding a manufacturer to produce the rock picker commercially.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Don Dubyna, Box 194, Cando, Sask., SOK OVO Canada.

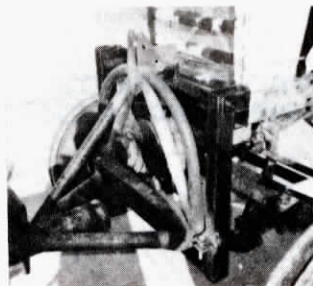


Tractor Blade Works Front or Rear

A tractor blade that works on either the front or rear of the tractor has been developed by retired Michigan farmer Herman Kloha, of Midland. A specially-designed holder that mounts on the front of the tractor allows front use of the blade’s 3 pt. hookup system, as well as rear use.

“Most tractor blades are rear-mount,” says Kloha, “and sometimes that’s OK. But, once you’ve used the blade up front, you’ll discover how much easier it is to operate. It’s kind of like a bulldozer.”

His blade is 6 ft. wide, but the idea would work with an 8 ft. blade, he says. It will lift to 12 in. above the ground, and will angle enough to plow snow or dirt handily. The blade can be switched from back to front in 15-20 minutes.



Kloha is looking for a manufacturer, and says the blade and front-mount device could be mass produced to sell for \$300 to \$350. He would be willing to make a few himself to sell. For further information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Herman Kloha, 1033 S. Flajole Rd., Rt. 1, Midland, Mich. 48640 (ph 517 662-4935).



“Wheelbarrow” Herbicide Tank

Richard Henry, LaPlace, Ill., designed this “wheelbarrow” herbicide tank which is pushed by the tractor and rides on its own wheels.

The unit is low in profile for easy filling and whatever Henry hooks behind it, such as a disk or field cultivator, automatically takes out the wheel tracks.

The “wheelbarrow” is mounted to a tractor and oscillates to follow the contour of the field. To get this rocking action, Henry used ball and socket hitches, the type used for trailers. Instead of pulling, as with a trailer, they push.

To make the carrier’s wheels follow the ground surface, Henry used a solid axle, attached with a sleeve in the

center. A shaft on the axle slides into the sleeve and is pinned in place. This permits the axle, right and left, to rise and fall as needed in following the ground surface. This rising and falling, in turn, raises and lowers the wheelbarrow “handles” that carry the tank. The wheels are “Oliver helper wheels” for 3 pt. hitches. They operate in caster fashion, turning any which way the tractor turns.

Henry built the frame of mild steel, making square beams from angle iron.

The tank holds 350 gal., which is large enough for covering about 20 acres per fill. Henry uses it for both corn and soybean herbicides.