



## Stabilizer Makes For Safer Roadside Mowing

John Werries, Chapin, Ill. safely mows ditch banks with as much as 45° slope, thanks to a homemade stabilizer mounted on one side of the tractor.

Werries, who uses a 7-ft. center-lift, 3 pt. rotary mower, "borrowed" most of the components from other equipment he already had on the farm. The mounting bracket was originally built for saddle tanks for his Deere tractor. He had the 32-in. stroke hydraulic cylinder on hand, and borrowed the stabilizer wheel from his Deere rotary hoe.

"All I had to buy was about 6 ft. of 4-by-4 in. steel tubing

and some flat iron," says Werries.

The stabilizer extends out about 8 ft. and is hinged to go from vertical to straight out. To compensate for varying degrees of slope, the operator adjusts the stabilizer right from the tractor seat via a hydraulic lever.

While the device enables Werries to mow slopes that he wouldn't otherwise attempt to mow, "steep-bank mowing is still the kind of job that should be reserved for an experienced driver and not something to leave to a youngster," he cautions.



## Front Bale Unroller

"After several years of unrolling 4-ft. dia. round bales by hand or with the front wheel of the tractor (the tractor radiator always got in the way), I knew there had to be a better way because my feet and back were giving out on me," says Aaron Warkentin, Ryley, Alb.

"This unroller solved the problem. It's made from a length of 12-in. dia. heavy-duty pipe with a metal shaft welded through the middle with old bearings fitted into channel iron and bolted to the tractor

"I unload the bale, cut the twine, and then drive against the bale with the unroller. It works fine except that next time I'll build it lower to the ground since the bottom 1 ft. of bale doesn't get unrolled. I recently built one for a neighbor, which we mounted on a frame extended ahead of and under the front axle," says Warkentin.

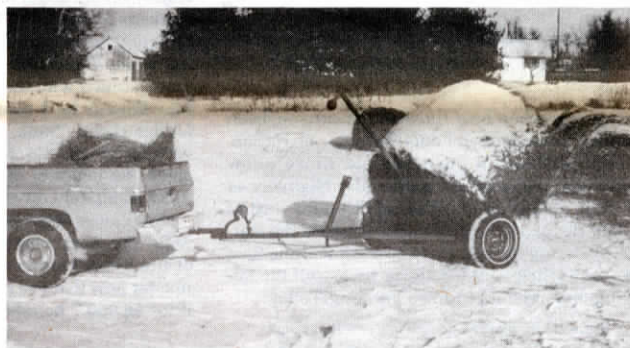
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Myself"**

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*Harold M. Johnson, Editorial Director*



## Bale-Moving Cart

"Anyone who handles round bales will wonder how they ever got along without this simple cart which takes just a short time to build," says Earl Roland, Bottineau, N. Dak.

"Basically, it's just an A-frame trailer with a 2-tooth fork that pivots on the axle. I used an old piece of 4-in. well casing and burned holes in it for the two 4-ft. long, 1 1/4-in. solid teeth and used a 6-ft. pipe that I reinforced with a 3/8-in. rod to get good leverage when picking the bale up. I used an old swather idler pulley on top to increase the lift capacity of the winch which is mounted near the ball hitch of my trailer, the total length of which is about 10-ft.

"I'm using 3/16-in. dia. cable but will probably replace it with 1/4-in. cable to make it heavier. I'd like to put a brake on the drum to make it easier to lower the bale without having to use

the crank on the winch. That would also help feed cable onto the drum.

"I built the frame from 2 1/2-in. dia. pipe, a couple car spindles, and a used 1,000-lb. boat winch. The 15-in. tires came with the old car spindles. The wheel base is about 7 ft.

"I've moved about 1,500 bales with only minor modifications, such as adding a little reinforcing to the teeth and lift pipe. I use it a lot for fall feeding from the hay field to pastures and in cold weather when it's hard to get a tractor started. I pull it with a 4-WD pickup. The biggest advantage of this bale cart is that all you need on your pickup is a ball hitch. Nothing mounts permanently inside the pickup box."

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