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## EACH OF TOOLBAR'S THREE SECTIONS HAS A 3-PT. HOOK-UP AND HYDRAULIC OUTLET

# They Do Field Work With A 3-Section, 60-Ft. Toolbar

A custom-built 60-ft. toolbar equipped with hydraulic outlets and a 3-pt. hitch on each of its three sections lets Milford and Arlyn Friesen, Litchfield, Neb., pull three mounted 8-row planters together, and do the same with other 3-pt. mounted implements including row crop cultivators, field cultivators, rotary hoes, fertilizer applicators, and grain drills.

The Friesens worked with Strobel Industries, Clarks, Neb., to build the one-of-a-kind 60-ft. wide toolbar which is built from 7 by 7-in. box tubing in three sections, each equipped to handle 3-pt. equipment. The toolbar's eight lifting gauge wheels mount ahead of the toolbar, leaving the area behind the toolbar clear for hookup.

"We used a 24-row planter for five years and needed to replace it," says Milford, who planted 5,000 acres with their new toolbar

last year, pulling it with a 225-hp 4-WD tractor. "We wanted to continue planting 24 rows at a time since it had proved to be the most practical size for our farming operation. We already owned 8 and 12-row tillage equipment to go along with our 24-row planter. We decided to build a 60-ft. wide toolbar that would carry three 8-row planters and be useful for other field operations. Our objective was to retain the efficiency of wide body farming operations while making it possible to use popular size mounted implements, since their initial cost per row or per foot is lower and their resale value seems to be higher. We built our own toolbar because we couldn't find a 24-row unit equipped with forward lift gauge wheels."

The toolbar allows the Friesens to gang different combinations of 3-pt. mounted implements, planters, or drills. For example,

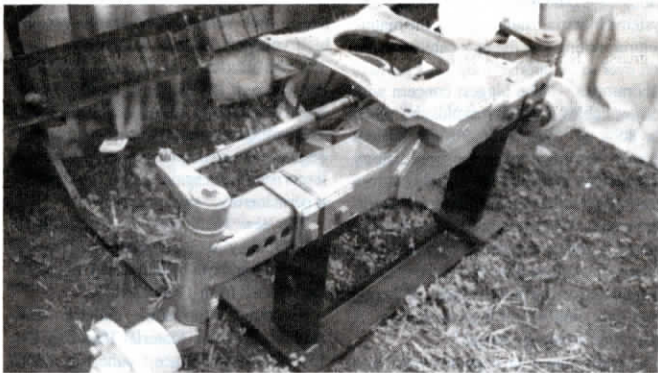
they pull two 8-row cultivators on the outside sections and a 6-row model on the inside section to cultivate 24 rows at a time. They could also gang other unmatched equipment together such as two 15-ft. grain drills with a 20-ft., or two 22-ft. fertilizer applicators with a 16-ft. model. It lets the Friesens use whatever equipment they have available or can purchase at the best price.

To mount planters, the Friesens clamp the planter toolbars directly to the 60-ft. toolbar. "Clamping the planters or drills to the toolbar results in consistent guess rows, yet the implements are still separated from each other so they can flex on sidehills. It takes 1 1/2 hours to mount three planters, and a half hour to unhook them. It takes only minutes to hook up other implements which use the 3-pt. hitches."

The toolbar is drawn from the bottom two points of the tractor's 3-pt. hitch. Two lift wheels raise each outside section and four lift wheels raise the inside section. The Friesens designed a 5-piece, 3-stage, 15-ft. long tongue that telescopes the toolbar forward for a transport length of 35 ft. As the toolbar folds forward, the implement on each outside section folds with it. Once the toolbar is in transport position, the lift wheels on the outside sections fold out of the way, leaving the four wheels on the center section to support the toolbar in transport. Transport width can be as narrow as 15 ft.

Toolbar operation requires three hydraulic outlets - one to drive the planters' orbit motors, one to lift the planter, and one to operate the markers which the Friesens purchased from a Kinze dealer. "To fold the planter, we unplug the marker hoses and plug in the folding cylinders. After we've unfolded the planter, we plug the markers back in," says Milford, who notes that Strobel Industries is willing to custom-build the toolbars in widths from 36 to 60 ft. A 60-ft. model would cost about \$27,000.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Milford Friesen, Box 174, Litchfield, Neb. 68852 (ph 308 446-2577) or Strobel Industries, Inc., Box 255, Clarks, Neb. 68628 (ph 308 548-2254).



The new axle is simply a rebuilt wide-front axle off a 1370 Case tractor.

## Front Replacement Axle For Older Deere Tractors

"It's one of our most popular products," says Gene Wagaman of Parts Express about the company's new "beefed up" replacement wide front-end for Deere 3010, 3020, 4010, 4020, and 4320 tractors.

Parts Express consists of a group of 10 tractor and combine salvage yards around the country that band together to sell used and remanufactured "like new" parts. Wagaman manages one of the yards, Leesburg Tractor Parts, Leesburg, Ind. "The front axle is a weak point on these Deere tractors. Because they break so often there aren't many good used ones around so we came up with a replacement that's stronger than the original."

The new axle is simply a rebuilt wide-front axle off a 1370 Case tractor. The Case axle is fitted with the Deere mounting saddle

and center steering arm so it installs with no modification to the tractor itself. One problem with the Deere axle, says Wagaman, is that the axle housing is cast iron. The Case axle housing is made of steel.

Another change is that the rebuilt axle has 8-bolt hubs instead of the original 6-bolt hubs. "The 6-bolt hubs often couldn't stand up to the strain of heavy loader work. Farmers would haul a round bale or other heavy load with the loader and while making a turn the hub would tear out of the wheel," says Wagaman, noting that the rebuilt axle "should last as long or longer than the rest of the tractor."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Parts Express, Leesburg Tractor Parts, Rt. 2, Box 85, Leesburg, Ind. 46538 (ph 800 426-6960 or 219 453-4713).



Center pole of a wagon gear is fastened to the frame of a New Idea 400 rake.

## Double Rake Hitch

Easy-to-build and cheap. That's how Garland Hendren, Bethany, Mo., describes the double rake hitch he built to gang two side delivery rakes together.

"It's about as simple as can be. I made it from the center pole of a heavy-duty wagon gear. The pole telescopes in and out at 1-ft. intervals. All the holes were already bored in the pole and were just perfect for fastening to the frame of my New Idea 400 rake. I made a drop hitch out of angle iron at the end of the pole to hook up to the trailing Deere rake.

"I mounted the pole parallel to the basket of the front rake. For road transport I tow the rear rake from a hitch at the center of the front rake. In the field,

I hook up to the tow hitch so I can rake one double window," says Hendren, noting that he can adjust position of the rear rake to adjust window size.

"I mounted the hitch across the top of the frame because I thought I would get a more direct pull from the drawbar of the tractor. Two of my neighbors who built similar hitches mounted theirs lower down on the frame at the rear of the front rake and they work well, too.

"I spent about \$35 to build the hitch and it works every bit as well as a commercial model."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Garland R. Hendren, Rt. 3, Box 110, Bethany, Mo. 64424 (ph 816 425-3808).