



Deere Tractor Collector Recreates Unique 2-Cylinder Promotion

During the Wisconsin Farm Progress Days last July, Joe Joas, Kiel, Wis., mounted his 1944 Deere "A" 2-cyl. tractor on three old Coke bottles and ran the tractor constantly for three days. The wheels never touched the ground and he never broke a bottle. "I did it to recreate old advertising literature produced by Deere," says Joas, who shows antique tractors as a hobby and is a member of a local two cylinder tractor club. "In the late 1930's and early 1940's, manufacturers of 4-cyl. tractors started knocking Deere's 'popping johnny' 2-cyl. tractors, claiming they ran rough. Deere counteracted by showing photos in advertising literature of a Deere "A" held up by three Coke bottles. This advertising literature is so rare I haven't been able to find any.

"I decided to try it myself to see if it could be done. There are two bottles under the rear axle and one under the front. About 90% of the people who see it don't believe it and ask me what's the trick. Even though the tractor weighs about 3,800 lbs., it doesn't break the bottles because the pistons on a 2-cyl. tractor go back and forth horizontally without causing any downward pressure. The pistons on a 4-cyl. tractor, which go up and down, would break the bottles. The tractor has to be good and level for this idea to work. Each bottle stands on a piece of oak. Pressure from the tractor causes the bottles to form a ring about 1/8-in. deep in the wood."



Craig Woosley and son Joshua (far left), along with cousin James McNees are shown with the tiny calf which weighed only 19 lbs. when born last June.

World's Smallest Surviving Calf?

"I thought it was a yard ornament when my husband Craig brought him in from the pasture where he was born," says Jackie Woosley, Belvidere, Ill., about the tiny 19-lb., 18-in. tall Holstein calf born on their farm last June.

Two weeks after the calf was born it weighed 23 lbs., still only about one fifth the size of a normal Holstein calf.

"He was so weak we thought we were going to lose him. He was born about two months premature to a middle-size heifer.

The first few weeks the calf was fed every couple hours with a bottle-fed mix of cow and goat's milk. Now he gets two pints of

cow's milk four times a day.

The Woosleys normally sell bull calves but say they plan to keep this one as a pet. "He's something special," says Woosley.

She checked with the Illinois Holstein Association to determine if the calf is the smallest on record. "They discovered that the smallest calf ever registered weighed 30 lbs. so we sent in an application to the Guinness Book of World Records. Unfortunately, we were told that no such category has ever been established."

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White uses tugboat to push or pull barges loaded with hay, equipment, etc.

"WORKS GREAT TO TOW BARGES TO ISLANDS ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY WATER"

Idaho Rancher Farms With Home-Built Tugboat

James White, Clark Fork, Idaho, may be the only rancher around who uses a tugboat to do chores on his ranch.

White built a 25 ft., 9 in. long tugboat, nicknamed "Jezebel", four years ago. His ranch is along the Clark Fork river just above Lake Pend Oreille. Some of his land, as well as a couple of islands where the river meets a lake, are accessible only by water.

"It doesn't go very fast, it's smelly, and it makes a lot of noise, but it's a fun boat and very practical," says White, who parks his tugboat in the river behind his house. "I use it to push or pull barges or rafts. Top speed is 10 1/2 mph, but I usually cruise along at about 6 mph. I built a 45-ft. long, 30-ft. wide raft with a capacity of 25,000 lbs. that's big enough to support my New Holland automatic bale wagon loaded with hay. It's also big enough to support my Caterpillar tractor equipped with a backhoe. I occasionally use a rented barge to haul logs off one of the islands.

"The tugboat's hydraulic system can be used to power a 12,000-lb. winch on back. I can use the winch to pull a barge, but

pushing a raft or barge is usually faster and offers more maneuverability than pulling it. I can also use the winch to pull objects off the shore.

"The tugboat is powered by a Caterpillar P3208 150 hp diesel engine that averages 1.7 gal./hour (up to 6 gal. per hour on hard pulls). It has a 200-gal. fuel tank. I spent \$55,000 to build it which is reasonable when you consider that it has as much power as a D2 or D3 Caterpillar tractor without using the winch, and a D4 Caterpillar with the winch. I spent \$15,800 for the engine, \$1,000 to mount it, and \$2,000 for the propeller."

The tugboat draws only 39 in. of water and has a 28 by 22-in. screw propeller that's enclosed by a cage, allowing White to go over gravel bars or other obstacles without damaging the propeller. "If I get stuck, I simply idle the engine and use the propeller to blow a hole in the sand until I can back up into deeper water," notes White.

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Portable Monitor Helps Keep Tabs On Health

"After using this portable blood pressure monitor for several months, I now have a better idea what makes my blood pressure go up or down," says C.F. Marley, Nokomis, Ill., who adds that owning a portable blood pressure monitor is like "having a dashboard for my body".

"My biggest surprise of all was learning that my blood pressure is higher at night than in the daytime. After consulting with my doctor, I started taking my blood pressure medicine at night rather than in the morning, which has helped somewhat.

"I also noticed that sitting upright brings my pressure into the normal range. When I first noticed high pressure readings in the middle of the night, I tried sitting quietly for 15 to 20 min., and sure enough, the blood pressure would drop.

"In addition, my blood pressure is abnormally high first thing in the morning. After about half an hour, it drops back down into the normal range. Since most people suffer strokes in the early morning hours, perhaps



Portable blood pressure monitor lets Marley take readings quickly.

there's a connection with blood pressure.

"This portable monitor - there are a number of them on the market - has helped me treat my long-standing high blood pressure problem. My suggestion is to take readings that establish your blood pressure pattern, and then share the results with your doctor. It may help him in prescribing treatment for you."

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