

joysticks. One operates the loader lift and tilt and the other operates the grapple forks. They work great."

"We had a minor problem with hydraulic fluid leaking around the seals, but the dealer promptly took care of it," says John Tangsrud, McGregor, N. Dak., who otherwise is well satisfied with the 825 model he and his father Anker bought two years ago equipped with a Koyker loader. "We've used it for two winters to feed cows and already have 700 hours on it. It starts right up in cold weather and has a good heater. We haul one bale on the loader and one on the 3-pt. We also used it with a New Holland 14-ft. HydraSwing mower to cut all our hay. It isn't as quiet as a \$60,000 Deere tractor, but we paid only about \$20,000 for it, including the loader. It handles nice and is the most fuel efficient tractor I've ever used. It uses only 1 1/2 gal. per hour when cutting hay. Our dealer replaced the original hydraulic loader control levers with easy-to-use joysticks."

• Elmer Leschinsky, St. Libory, Neb., likes his 1991 825 with a Westendorf loader. "I use the loader to haul round bales and load manure. I also use it with my baler, rotary hoe, spring tooth harrow, 8-ft. snowblower, and 4-bottom plow. I really like the front wheel assist. If the rear wheels slip I can pull a lever and keep going. We had some minor difficulties with the hydraulics but the dealer fixed them. The problem may have been my fault. I didn't realize that the 3-pt. control lever is supposed to be in neutral before using the hydraulic system."

"I could have traded even up for a 1994 model (my tractor's worth \$3,000 more than I paid for it), but I didn't want the new-style hydraulics because they're similar to the hydraulics on Deere tractors. On my tractor I can force the 3-pt. down onto a block to raise the back end of the tractor off

the ground to work on the wheels eliminating the need for a jack. It has a good heater and air conditioning. The top of the cab can be opened up for ventilation. Dirt in the cab can be a problem. It starts better than any other tractor I've ever used. In extremely cold weather I use kerosene to start it instead of ether because kerosene is easier on the diesel engine. It also has a glow plug.

"You'd expect that with an off-make tractor the service might not be so good, but my dealer service has been excellent."

• Jerry Myers, Cairo, Neb., owns two 825's - a 1991 and 1993. "No problems other than minor oil leaks. I use them with self-unloading feed wagons to feed beef cattle. The front wheel assist really helps because our feedlots are on hills with pens at the bottom. In the past, when the pens got muddy, we had to use two or three tractors to pull the wagon. Now we never need to use another tractor. I bought it because I didn't want to spend \$50,000 just for a tractor to operate a feed wagon. The cab has good visibility. However, with all the glass it can get hot so we got air conditioning in our second Belarus. Several other farmers in our area own Belarus tractors and more farmers are looking at them."

• "The hydraulics need some work and I've had some trouble with the air conditioner, but otherwise I'm well pleased with it," says Dan Fleischmann, Eustis, Neb., owner of a 1992 562M model. "We use it every day in the winter to pull a feed wagon. We also use it to pull a 14-ft. grain drill. We looked at a lot of different brands before we bought it. We were concerned about parts until we found out that the company has two major warehouses in the U.S. Dealer service has been excellent. It's built simple so we can do some of our own repair work. It's rated at 65 hp but acts like it can pull more than that. I was shocked when I used it to pull a box scraper. It kept right on going

where a 130 hp tractor would probably have spun out. The front wheel assist really makes a difference.

"It has an excellent seat that can be adjusted according to your weight. The ride is somewhat choppy, but it's not that noticeable. What I really like is that it costs only about one third as much as a comparable horsepower Deere or Case-IH model. It

"It looks a bit crude, like American-made tractors 20 to 30 years ago, but most of those old tractors are still running today."

looks a bit crude, like American-made tractors 20 to 30 years ago, but most of those old tractors are still running today and I think this one will last a long time, too. Another advantage is that it's easy to work on. Belarus sells more tractors than anyone else in the world so think parts will be a problem."

• Joe Stocker, Norfolk, Neb., likes his 562M model. "I bought a 57 hp Belarus tractor 1 1/2 years ago, then traded it in with only 65 hours last fall for this model because it has a cab. I use it to pull a 13 ft. tandem disk, 3-pt. blade, and 18-ft. harrow. I also have a Koyker loader with a 7-ft. bucket mounted on it. One problem is that the headlights are too low. The loader brace arms are in their way."

• "I like everything about it," says Donald Schultz, Cairo, Neb., about his 1993 825. "I use it with all my 4-row equipment including a lister and row crop cultivator. I also use it to pull my 13 1/2-ft. disk and in the winter to pull my feed wagon. It starts easy and I really like the front wheel assist. I think there will be more Belarus tractors in

this area because they're priced so low."

• "I love our 1993 562M 65 hp Belarus," says Pauline Brisco, Bertonville, Ark. "We use it to pull a 4-bottom plow, a 10-ft. tandem disk, and 10 1/2-ft. Bush Hog mower. It has 270 hours. We recently bought a run-down farm and are trying to build it up and get the ground back in shape. My husband and son keep busy building fence while I use the tractor to plow. The tractor has a loader which I use to fill in low spots on our gravel road and to feed range cubes in our cow-calf operation. I only wish it was easier to get in or out of the cab. We plan to buy the smaller, low-profile tractor the company is going to introduce soon."

• Robert Stockwell, Ste. Brigide, Quebec, owns a 1993 825 with cab. "I paid \$21,000 for it (Canadian). I'm told that problems Belarus tractors had in the past are now non-existent. Parts are delivered within 24 hours, and dealers make every effort to pick up units when shop repairs are required. The pto can be operated at 540 or 1,000 rpm's. To switch, you only have to change the shaft which takes only 10 to 15 min."

"Belarus tractors aren't as sophisticated as Ford, Massey Ferguson, or Deere. For example, the hydraulic pump can only be engaged from outside the cab with the engine running. The front wheel assist engages manually and often requires a slight forward movement of the tractor in order for the gears to mesh. Also, the cab is noisy and there are no mud flaps on the rear fenders. I cut up an old truck mud flap and mounted the pieces on back."

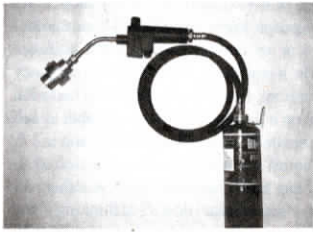
"I plan to install exterior controls for the 3-pt. hitch and pto. I also plan to rig up the control arm so that I can engage the hydraulic pump from inside the cab. A horn button that could be activated from the rear of the tractor would also be a good safety idea."

Propane-Powered Calf Dehorner

"It works better than any other calf dehorner on the market and is also the most humane," says Dr. Craig Thompson, inventor of a new portable, propane-powered dehorner that lets you dehorn calves from birth to 3 mos.

The dehorner uses a 14-oz. propane bottle that hangs from a belt or pocket and a 5-ft. hose that connects to the dehorner head. You place the hot dehorner over a calf's horn button for 5 to 10 seconds until a copper-colored ring of tissue is burned around the button. The button falls off as the area heals.

"It kills the cells around the base of the horn button without surgically removing it to reduce the risk of infection by flies," says Thompson. "Some dehorners can be used only when flies aren't around because they remove the skin. This unit is more convenient to use than electric dehorners because there's no extension cord and, unlike battery-operated models, it



doesn't have to be recharged. I've dehorned as many as 100 calves on one bottle. The heat from the dehorner head destroys nerve cells quickly so the animal feels less pain and will struggle less. The head is solid brass so it holds heat well. It takes only 2 min. to get hot and it stays hot. There's no waiting for the dehorner to reheat between calves."

Sells for \$89.99 (plus \$6.00 S & H).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, C.K.T. & Co., 4915 Delta River Dr., Lansing, Mich. 48906 (ph 517 323-7066).

Fencing Trailer Saves Time, Money

Allen and Craig Hansen, a father-son ranch team headquartered near Viborg, S. Dak., converted a small utility trailer into a handy fencing trailer that saves them money by making fence jobs faster and easier.

The men removed the floor of the trailer and attached upright 30-in. pieces of pipe to the channel iron frame to organize all the parts and materials needed for fence building and repairs. The center section

between the wheels is covered with steel mesh to carry small buckets for tools and fasteners. Larger tools, like pinchers, stretchers, and a steel post driver, are carried in the open ends of the upright posts.

A pipe mounted across the back end of the trailer holds rolls of wire.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Allen & Craig Hansen, Rt. 1, Box 70, Viborg, S. Dak. 57014 (ph 605 563-2884).

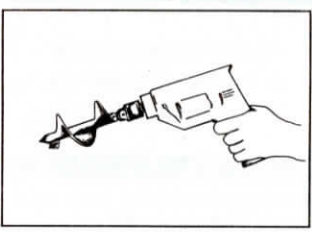
Hand-Held Auger Great For Stirring Up Seed

An Illinois manufacturer says he's got a handy little tool for farmers who mix seed treatments in seed at planting.

"Many farmers have \$50,000 or more invested in a tractor and planter or drill, \$15 to \$20 an acre in seed, and then they mix seed treatment in with a screwdriver or an ax handle (as suggested by one major supplier) and get only about 25 percent of seed treated properly," says Wayne Niewold, manufacturer of the Power Planter.

The 3-in. dia., 12-in. long auger was originally designed for garden work - planting bulbs, small plants and aerating compost. But Niewold says farmers started using the auger, which fits on a hand drill, to mix seed treatment into seed in planter boxes.

"It works equally well for either wet or



dry treatments but is especially good for wet treatments because it gets the liquid all mixed in before it runs to the bottom of the box and gums up the metering units," says Niewold, noting the auger works best on a 3/8 in. variable speed drill. Sells for \$24.95.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Power Planter, Inc., 149 North Market St., Paxton, Ill. 60957 (ph 217 379-2614).

