

**"HALF THE SIZE BUT
DOUBLE THE FUN"**

Half-Scale Tractors Are Crowd Pleasers

"They're half the size but double the fun," says Jewell Niemann, St. Edwards, Neb., about his crowd-pleasing half-scale tractors—a Deere and an International. They both work, look and even sound like the real tractors they represent.

Model "D" John Deere — "It took me about two years to complete in my spare time. The engine is from a Deere pull-type combine made in the 1950's. It's water-cooled, magneto-fired, and has the distinctive 'put-put' sound of a Deere. I removed the cast iron flywheel housing to have an open flywheel and redesigned the oil pump suction tube so it would operate in the traditional Deere horizontal position. A redesigned radiator from a 2-cyl. light plant was the right size and worked perfectly,

using the thermo-syphon principle. A self-propelled combine transmission and differential serve as the tractor's rear end. It's equipped with a pulley and drawbar and develops about 15 drawbar horsepower. It has three speeds forward. Maximum forward speed is 4 mph."

W-1 International: "The engine is a 4-cyl., water-cooled Cub power unit used in the IH model 64 pull-type combine made in the 1950's. The sheet metal (shortened and narrowed) is from a Farmall C. The front axle, transmission, differential and brakes are from an IH Cadet. The ring and pinion had to be reversed to accommodate the clockwise rotation of the 4 cyl. engine. The wheels (15 in. dia.) are from an International pickup of 1950's vintage. Junked



Niemann created this "W-1" half-sized International with parts from a variety of tractors to closely resemble an IH W-4.

foreign cars supplied the radiator and some steering parts."

Niemann is working on a book of plans that he hopes to have published soon. "It will give all construction details of the various items I used, and suggest possible substitutes. No lathe work was necessary in either of

the two half-scale tractors I've built. Tools I used included a welder, cutting torch, cut-off saw, drill press, and body and fender tools."

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jewell Niemann, Rt. 2, Box 310, St. Edward, Neb. 68660 (ph 402 678-3325).

USES REAL CORN KERNEL PLAYING PIECES

Country Trivia Game Tests Farm Knowledge

Everything you know about farming and rural life will come in handy to play a new country trivia game invented by a Kansas couple.

Eric and Cherrill Lund say their game, Country Questions, combines features of both Trivial Pursuit and bingo. Players attempt to answer questions in 6 categories, each dealing with farming and rural life.

For every question answered correctly, a kernel of real hybrid corn is placed on the playing board which is arranged like a bingo card. The first player to get 6 kernels in a row wins.

Question categories include farm production, rural lifestyle, history and politics, animals and nature, entertainment and recreation, and geography. Following are samples of

questions:

- "When rain is on the way, do cattle stand up or lie down?" (Lie down.)

- "In horseshoes, how many points is a ringer worth?" (Three points).

- "What state has a larger percentage of people who work in agriculture than any other state? (North Dakota).

- "Montana has four times as many what as it has people?" (Cattle).

- "What percent of the U.S. gross national product does farming account for: 5%, 10%, 20% or 30%?" (30%)

- "What three countries produce

the most wheat?" (U.S., Russia, and China)

Six people can play the game at once. It includes 2,100 questions plus 300 additional ones targeted to children. The Lunds have sold hundreds of games since they first put the game on the market last fall at \$16.95 apiece. They sell it in local stores and nationally through the mail (plus \$2.50 postage).

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Prairie Products, P.O. Box 2664, Salina, Kan. 67402 (ph 913 823-2014).

THEY'RE MULE AND DONKEY EXPERTS

Couple Keeps Donkey As A Household Pet

Mules and donkeys make great pets say Paul and Betsy Hutchins, Denton, Tex., who let their pet donkey, Platero, wander in and out of their house at will.

The Hutchins may be the foremost experts on mules and donkeys in the U.S. They founded and run the American Donkey and Mule Society which has grown from 11 members in 1967 to more than 1,000 members and 21 affiliated clubs in all 50 states and 9 foreign countries.

"Donkeys and mules are much easier to keep than horses. They're smarter and they don't eat as much," says Betsy, noting that there's a big difference in attitude between horses and mules and donkeys. "Horses can be made to do any thing you want them to do but you have to convince a donkey or mule that it is in his best interest to go along with you. Mules won't do anything until they're abso-

lutely sure it's not going to hurt them."

The Hutchins' house is a virtual museum of mule and donkey paraphernalia. It's filled with books (more than 800 volumes on mules and donkeys), figurines, saddles, drawings, posters, photographs, ribbons, articles, and untold other related items.

Betsy, who also sells mule and donkey books by mail order, says the pet donkey Platero wanders in and out of the house like a dog but, when outside, carries the Hutchins' children around on his back. "He thinks he's a member of the family," she says.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Betsy Hutchins, American Donkey & Mule Society, Rt. 5, Box 65, Denton, Tex. 76201 (ph 817 382-6845).



Platero, the Hutchins' pet donkey, has the run of the house. Walls and bookshelves of house are filled with memorabilia of interest to mule and donkey lovers.