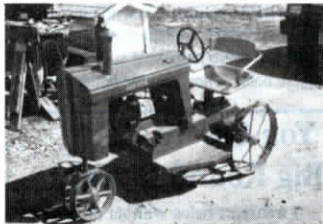


Reader Letters



In the last issue of FARM SHOW (Vol. 14, No. 3) I read the story about Harry Zacker who built a scale model of a Deere D tractor. I, too, have built a scale model of a Deere but it resembles a "70" series tractor. I call it a "Mini 10". I used the hood and steering from a "Pony Tractor Co." tractor. The rear end and transmission came out of an old lawn



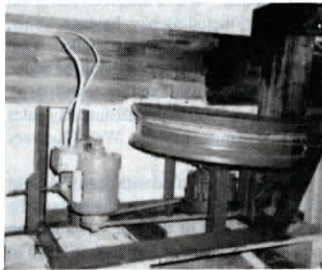
mower. The hand clutch is simply a belt tightener on the Continental motor. I mounted a fake exhaust and air breather pipe on the hood to make it look more realistic and even made a pair of steel wheels complete with lugs. A working belt pulley mounts on the right side. The tractor has three speeds forward and one speed reverse. It has plenty of power to keep up with parades. I plan to show it this summer at all the engine shows that I attend. (Bernard Marvel, Rt. 1, Box 44, Browning, Ill. 62624)

I'm 81 years old so many of the ideas that the present generation is "discovering" amaze me because they've really been around for many years. For example, steam engines had manual locking differentials before 1910. Another example is in some literature I have that's dated 1934 about a company in Bettendorf, Iowa, that made balers that attached to the rear of Deere combines to bale straw on-the-go. Another good idea I remember came out of Oregon about 30 years ago. A company made and sold dump trailers and blowers for combines to collect residue for livestock feed. I wonder if any of these old machines are still around. (Edwin Brede-meler, Rt. 1, Box 13, Steinauer, Neb. 68441)

I came up with this bean walker/lawn sprayer after checking around for small-size sprayers and discovering that retailers wanted



\$500 for a small unit. To build this sprayer, I spent just \$10 for a junk-yard battery and \$20 for hoses, elbows, tips and other fittings. I built it to fit behind my Ford tractor using parts from an old bean bar. I made a 3-pt. bracket and mounted the sprayer on that. I bolted a 5-ft. boom to the sprayer frame in such a way that it could be removed at any time. I used an electric demand pump with a 12-volt battery on it (the Ford tractor has a 6-volt system). The sprayer is equipped with a gun for spot spraying so I can walk beans all by myself. Switching from boom to gun is made easy with one valve up by the seat. I've used the sprayer for 2 years and it works well both for walking beans and for lawn spraying in the yard and around buildings. I can walk beans just as fast with this rig as with a bean bar because I don't have to look for help to ride the bean bar. Good help is hard to find. (Robert Holmes, Box 117, Waldorf, Minn. 56091)



We've built two of these to open and close sliding doors on large machinery buildings. Each unit consists of a large truck rim, 1/3-hp. electric motor, gear reducer, 60 ft. of 3/16-in. cable, a microswitch to stop the door, a reversing switch, a pushbutton control switch, and wiring. The motor, truck rim and gear reducer mount on an angle iron frame off to one side of the door. Works very well. (Paul Pence, 2261 Walcutt Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43228 ph 614 876-7835)

This handy trailer with interchangeable hitch lets me switch between a gooseneck and straight hitch depending on what I'm using to pull it. I built the trailer from scratch using a

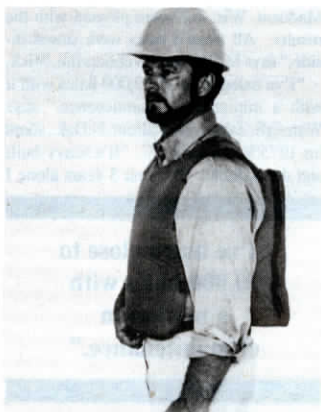


Chevy car, 4-row cultivator, an old hay loader, well pipe, and 1/2 in. dia. silo hoops. The floor is oak salvaged from pallets, and I got the paint free because it was an out-dated color. Total cost was \$30. (Marcus Yoder, Rt. 2, Box 68, Grove City, Minn. 56243 612 857-2286)

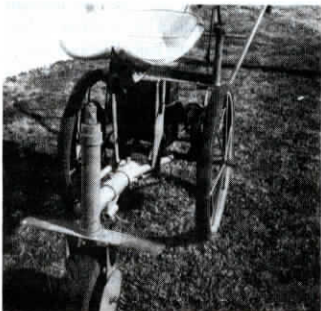
We read FARM SHOW cover-to-cover and like all the articles very much. It's not my intention to criticize, but I could not help but notice a little contradiction in the cover story of your last issue (Vol. 14, No. 4) entitled "Water-Powered IH Tractor". The story talks about a Farmall "H" but the photos shows a "Super M" Farmall. Maybe you were testing your readers? It wasn't too important. What is important is that we may soon burn water in our tractors and trucks instead of gasoline or diesel. (Jean L. Anstadt, Rt. 1, Box 291, Montoursville, Penn. 17754)

Your readers may be interested in our new "liquid cooling vest". The vest is made of urethane-coated nylon and it keeps the body cool with a battery-operated centrifugal pump that circulates chilled water over ice or reusable frozen gel packs in a cooling bag and throughout a channel system constructed in the vest. An external bypass valve lets you control the temperature of the circulating water.

The vest weighs only 12 lbs. with water and ice and can be filled and emptied while worn. The pocket housing the pump, ice bag, and battery pack, can be worn at the back or front, enabling the user to wear it alone, with a portable breathing system, or

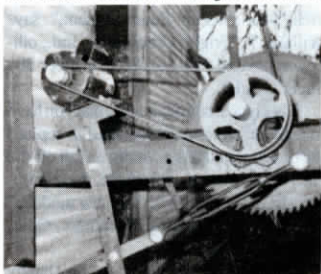


under protective clothing. It provides one to two hours of cooling, depending on the setting. One size fits all. Sells for \$296. (Rhonda Haller, ILC Dover, Inc., P.O. Box 266, Frederica, Del. 19946 ph 302 335-3911.)



I made a bean buggy out of a walk-behind 3-wheel lawn mower. I attached the ground drive to the left of the seat. It works great because I can steer with my feet using foot rests above the single front wheel. (Charles White, Rt. 1, Box 52, Brocton, Ill. 61917 ph 217 887-2273)

Cutting up firewood is a lot easier since I mounted a buzz saw on the back wall of my wood shed. I've been thinning out a stand of



trees on my farm. After the logs are sold, I cut up the tops and branches for firewood. I got tired of using a chainsaw so I decided to find a better way. I bought a tractor-powered 28-in. dia. buzz saw for \$30 at an auction yard. It's designed to be powered by a 4 to 6-in. flat belt. I mounted the saw on the wall of the shed with two bolts and it stands on two support legs. A 2-hp., 3,450 rpm 220-volt motor on a moveable base fastens to the saw frame. The motor has a 2-in. pulley which makes the speed about right. I move the motor back and forth to "clutch" it using a turnbuckle. (Roy Aebi, 8845 S.E. Lafayette Hwy., Dayton, Ore. 97114 ph 503 864-2390)

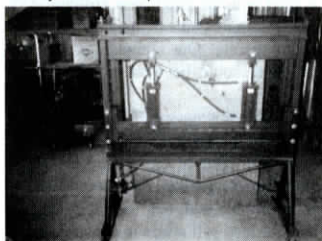
Our business has been booming ever since your FARM SHOW story about our Romanov sheep (Vol. 13, No. 5). Our phone rang off the hook for 6 mos. and we still get calls and letters every week. So far we've sold Romanovs into 31 states - from Florida to Alaska - as a result of that one article. We make a trip to the airport just about every week, shipping sheep in large airline dog



kennels. Flying sheep is surprisingly easy. We leave home with them shortly after feeding in the morning and they arrive at their new owners by feeding time at night. We started out sending just-bred ewe lambs, crossing our fingers that people would get good multiple births, since Romanovs average 3 or more lambs per birth. After a few months we started getting calls back from people reporting their lambing numbers. Several got litters of 4 or 5 and there were a lot of triplets. That's pretty good from ewes that aren't even a year old yet. People are impressed with the early sexual maturity of the animals, their ability to breed all year, their outstanding mothering ability, the extremely high wool quality, hardiness and many other qualities that make them a delight to raise. One problem we had with your original article was that the picture that ran with the story showed the only black lamb born on our farm. We were afraid people would think all Romanovs are black but most called anyway, giving us a chance to explain that purebreds are grey and that most of the 1/2 bloods are white. David & Nicki Blackstone, 29800 TR55, Lewisville, Ohio 43754 (ph 614 567-3463)

FARM SHOW is a good magazine in all respects but one. In your "Best & Worst Buys" section there is too much unjustified Ford pickup "bashing" and GM pickup "boosting". Even though the reports are from "randomly selected" farmers that doesn't mean that there is no bias in selecting, omitting, editing or positioning of articles. When I read this section of your magazine it makes me wonder if this is another example of the "GM idolatry" which is so persistent and pervasive among American men. (Harold Marsh, Siler City, N.C.)

I built this press brake to fill a void in my shop. The basic unit stands 6 ft. tall, 5 ft. wide and weighs approximately 1,000 lbs. It has a 51-in. long "V" block die that'll handle 4 by 8-ft. sheet steel up to 3/16-in. thick. I have run 1/4-in. thick sheet steel through it but only 30 in. wide. It has two 4 by 8-in. hydraulic cylinders which develop approximately 30 tons of pressure. Quick-attach



couplings connect to the portable power unit that also powers a hydraulic tube bender. The upper die block on the press brake is easily removable to be replaced by three other blocks that'll do anything from rolling a sheet to making a 90 degree bend. The framework consists of 1/4 by 6-in. verticle tubing and 1 1/4 by 6-in. flat horizontal stiffeners with all-steel casters for mobility. I wish I had built this machine long ago because it sure makes metal-work a breeze. (Vince Koebensky, Rt. 1, Box 126-1, Buffalo, Minn. 55313)