



Home-built \$500 rig lays field drainage tile, power cables, water lines and sewer lines.

## LAY UP TO 6,000 FT. PER DAY

# Drain Your Own Fields With New Tractor Tiler

"It works great," says Chris Fleener Pullman, Wash., about the tractor-powered tiler he built along with his brother Frank — who designed it and built key components — and their father, Sam.

The men used the tiler for the first time last year to lay about 5 miles of tile. Most of it was laid on a 160 acre farm they recently bought but they also did some custom work.

The Fleeners built the tiler from junk components that cost less than \$500. They say they can now use "spare time" to lay tile for little more than the cost of fuel and about 25 cents per foot of tile. "Custom operators charge 58 cents per foot and you have to fit into their schedule," says Chris.

A 275 hp. Versatile 850 tractor is enough to pull the tiler through most soils. In heavy clay, the Fleeners hook a crawler tractor up to the front of the Versatile.

"It has a ripper-tooth that feeds 4-in. perforated tile internally within the rear of the tooth. Depth is controlled by its 7-in. dia. hydraulic lift cylinder. Maximum depth is 4 ft.," says Chris.

When the tiler tooth raises above a 4-ft. depth, a hydraulic "heel" lowers at the rear of the tooth to maintain a flat surface along its bottom and to

keep laying tile evenly at the bottom of the trench. "This eliminates the parallel linkages used on other tilers to keep the tile-laying tooth level in the ground. The direct pull of our tiler makes it stronger and less likely to bend or break under heavy stress," says Chris.

The tiler is equipped with a surveyor's rod for use with a transit-level to maintain grade in hilly areas. On level ground, the operator simply watches a measured rod fitted to the tiler that shows tooth depth at a glance.

A backhoe is required to start each line or to splice into existing main lines. The tile is laid out along the surface before being ripped in.

"On a good day, a 3-man crew can lay 5,000 to 6,000 ft. depending on length of lines and amount of backhoe work," says Chris, noting that the tiler was designed mainly for drain tile but will also lay water and sewer line or even power cable.

The main frame of the tiler came from an old deep V-plow. The wheels and other frame parts came from a junked Case hillside combine. Frank built the ripper tooth from scratch.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Fleener Enterprises, Rt. 1, Box 93, Pullman, Wash. 99163 (ph 509 872-2705).



Perforated tile feeds internally through ripper tooth to maximum depth of 4 ft.



New cab is made of Lexan, a product commonly used for airplane cockpits.

## New "Bodyguard" Cab

The latest look in tractor cabs makes your tractor look like an aerodynamic racing machine but its design is actually an innovative way to deflect tree branches up and over the tractor driver protecting him from injury.

Besides protecting against tree branches, the cab's design, extends over and behind the driver and helps protect against chemicals while spraying. The cab's back panel removes for a cooler cab.

The manufacturer says that with side flaps to direct tractor engine heat towards the driver, Bodyguard is also

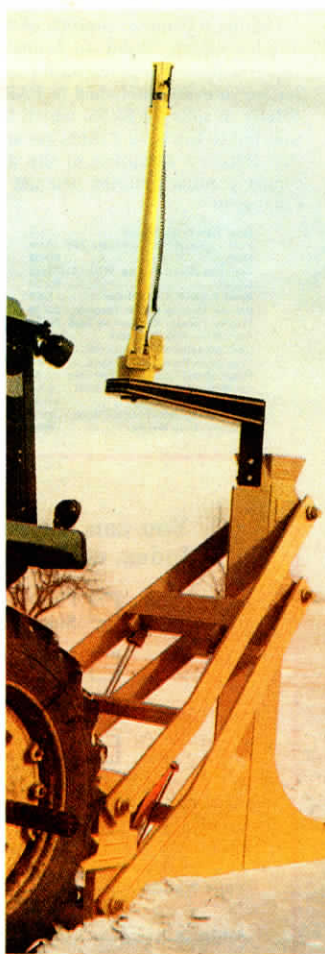
an all-weather cab.

Fitting on 50-80 hp. tractors, the Bodyguard mounts on brackets attached to the tractor hood and fenders. The cab is hinged at the hood and has two air shocks so you can easily lift it to get in and out of the tractor.

The manufacturer notes that the cab is not a roll-over protection device. Sells for \$800.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Protective Plastics Unl., P.O. Box 458, Escalon, Cal. 95320 (ph 209 521-8100).

## First Tractor Tiler With Laser Control



"It automatically sets the machine at the correct depth, maintains grade, and counts the feet of tile installed," says Mike Schweiss, manufacturer of the first tractor-tiler equipped with its own built-in laser control system. The laser control is comparable to systems used on commercial tilers.

The Schweiss tiler is designed to be pulled by a pair of 160-hp. tractors or one large 4-WD. It's got a deep-ripping tooth that'll lay 3, 4, 5, or 6-in. plastic tile as deep as 5 ft. The 3-pt. mounted tiler is controlled by parallel linkage that keeps the plow level in the ground. Depth is controlled by two hydraulic cylinders.

"Owning your own tractor tiler lets you lay tile whenever you've got spare time. It'll pay for itself by letting you thoroughly drain wet areas," says Schweiss, noting that the tiler will lay 10,000 to 20,000 ft. of tile per day under good conditions.

The tiler can be fitted with a manual grade control that lets the operator maintain grade by a simple measuring system. Or it can be fitted with the automatic laser control system which fits on top of the tiler and hooks into the hydraulic system. The laser receiver on the tiler "sights" off a laser beam set up on a stand in the middle of the field.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Schweiss Tile Plows, Fairfax, Minn. 55332 (ph 507 426-8273).