

"Modernized" Farmall Tractor

"I bought an old IH Farmall B tractor for \$250 at a farm sale. It runs great but it didn't have hydraulics, a 3-pt. or a wide front end. I decided to add them," says Sherman Marlow, Tamaroa, Ill.

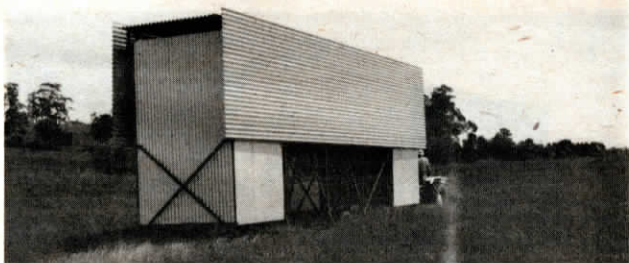
To add hydraulics, Marlow took a hydraulic motor off an old combine at a junkyard. The motor measures 4 by 5 in. and fits compactly at the rear of the tractor. He fastened a 4-in. pulley to the motor and a 16-in. dia. pulley to the tractor pto belt to drive the hydraulics. He also installed a 2-gal. oil reservoir.

To make the 3-pt., he simply mounted two flat-iron brackets on the drawbar and a 2-way hydraulic cylinder on the back of the tractor to act as the top link.

Implements pivot on the two lower brackets and are raised by the cylinder. Marlow uses a blade, boompole, mower and wood splitter on back. Hydraulic outlets on the pump power hydraulic equipment.

"It has the maneuverability of a small tractor, yet it has the hydraulic power of a much bigger machine," says Marlow who built the tractor's wide front-end with various pieces of scrap iron. "I've added 3-pt. to lots of tractors in my neighborhood. Many of them have worked successfully for years."

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Portable Hay Sheds

Instead of hauling hay to the barn, Australian farmer Geoff Dale takes his portable hay sheds to the hay.

He built three sheds and parks them in the center of 12-acre fields, which allows him to get bales under cover the same day they're made, to minimize the risk of rain damage.

Each shed, when unfolded, is 36 ft. long, 21 ft. wide, 14 ft. high, and holds 1,200 conventional rectangular hay bales. One man working alone can erect a shed in about two hours.

Dale uses two tractor loaders, each equipped with an 8-bale buncher, to bring bales to the shed, and to stack them 10 rows high.

"Two men using two loaders — one to bunch and one to stack

— can load and stack 1,200 bales under cover in about three hours. We generally cut about 12 acres at a time, which is enough to produce 1,200 bales, the capacity of each shed. Thanks to the portable sheds, we're able to get hay under cover the day it's baled, which is important in our area. And, we do it without any hand labor," explains Dale.

For road transport, the folded sheds are 9 ft. wide. "They're classified as a farm implement and don't require a road permit," Dale notes. "And, they can be erected on sloping ground."

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Army Truck Front-End Loader

"I built a loader in my farm shop from an army surplus 4-WD 2-ton truck by shortening it up about 10 ft.," says Roy M. Fruit, Viola, Wis.

"I mounted an Oliver 88 diesel engine on the back end geared through a gear box on the front. A driveshaft runs through a 5-speed transmission and then through a transfer case that powers the front and rear axles. This gives me 10 speeds forward and two speeds reverse and either 2 or 4 wheel drive. The hydraulic pump is mounted on front of the engine," explains Roy.

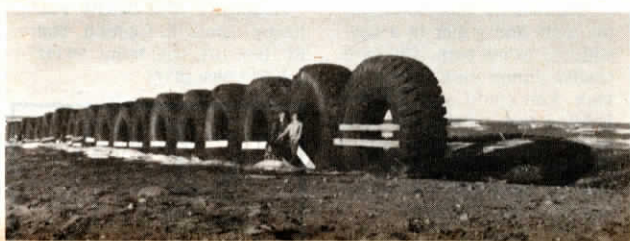
He mounted a powerful cable winch on front of the loader. "The cable drum is driven by a chain drive from the engine driveshaft through a small car transmission," he explains.

"I built the loader from sal-



vage and surplus parts I had on hand for just a fraction of the cost of a conventional tractor loader and it's worked well for the past 5 years. I'd build a similar loader for anyone who supplied the miscellaneous parts needed," says Roy.

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Tire Windbreak

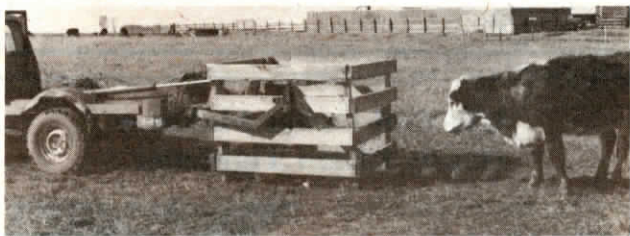
Huge 10-ft. dia. tires salvaged from strip mining coal trucks make a good windbreak on the George Sinnott farm near Pincher Creek, Alberta.

The ¼-mile tire fence stops snow alongside a dugout pond that provides water for cattle. Boards fastened across the center of the tires help break the wind.

The 106 used tires, which weigh between 5,000 and 6,000

lbs. each, were set into a backhoed trench with a forklift and tractor loader. Sinnott bought the tires from strip mining operations in southeast British Columbia for about \$20 apiece.

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"Go-Anywhere" Calf Corral

"Lets me take care of newborn calves without worrying about their mothers," says Earl Skriver, who built a go-anywhere calf corral that he carries to pastures with his pickup-mounted big bale handler.

Constructed out of 2 by 6-in. lumber, the corral is 5 ft. sq. and 4 ft. high. It lifts easily with the lift arms of the bale handler. When the ground is muddy, he

can transport it with a tractor front-end loader.

When Skriver finds a newborn calf in the field, he simply sets the corral down over it. Then, he climbs inside and works with the calf without worrying about the mother.

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