

Made It Myself

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Rotary Subsoil Plow

Winner of the Gold Medal at the recent SIMA farm show, this new plow has a drum (about 6½ ft. wide) made up of pto-driven subsoiling tines. The entire drum and tines rotate to plow the ground. In the fall, for example, the rotary plow can be set deep to churn the upper 6 to 10 in. of soil. In the spring, it can

be set shallow to prepare a seedbed. The pto-driven tines help propel the machine forward. Used for deep tillage, it covers about four acres per hour.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Erodrain, Zone Industrielle, 55210 Vigneules-Les-Hadonchatel, France.



Mower-Conditioner Suspension

Wisconsin farmer Tom Roden, of Saukville, designed and built a mower-conditioner with a unique cutting bar suspension system. The suspended cutterbar is pulled through the field, rather than pushed like on conventional units.

"With this type of suspension system," says Roden, "you won't break many guards because, when you hit a rock or whatever, the cutterbar will not only move up but, since it's mounted on spring-loaded arms, will move back, clearing the obstacle. "In 50 acres, I didn't break any guards and I

was travelling 8 to 10 mph," he adds.

Roden built the unit using a Hesston PT 10 mower-conditioner and mounting it on his specially-designed frame.

Another feature of the system is the adjustable cutterbar. This lets you set the cutterbar's pitch. Roden reports that with a pitch on the bar you can "comb" the ground, making it easier to cut lodged and down hay.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom Roden, 1794 Cedar Sauk Rd., Saukville, Wis. 53080 (ph 414 284-9591).

Windmill Air Cylinder

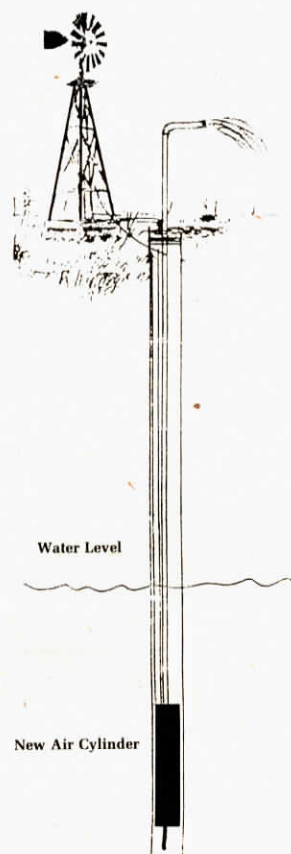
Colorado ranchers Kletis Kelly and Harold Stoddard, of Walsh, have designed an air cylinder for windmills that uses air to force water out of the well.

Stoddard explains that the ABS plastic tubing air cylinder costs \$100, about half the cost of a conventional cylinder and weighs much less. Instead of powering the cylinder via a rod connected to the windmill, the new-style cylinder uses air from an air compressor which is powered, via a pulley system, by the windmill. Stoddard says this gives you the option of locating the well in one spot and the windmill in another. He's tested the system with a well 200 ft. from the windmill and figures that it'll even work at greater distances, using a larger compressor.

The air cylinder is a section of 2 in. dia., 16 in. long plastic pipe inserted into the well casing. Air from the compressor is sent to the cylinder via 5/16 or 3/8 in. flex hose. Air mixes with water in the cylinder, then brings the water back to the surface through 3/4 or 1-in. plastic pipe.

Stoddard says the plastic cylinder has a lift equal to a conventional cylinder and works to depths of 100 ft. An added benefit, he points out, is that both the air cylinder and return pipe are plastic so it's easy for one man to pull the cylinder and pipe out.

Stoddard has the cylinders for sale. He notes that you'll need to rig up a compressor off your windmill to provide air to the



cylinder. He belt-drives his compressor off the windmill shaft.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harold Stoddard, Box 603, Walsh, Col. 81090 (ph 303 324-5752).

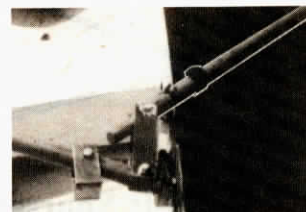
Forward-Facing Oar Solves Boating Problem

Anyone who's ever rowed a boat knows that the biggest problem is trying to see where you're going because, by necessity, you always face backwards. Robert Rimmey, Millheim, Penn., says he's come up with a solution to the problem with his "reverse fulcrum" oar.

The paddle and handle on the oar remain the same but Rimmey inserts a hinge in the middle that converts the oar stroke into a reverse motion. The result is that the oarsman can sit facing forward and using the same stroke, travel ahead.

"It takes your mind off where you're going and lets you concentrate on making an even stroke," says Rimmey, noting that he hopes the new style oar helps make rowing the popular pastime it once was. "It's one of the best possible exercises for the upper body."

Rimmey plans to line up a manufacturer to make the oar.



He may also make plans available for do-it-yourselfers.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robert R. Rimmey, 103 Race St., P.O. Box 375, Millheim, Penn. 16845.