

**Smörgåsbord**



Harold Johnson  
Publisher and  
Editorial  
Director

**Great Gift Idea  
For Christmas!**

We've discovered that there's an unselfish trait among FARM SHOW readers. They like to share good things with others.

That's why we're inviting you and other subscribers to give FARM SHOW for Christmas. Many readers who gave FARM SHOW for Christmas last year wrote to tell us that they've never been given a gift which generated so much response from appreciative recipients.

Use the handy order envelope inserted elsewhere in this issue to order your Christmas gift subscriptions. Here's a recap of our special Christmas gift offer (expires Jan. 15, 1991):

When you give more than one gift subscription, the price drops.

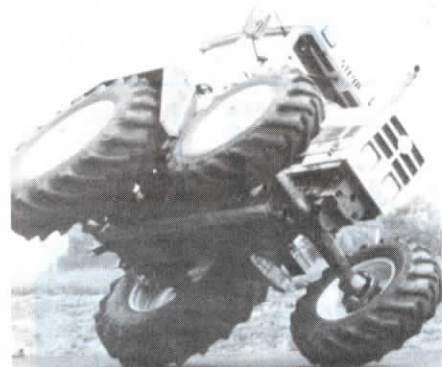
**United States:** Your first gift sub is \$13.95. Each additional gift is only \$7.95. It figures out to \$21.90 for two gift subs, \$29.85 for three, \$37.80 for four, etc.

**Canada:** Your first gift sub is \$16.95. (Canadian dollars). Each additional gift is \$9.95. It figures out to \$26.90 for two gift subs, \$36.85 for three, \$46.80 for four, etc.

If you like, you can give the "First Gift" to yourself as a one-year extension of your own FARM SHOW subscription, entitling you to give reduced rate gift subscriptions to friends, relatives or neighbors.

With each gift sub we'll send a card, notifying each recipient of your thoughtfulness. The card and issue will be processed in time to arrive shortly before Christmas — if you order now!

Merry Christmas and please order today so we can give your special Christmas gift orders the prompt attention they deserve. Contact: FARM SHOW, Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 612 469-5572).



**What's Going On Here?**

This photo, courtesy of Power Farming magazine, shows what can be done if you're bored driving on four wheels.

Austrian stuntman Johann Redl recently set a new world record for this type of stunt driving with tractors by driving this Steyr 8090 on its left wheels for nearly two miles. The stunt drive took place near Sattledt, Austria, on a new stretch of highway not yet opened to traffic.



**Highest-Mileage Pickup  
Logs 606,729 Miles**

Last issue, in telling you about Steve Mikesell's indestructible 1971 Chevrolet Monte Carlo that has covered 855,000 miles and still looks and runs like new, we invited readers to enter our "highest mileage pickup" contest.

The winner (pictured above) is Bob Merten, Parkdale, Oregon, whose 1979 Chevy half-ton "Big 10" with a 350 engine has logged 606,729 miles and is still going strong. "I put in a new Target engine at 400,000 miles, and a new rebuilt transmission at about 466,000 miles. It only lasted about 93,000 miles. I replaced it with a used one I bought from a salvage yard for \$100. It's going great. I've put front wheel brakes on this pickup twice, and rear ones once."

Runner up is George Boehning, proud owner of a 1981

250 Ford pickup with a 351 engine. "It has 420,000 miles on it. At 308,000 miles, the timing gear had to be replaced. Since the pan was already removed, I put in new rods and mains. There has never been any other mechanical work done on the engine or transmission. I add one quart of oil every 2,500 miles."



Third place finisher was a 1981 Chevy K-10 with 4-wheel drive, owned by Leo Maguire, Anthon, Iowa. "It has 317,200 miles on it and still runs good, and looks good, for its age. It still has the original 305 V-8 motor. The heads and pan have never been off. I put an L-P gas conversion unit on it about a month after I got it. The transmission failed at 197,000 miles and had to be replaced. I've relined the front brakes every 75,000 miles, and the rear brakes every 100,000 miles. I change oil every 10,000 miles under ideal conditions; more frequently under adverse conditions."



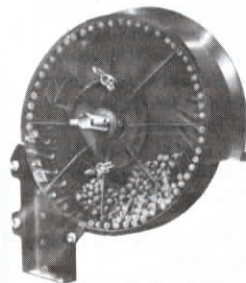
James Ulrick, Grand Chain, Ill., submitted the best entry: "I don't have a '71 Chevy with 855,000 miles on it, or a high-mileage pickup to write about. But I do have the hatchet that George Washington used to chop down the cherry tree. Outside of replacing the blade three times and the handle six times, it's still the same hatchet."

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**FARM SHOW Salutes  
A "Hot New Product"**

One of the "hottest" new products we've seen at farm shows this fall is Kinze Manufacturing's new brush type seed meter. Without using air or vacuum, it plants soybeans (plus cotton and milo) more accurately than anything else on the market, says Jon Kinzenbaw, inventor-manufacturer, who had farmer-visitors waiting in line to see his latest new product demonstrated.

Limited production is being allocated to all new Kinze planters, plus Kinze planter units sold by Buffalo and Black Machine. Individual Kinze dealers are being allotted 50 of the new seed meters which will fit Deere Max-Emerge planters and older Kinze planters. Kinze Manufacturing expects supply to catch up with booming demand before the 1992 planting season rolls around.



Kinze's list price of the brush meter is \$89 per row, plus \$9 per seed disk for each of three crops (soybeans, cotton or milo).

The mechanically-driven brush meter bolts onto the seed hopper of the planter row unit, the same as the finger-pickup corn meter. "We think there's potential for our new metering system with small grains but we need to do more testing before we can recommend it for that use," says Kinzenbaw. "We're staying with our finger pickup meter for corn because it's still the most dependable and accurate on the market."

**Expert Questions Value  
Of Engine Oil Additives**

In response to a question from one of his readers, nationally-known automotive expert Paul Brand, who writes a newspaper column and hosts both radio and television shows, recently wrote that oil treatment products "provide no benefit at all to good engines". We talked to Brand about his comments and he said they're true for farm engines as well.

"General Motors does not recommend the use of any oil additives. Nor does Ford. Nor any other carmaker I know. In fact, BMW owner's manuals specifically recommend against using any type of oil additive. In my humble opinion, products such as STP, Restore, Slick 50, and the like - products claiming to reduce oil consumption and internal friction, increase power and economy, and generally improve engine performance - are completely unnecessary."

"Yes, I've seen the ads in which the oil is drained from a vehicle which is then driven a good number of miles to prove that the additive is protecting the engine from damage. Hogwash! Sure, an engine will run without oil. For a while, at least. Maybe even a considerable period of time. But I'll guarantee one thing - it's hurt! Wounded at best, destroyed at worst. And worst of all, running it without oil doesn't prove anything. It's just an attention-grabbing demonstration that destroys an engine."

"The bottom line is simple: If products like these were as useful, beneficial or miraculous as claimed, carmakers would specify their use and the American Petroleum Institute would require these additives in the API Service Rating for the oil we use. But they don't. A modern internal combustion engine doesn't require anything better than a premium quality motor oil, changed regularly, to deliver full service life. Period. End of discussion." (Excerpted from the Minneapolis Star Tribune)

**South Dakota Farm  
Visited By UFO?**

Something from "out of this world" may have left tracks this summer in a wheat field near Leola, S. Dak. John and Karen Reis found a large flattened area of wheat in the form of a backwards question mark in the middle of an otherwise upright 30-acre field with no tracks leading in or out. A 5-ft. wide swath of grain was bent over exactly 2 in. above ground over a 30 by 80-ft. area. Three flattened rectangular areas were evenly arranged around the reversed question mark. The unusual pattern, which many say was made by a UFO landing craft, was spotted by an elevator employee from atop the 90-ft. structure, which is next to the field.

What's got people talking is that the flattened pattern of grain resembles similar crop circles that have been reported more than 600 times in England since 1980 as well as in Australia, Canada and even recently in Kansas and North Dakota. Scientists worldwide have been unable to come up with a natural explanation for the crop flattenings. Karen Reis told FARM SHOW the wheat in their field was bent over so evenly they're certain the damage was caused by a machine. If it was a joke or a hoax, the tricksters would have had to get into the field by helicopter to avoid leaving tracks.

**World Record Yields** - A Scottish farmer who already held the world record for wheat yields has become the new world champion barley grower. Gordon Rennie set the wheat yield record in 1981 when he achieved 185 bu. per acre. Now he has broken the record for barley with a yield of 162 bu. per acre. The record crop was grown on a 53-acre field near the Scottish-English border that has long daylight hours during summer. The barley was drilled at a rate of about 200 lbs. per acre. He applied fungicide, growth regulator, and a manganese additive to the crop. He also put on four separate applications of nitrogen.