



“Field Staker” Helps Make Straight Rows

Otis Nelson, Mapleton, No. Dak., has developed a staking system which allows most any tractor driver to plant corn, soybeans, sugar beets, or other row crops in rows that are “straight-as-an-arrow”.

Once the field's worked up and ready for planting, Nelson goes through and sets the stakes approximately 100 yds. apart in a guide row. Then he aims for the stakes as he starts planting the field. He just needs the one row of stakes at the edge of the field to make sure his first pass is straight.

Thanks to the homemade tractor mounted ‘picker-upper’ he developed, Nelson doesn't even have to get off the tractor to retrieve them as he

plants. The pickup device, bolted to a bracket on the front of the tractor, is built out of a 48-in. long, 5/16-in. dia. rod bent so it picks up and collects stakes. It does so by slipping through the 11-in. dia. top ring welded on top of an 8-in. long pointed stake. The stake is in turn welded to a 6-in. long, 5/16-in. dia. steel rod that sticks into the ground.

Nelson made the stakes and pickup bracket out of materials from his shop. He figures materials would cost about \$1.50 per stake, and \$5 for the pickup.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Otis Nelson, Box 65, Mapleton, N. Dak. 58509 (ph 701 347-4791).



Hydraulically Powered 3-Wheeler

“Each of the two rear wheels is driven by hydraulic pumps powered by a 16-hp Briggs and Stratton engine. It boasts 500 lbs. of pull and a top speed of 30 mph,” says Ernie Parker, Bloomington, Minn., who built a hydrostatic 3-wheeler.

“I have a 4-ft blade, held on with two pins, that can be put on for removing light snow from the driveway, or I can put on the rake attachment to

clean up my lawn,” says Parker.

“I like it because it sits low, and has a differential so I don't slide around corners. It features conventional type steering and a single foot pedal that controls both vehicle speed and forward and reverse.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ernie Parker, 9010 Chicago Ave., Bloomington, Minn. 55420.

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Some of the best new products we hear about are “made it myself” innovations born in farmers' workshops. If you've got a new invention or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so, where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors? (Send to: FARM SHOW, Box 1029, Lakeville, MN 55044).

Harold M. Johnson, Editorial Director



Pull-Type Corn Picker Made From Uni-System

Roger Montag, Rodman, Iowa, converted a 702 Uni-System power unit into a pull-type, pto-powered corn picker for his neighbor.

“A fire burned out the engine compartment and the transmission was going. So, we removed the engine, radiator and cab, and cut off the back wheels so we had just the basic framework left,” says Montag.

“To the frame we added a tongue built heavy out of 7-in. square tubing. The tongue swings back under the header for road transport. The tricky part of the conversion was powering the rig. We ended up using a right angle gearbox taken off a stalk chopper and powering it off the tractor's 1,000rpm pto. We put on a larger belt pulley, but were able to use the same belts and tighteners. None of the other drive components on the ma-

chine had to be modified. The elevator and the head's raising/lowering action are both powered off tractor hydraulics.

“To get the machine to pull properly, we moved one wheel back so now the machine trails well even in mud. Our neighbor uses the rig to pick corn with New Idea's husking unit and 4-row corn head. He's also toying with the idea of putting on a bean head in the future,” says Montag.

He notes that since the unit's frame is the same as the original machine's, his neighbor should be able to put on any of the other Uni-System components.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roger Montag, Box 26, Rodman, Iowa 50580 (ph 515 887-4752).