



There's no guesswork involved with this new spreader-mounted mini foam marker which can also be fitted to sprayers.

Mini Foam Marker Fits Lawn Spreaders

Anyone who's trying to maintain a beautiful green lawn with no weeds knows the frustration of trying to guess just how much to overlap when spraying or fertilizing.

Now you can mark each pass with a spreader or sprayer with a mini foam marker, thanks to Richway Industries, Janesville, Iowa.

The company began making foam markers for farm sprayers in 1973 and has been making a smaller foam marker for professional turf managers for several years.

Their latest marker fits smaller homeowner sized spreaders or sprayers up to 30 in. wide, operated at normal walking speeds of about 3 mph. It has a single 32-oz. tank and a small air pump that's powered by a single D cell battery.

Richard Borglum, company president, says no tools are needed to install the marker, which can be set to drop foam on the sides or



Marker has a single 32-oz. tank and a small air pump powered by a D-cell battery.

at the center.

He says 3 tsp. of any liquid dishwashing soap added to water in the 32-oz. tank will provide foam for 15 to 20 minutes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richway Industries, Ltd., Box 508, Janesville, Iowa 50647 (ph 800 553-2404; Website: www.turftrackernow.com).

Cheap Mini Feed Bunk

When Tom Howard, Garards Fort, Pennsylvania, needs a feed trough or a place to drop a salt block for his cattle, he heads to his junk pile.

"I make feeders from old tires and wheels," he says. "It's simple and inexpensive."

Howard starts with a tire still mounted on the wheel. He cuts all the way around one side where the tread meets the sidewall. "Then you just fold the tire up inside out to make a big bowl or pot. The dish of the wheel adds to the depth of the trough. Then I mix up half a bag of concrete and pour it in to make a solid bottom and to keep feed from running through. It also adds some weight so cattle can't move them around as easily."

He says he's made at least 15 tire feeders over the years for his small cow herd. The concrete sometimes comes loose in the wheel so he suggests putting wire in them before you pour in the concrete to help anchor it better. And if you use a steel-belted radial, be careful not to cut into the wire.

"These feeders work well, they never tip over, and they're cheap and easy to make," he says.

Howard says you can use the same procedure to make 'redneck flower pots.' "You can make a scalloped cut in the tire to make it a little more attractive," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom Howard, 680 Mapletown Rd., Garards Fort, Penn. 15334 (ph 724 943-4320; E-mail: bnchmark@charterpa.net).



Tire is folded up inside out to make bowl.



One side of tire remains mounted on wheel.



Half a bag of concrete is mixed up and poured in to make a solid bottom.



Seven-foot blade is supported by steel subframe that attaches under tractor and extends all the way to the hydraulic lift on back.

Front-Mount Snow Plow For Ford 8N

"I recently designed and built a front-mount snow plow for my friend's 1951 Ford 8N tractor. It raises or lowers off the tractor's hydraulic lift system through a cable and pulley arrangement," says Ken Java, Frederic, Wis.

He started with a 7-ft. blade that he cut down to 5 ft. The blade is supported by a steel subframe that attaches under the tractor and extends all the way to the hydraulic lift on back.

Java attached a pair of cables to the upper part of the lift arms. The cables run around a pair of pulleys at the back of the tractor and up and around another pair of pulleys that are bolted to the bottom part of the front axle. Raising the hydraulic lift arms shortens the cable, lifting the blade.

"It does a good job of plowing. I built it for my friend Doug Panek who uses it around his neighborhood to plow snow off driveways and also to plow a skating rink on an area lake," says Java. "He can easily change the angle of the blade by pulling a pin and swinging the blade one way or the other. The cables are hooked up to a pair of turnbuckles on back, which allows the operator to easily adjust height of the plow. A pair of metal brackets that bolt onto the front axle are used



Snow plow raises or lowers off tractor's hydraulic lift system through a cable and pulley system that attaches to front axle.



Cables are connected to upper part of tractor's hydraulic lift arms.

to keep the plow centered when turning."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Java, 3186 Benson Rd., Frederic, Wis. 54837 (ph 715 327-8445).

"Chain-Type" Cutterbar

That chain-type continuous sickle cutting system, which we first told you about nearly four years ago (Vol. 22, No. 6), will soon be on the market, says HCC, Inc., Mendota, Ill.

Invented by Tom Loftus, an innovative Illinois farmer, the revolutionary new cutting system consists of standard 3-in. sickle sections attached to a high-strength continuous chain that runs inside a patented channel and sickle guard. Sprockets at each end of the combine header are driven either by combine hydraulics or by independent hydraulics.

"We've been getting a clean cut at high speeds in all our testing," states Don Bickel, HCC's VP of Engineering. "In an Arkansas test, we were cutting 75 bu. per acre milo at 7 mph, which the operators said they could never achieve with standard cutting systems. What's more, operators said vibration was virtually eliminated."

HCC plans extensive field tests this year and will introduce the Razer cutting system to market in 2003.

In tests the company has retrofitted the continuous cutterbar to Deere and Case-IH combines. They also plan on retrofitting New Holland and Gleaner combines.



Photo of Loftus's original sicklebar shows continuous cutter chain equipped with replaceable sickle sections.



HCC's production model.

Price has not yet been determined. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, HCC, Inc., 1501 1st Ave., Box 952, Mendota, Ill. 61342 (ph 815 539-9371; fax 815 539-7331; Website: www.hccincorporated.com).