



Hand-pedaled knobby bicycle wheels travel easily over obstacles.

### WHEELS TRAVEL OVER ROUGH GROUND

## Canadian Builds Arm-Powered Wheelchair

"It's fast and it'll cross just about any terrain thanks to its bicycle wheels," says Dave Adamson, Canadian inventor of the new "Handicycle", an arm-powered wheelchair that uses standard bicycle parts to keep costs low and provide unequalled mobility.

Adamson, who is himself disabled, began working on the Handicycle 10 years ago and recently sold his first production models.

"The design of the wheelchair hasn't changed much in 100 years. They can be difficult to propel, they bog down in mud and sand, and they're hard to get over obstacles," says Adamson.

The Handicycle has three large bicycle wheels that'll easily cross soft ground and walk up low curbs, steps and other obstacles. The most unique feature, however, is the arm-power design that lets the operator propel the chair with bicycle type pedals connected by drive chains to the front wheel.

The pedals are used both to drive the Handicycle and to steer it. They can be adjusted up and down and back and forth to suit individual users. The Handicycle has 3 speeds and is equipped with brakes for control on corners and hills.

All components are standard bicycle parts available at bike shops for easy maintenance. The frame is made

from one piece of continuous tubing. The seat is made from molded plastic and the platform from plywood. A carrying basket can be mounted under the seat.

The Handicycle is 27-in. wide and can turn around in a 7-ft. circumference. It sells for \$1,400 Canadian (about \$1,000 U.S.). "That's considerably cheaper than most other wheelchairs. We're selling it at cost in order to challenge other manufacturers to improve the design of equipment for the handicapped," says Adamson.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Adamson, Island Metal Craft Ltd., 540 William Street, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada V9A 3Y9 Canada (ph 604 389-1519).



This pedal-powered wheelchair was built by Handicap Mobility, Inc., a custom shop in Carter Lake, Iowa that builds specialty equipment for the disabled. The pedaled wheelchair was built for Terri Sopcich, of Omaha, Nebraska, a 10-year-old who has suffered from severe lateral curvature of the spine — or scoliosis — since infancy. The special-built chair lets her move easily to and from school, steering and pedaling with her hands. Todd Bequette of Handicap Mobility, Inc., who designed the chair, says it's difficult for a young girl to keep up with classmates in a conventional wheelchair. For more information on the pedal chair, or other specialty equipment or conversions, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Handicap Mobility, Inc., 511 E. Locust, Carter Lake, Iowa 51510 (ph 712 347-6666).

### LETS TREE FARMERS BALE TREES WEEKS IN ADVANCE

## New Machine Bales Standing X-Mas Trees

A new machine invented in Oregon bales Christmas trees before they're cut letting growers prepare for the seasonal rush weeks in advance.

Inventors Jon and Jerry Crew, who operate a 43-acre tree farm near Estacada, say that being able to bale standing trees streamlines their operation, solving the biggest logistical headache in the business of raising trees for market. They now leave baled trees in the field as long as possible so they'll remain as fresh as possible.

Tree baling consists of wrapping the tree in twine so it's ready to ship. Before the Crews' invention, trees couldn't be "baled" until after they were cut.

Jon, an industrial electrician, and his father Jerry, who worked as a jet mechanic for United airlines, worked closely on developing the machine.

Two men operating the machine can bale 80 trees per hour working as much as six weeks ahead of harvest. The baler weighs 450 lbs. and mounts on a tractor 3-pt. It consists of a baling circle which can be moved from side to side so the operator can bale two rows on either side of the machine in one trip through the field. The baler can handle up to a 9-ft. tall tree. Five remote control buttons electronically control the operation and the tightness of the wrap and the spacing of the baling string can be easily adjusted.



Baling ring wraps twine tightly about standing trees.

The baler works on as small as a 15-hp. utility tractor. The baling ring rides up and down on a steel mast. It requires just 2 operators compared to the 4 or 5 people needed to run a conventional tree baler after trees are cut.

The new "Crew Cut" tree baler sells for \$6,000, comparable in cost to conventional balers, according to the Crews.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Crew Cut, 22399 S. Springcreek Road, Estacada, Ore. 97023 (ph 503 631-3781).

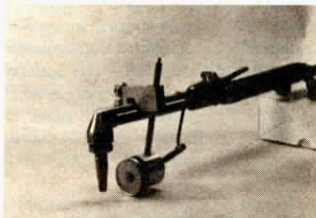
### CLAMP-ON GUIDE WHEEL MOVES TORCH EVENLY ACROSS WORK

## You'll Cut Straighter With New Torch Tool

A handy new clamp-on aid for acetylene torches helps cut straighter and more evenly at a set distance from your work.

Charles Schnur, Evansville, Ind., invented "Torch-Aid" for his own use. He has since sold nearly 100 to friends and neighbors and when he took it to a recent national farm show, showgoers told him it was the best idea at the whole show.

The new torch tool clamps with finger tightened screws to the torch shaft. It's completely adjustable so that the distance of the torch from the wheel can be varied. The wheel runs in line with the torch or can be turned for cross cutting. The wheel can also be used as a precise guide by running it over an inverted "V"-shaped metal guide.



Adjustable torch guide wheel can be turned any direction to make precision cuts.

Designed to fit any torch, Torch-Aid sells for \$35.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Charles Schnur, 5217 Bridgeview Dr., Evansville, Ind. 47712 (ph 812 423-6929).