No-till cultivator is built from two Nobles cultivators - an 8-row, 36-in. and a 4-row 36-in.

Home-Built 12-Row, 30-In. Folding No-Till Cultivator

Tim Gogerty wanted a 12-row, 30-in. vertical fold no-till cultivator for his corn and soybeans, but he didn't want to spend the money for a commercial rig. The Zearing, Iowa, farmer solved the problem by combining two old Nobles 3-pt. cultivators into a single unit.

He used an 8-row 36-in. folding model and a 4-row 36-in. model.

The toolbars on both cultivators were the same size - 4 3/8 by 8 in. He cut the toolbar on the 8-row model in half. Then he cut a 32-in. section out of the 4-row toolbar and welded it in. He then moved the 8-row model's quick hitch over to the center of the new bar and reattached the original gangs and hydraulic cylinders.

"I used it last summer and it worked great," says Gogerty. "The four rows on each side fold vertically and come over center. I do have to be careful when pulling it on the highway. I like having a big, heavy folding 30-ft. toolbar because it's so versatile. I can hang anything on it including knives to apply anydrous ammonia or different kinds of gangs to make it a heavier type of no-till cultivator.

"Both cultivators were Danish tine models made in the 1960's or 70's. I bought them from a neighbor who was going out of business and paid less than $1,000 for both. My total cost was less than $2,000. A new 12-row no-till folding cultivator sells for $8,000 to $12,000, although they're built heavier and are spring-loaded. One reason I saved so much money is that old 4-row equipment can be bought at scrap metal prices. The shovels on the cultivators were in good shape so I didn't have to replace them. The old-style Danish tines really plow the ground. I can vary their pitch by adjusting the angle of the top arm on the 3-pt.

Toolbars were cut apart and welded together.

Four rows on each side fold vertically and come over center.

"I use a Deere 4230 tractor to pull it. The tractor doesn't have enough weight up front to pull a 12-row narrow cultivator so I leave the loader on in order to counterbalance the cultivator's weight."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tim Gogerty, 102 E. Custer, Zearing, Iowa 50278 (ph 515 487-7825).

Stephen extended front end of the "G" and mounted a 5-ft. grader blade under frame just ahead of operator.

Grader From Stretched Allis Chalmers "G"

A favorite old-time tractor - the Allis Chalmers "G" - can be converted into a dandy mini road grader, says Illinois farmer Larry Stephen, Martinsville, Ill.

The "G" was originally designed as a self-propelled cultivator with the cultivating units positioned under the center of the tractor for good visibility.

Stephen extended the front end of the tractor by cutting the frame in half and making an extended frame out of square steel tubing and round steel tubing. He then mounted a 5-ft. grader blade under the frame just ahead of the operator.

Electro-hydraulic controls raise and lower the blade. The tractor's belt pulley drives a generator that provides the electric power. Stephen can raise either side of the blade and adjust the swing and pitch of the blade hydraulically. The blade will even shift sideways, if needed. A set of ripper teeth just behind the front wheels can be used to dig up the ground ahead of the blade.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry Stephen, Rt. 40 West, Martinsville, Ill. 62442 (ph 217 382-6678).

Spot Herbicide Applicator For Tree Farmers

If you have trouble keeping weeds down around young trees, you'll like this spot applicator from New Zealand that drops a precise band of granular herbicide around the trunk.

In North America, the Weed-A-Meter (WAM) has so far been used primarily to apply Pronone 25G to Ponderosa pines. For big tree-growing operations, where herbicides are often broadcast or aerially applied, the savings can be tremendous. But at just $85, the new spot applicator could pay off for anyone trying to get a stand of trees going.

Marketed in the U.S. by Wilbur Ellis, the applicator has a bell-shaped funnel on bottom connected to a 12 oz. herbicide container on top. A trigger underneath the container operates like a powder sifter, sending herbicide down around both the outside and inside of the bell, spreading it out in a 4 to 5 ft. dia. circle around the tree.

It sells for $85.

A new model suitable for applications of granular fertilizers and insecticides will be available next year.

Weed-A-Meter is used in North America primarily to apply Pronone 25G to Ponderosa pines.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wilbur Ellis, East 12001 Empire Way, Spokane, Wash. 99206-4597 (ph 509 928-4512; fax 924-0565).

2-Row Planter Helps Feed Wildlife

Harvey Malon of Rapid City, S. Dak., wanted to plant small 3 to 5-acre plots of corn and sorghum as food for wildlife on his ranch near White Owl. The problem was he couldn't find an affordable small planter to do the job so he built his own 3-pt. mounted, 2-row unit using row units off a 40-year-old Deere 4-row corn planter.

With help from his brother-in-law Bob Hall he found a 4 by 6-in. toolbar at a junkyard, cut off part of it, and clamped the row units onto it. Each row unit came equipped with a steel seed hopper and a large, ribbed rubber closing wheel on back. He then fabricated his own 3-pt. hitch, using parts from a commercial 3-pt., and bolted it onto the toolbar.

"It's nothing fancy but it does what I want it to," says Malon. "Hall did the welding and most of the assembly work. I use it to plant mainly corn but also sorghum, milo, and sweet corn on five different plots scattered up to 1 1/2 miles apart. To adjust seed population I simply change plates in the seed hoppers. The small 2-row unit lets me turn sharp at the end of each row. To change row width I simply loosen some bolts and slide the row units over."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harvey K. Malon, 635 Westwind Dr., Rapid City, S. Dak. 57702 (ph 605 343-2349).

Malon uses his planter to seed 3 to 5-acre plots of corn and sorghum for wildlife.