

Reader Letters



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I used 12 ga. steel to make a new body and made a bed that's 4 ft. wide and 5 ft. long. The hood and front fenders are all made as separate pieces. The hood tilts back toward



the windshield. After it's open both front fenders can be swung out 180 degrees against the doors, providing "walk-up" access to the engine from three sides. The rig's air horns, heated rear view mirrors, and door-mounted air vents are off a 1976 White Freightliner semi tractor. (Steven L. Reining, 120 West Main, Mt. Zion, Ill. 62549 ph 217 864-4664)

I was pleased that the letter about my upside down trapeze-type exerciser appeared in FARM SHOW (Vol. 22, No. 2). It would have been nice if one of the photos my son took of me using the machine had appeared with it. Again, I invented the device in 1944 after



doctors at the Mayo Clinic advised me to hang upside down daily to clear my lungs of fluid. It's the result of a respiratory irritation I got while baling wheat straw.

I still hang upside down by my toes and heels on the trapeze for four minutes a day. I also mount the unit in the back of pickups and perform in local parades. I'm 92 years young and like to say my invention will keep me going until I'm at least 100. (Richard M. Lamp, Rt. 2, Box 187, Blair, Neb. 68008-9764)

Here's an early 1970's Cub Cadet lawn tractor I liberated from the junk pile on my brother's farm in North Dakota. I brought it, along with some hydraulic components off some old Case swathers, out to southern



California to put it to better use.

I first overhauled the engine, installing new pistons and rings for about \$35. Then I built a 28-in. wide bucket for the front of the tractor by cutting down a snowblower shield. I made a frame and arms out of old bed rails and mounted the bucket on the tractor. It operates with a pump off one of the old swathers mounted under the hood and driven off the original mower pulley. Four cylinders raise, lower and tilt the bucket.

I also fixed up a rusted out garden rototiller to use with the tractor. I made a 3-pt. hitch to mount the tiller on. It consists of two lower arms fashioned out of a garage door opener and a top link that bolts to the

machine's Kohler 7 hp engine. A hydraulic cylinder off one of the swathers operates the 3-pt.

I've pushed a lot of dirt and snow and tilled a lot of ground with the tractor, which has chains on the tires for adequate traction. Out-of-pocket expense was less than \$100. (Glenn Ingulsrud, Box 132002, Big Bear Lake, Calif. 92315; ph 909 585-1674)

We use a nearby 18,000-acre lake created by the Corps of Engineers to generate extra income for our farm operation. The lake makes a great winter home for ducks and geese which feed in fields surrounding the lake. We set up permanent hunting blinds on our farm and started a "Flyway Hunting Club" that offers corporate memberships. Seed and fertilizer companies bring their employees in for a day of hunting. We limit the number of hunters to 12 to 15 per day and use 4-wheeler ATV's to haul them to the blinds, which are kept warm by gas heaters. It keeps us busy seven days a week through December and January. Over the years we've made enough money from our hunting club to put our two kids through college. (Eddie Newell, Flyway Farms, Rt. 1, Box 215, Bonnie, Ill. 62816 ph 618 279-3105)

I use commercially available casting kits to build half-scale models of old 1 1/2 hp New Holland "hit and miss" engines. The original New Holland engine was patented on April 7, 1903 and was fueled with gasoline. The spark plugs in those days were called "ignitors".



They were mechanical points inside the cylinder that moved. A battery and coil provided energy for the spark. This style of engine was built from the 1880's up until World War II.

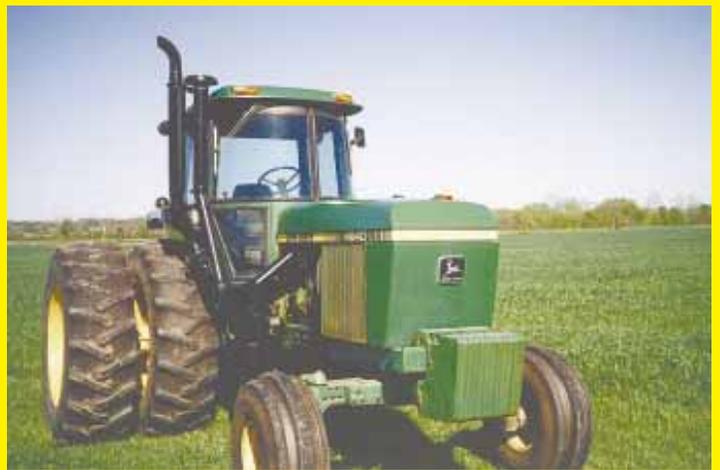
My models are modified to run on propane and have a 1 7/8-in. bore and 2 3/4-in. stroke. The 12-in. flywheel is used to create momentum so that the engine will run smoothly. A small belt pulley (not shown) drives a flat belt that can be used to power a pump jack, feed grinder, or other implement. The "hit and miss" sound is created by the governor, which holds open the exhaust valve when the engine is up to speed. Without a load, the engine will fire just often enough to keep the flywheel at the proper rpm's. With a load, the engine will fire every other revolution, just like a typical 4-cycle engine. "Hit and miss" engines conserve fuel when not under load.

I purchased the casting kits from 7 Mt. Machine/Model Shop, RD 1, Box 408, Sand Mt. Road, Spring Mills, Penn. 16875 (ph 814 364-1101). (Mike Moyers, 37301 28th Ave. So. no. 31, Federal Way, Wash. 98003 ph 253 838-0282)

Several years ago I built this 1/3 scale unstyled D Deere tractor and wagon as a lawn



ornament. Both rigs have steel wheels. The unstyled D was made from 1923 to 1938. I also built a non-running Waterloo Boy tractor



Your story on our muffler and air cleaner 're-route kit', which is designed to improve visibility on Deere 30 and 40 series 4-WD tractors, generated a lot of interest (Vol. 21, No. 3). We're now introducing a side-mount exhaust system for Deere 2-WD tractors. As with the 4-WDs, the objective is to provide clearer frontal vision, with the muffler and air intake stack removed from the hood and mounted on the right side. However, the new kit re-uses the original muffler and air intake stack via a reinforced attaching flange on the exhaust pipe from the turbo. (If a new replacement muffler is needed, it's available as an option). A heavy duty exhaust adapter is used to attach the exhaust plumbing to the turbo, routing the exhaust pipe up and rearward, then angling out under the hood and up toward the right fender. This 4-in. exhaust pipe is fabricated in two pieces to make it UPS shippable. The exhaust and air intake plumbing are supported by a heavy duty bracket that attaches to the side of the cab and a brace that bolts onto the lifting support on top of the cab. A bracket is provided to move the fuel filter bank forward, just above the injection pump, to allow room for the air plumbing from the air filter canister to the turbo.

On 40 series tractors, servicing the stock air cleaner is a real pain. If you're careful you can maneuver the air cleaner out of the canister and from under the hood without personal injury. With our new system the filter canister mounts in place of the right hand battery box. To service it, simply remove the canister cover and drop the filter out the bottom.

as a lawn ornament. After I built these tractor lawn ornaments I started building 1/2-scale tractors that run. (Patrick G. Prom, 12661 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, Minn. 55347 ph 612 944-9266)

I made my own walnut husker out of a 1950s-era Allis-Chalmers small round baler. It takes the wet husks off and leaves the nuts clean and tan in color. Note: The husk should not be too dry.



I stripped the baler down to the large power drum. Then I cut around the ends, close to the drum, leaving the ends on the shaft that goes through the drum. Then I removed the drum. Next I welded 1/4-in. chains to the shaft, spacing the chains about 4 in. apart. The chains are spiraled around the shaft to make a sort of auger. The chains were just long enough to barely touch the outside of the drum after it was reinstalled.

I then cut a rectangular slot in the drum from



We attached the battery box to the existing entry side battery box and modified the cover. This provides an additional 7 1/2 in. of width to the entry platform space, making entry to the cab much easier and safer. The new-style hand rail steps can be attached to this setup. This bolt-on conversion can be done in the average farm shop and requires patching the holes where the muffler and air intake stack were located.

We're now testing a prototype on a Deere 4640 (shown) this spring and plan to accept orders for 4640s and 4840s by late summer. (Ramey Pottinger, Sideline Systems, Rio Vista Farms, 135 Howardstown Rd., New Haven, Ky. 40051 ph 502 549-3628; fax 8430)

end to end and replaced it with an old hammer mill screen with 3/4-in. dia. holes. This is the bottom of the drum. The drum was then placed back in its former position and held stationary, leaving a small space between it and the drum ends.

I cut a 3-in. dia. hole into the bottom of the drum which is where the nuts come out. On top of the drum, at the other end, I cut a 4-in. dia. hole and made a funnel where I pour the nuts in. (Note: A hole that's too large will let the nuts back out). I installed a 16-in. pulley on the shaft and belted it to a 1 hp electric motor that's equipped with a 3-in. pulley. The pulley speed has to be regulated in order to keep from cracking the nuts. I cut the baler's wide axle in half in order to move the wheels closer together. I also welded a 2-ft. bar to the bottom of the frame at the back in order to keep the machine from tipping backward.

I feed 3 to 5 gal. of nuts in at a time. They come out at about two nuts per second. More nuts can be cleaned in a short period of time with this husker than can be picked out all winter long. Sometimes I run the nuts quickly through again if they're not clean enough the first time. They are then black with a thin coating. I spread them out to dry and then run them through the husker again after they've dried. They are then clean and of a tan color. (Orville E. Flager, 1245 Labette Rd., Ottawa, Kan. 66067 ph 785 566-3504)