

## “Run-Flat” Tire For ATVs

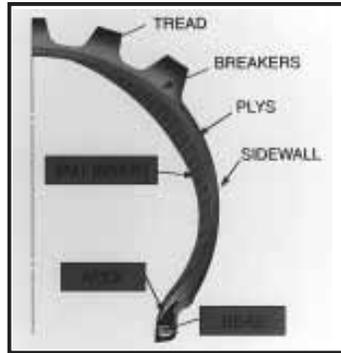
You won't have to worry about getting stranded on your ATV with a flat if you switch to Goodyear's new "run-flat" tire.

Goodyear says they're the first run-flat tires designed specifically for ATVs. They can be driven for 50 miles at 25 mph even after being punctured or cut.

A stiff sidewall insert provides the structural stiffness to perform without any air. Since the tire doesn't collapse like a standard tire would, the wheel won't be damaged as you drive the ATV back home, notes the company. And repairs can be made in the same manner as a standard tire. No special tools are needed.

"There will be a premium charged for the EMT technology; however, we think the security and convenience of never again being stranded by a flat tire will offset any price increase," says the company.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,



Exploded view of tire, with EMT insert, shows how "run-flat" tire works.

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio 44316 (ph 330 796-8517; fax 1237).



Rocker switch mounted on left handlebar operates off the ATV battery.

**FITS MOST POPULAR 4-WHEELER MODELS**

## Electronic Power Shift Kit For ATV's

A new electronic power shift kit for ATV's makes shifting gears as simple as touching a handlebar-mounted rocker switch, says the distributor, Superior Outdoor Power Center, Superior, Neb.

The shifter operates off the ATV battery and fits all popular 4-wheeler ATV's. It consists of a small motor that hooks up to the existing shifting arm on the transmission, a control box mounted next to the motor, and the rocker switch which mounts on the left handlebar. To shift up or down a gear you simply hit the switch.

"It eliminates the need to lift your foot up and down all the time in order to shift, which can get really tiring," says Arlen Mickelsen. "However, you can still shift with your foot if you want. This kit can be used on all Honda 4-wheelers, most Yamaha models, and some Suzuki and Kawasaki models.

"All electronics are completely enclosed in liquid poured polyurethane so everything is completely water and mud-proof."

The mounting kit and components sell for about \$360 plus S&H.

The company also is offering a poly "deepwell" box that fits on back of any 4-wheeler ATV. The box is 3 ft. wide, 3 ft. long, and 3 ft. deep and has drain ports at the bottom. It fits on top of the ATV's back rack and down behind the rear tires. The box is secured by a pair of nylon straps on each side that attach to steel brackets that bolt onto the rack.

"It has about 30 percent more capacity than a standard rear rack and keeps materials from sliding off or falling through the rack," says Mickelsen. "It works great for carrying fencing materials. Livestock producers can dump feed into it and use a bucket to feed their animals."

The deepwell box is available in black or green and sells for \$192 plus S&H. A lid that fits it sells for \$72 plus S&H. Also available is a "shallow rack" utility rack that mounts on front of the ATV. It sells for \$139 plus S&H.

The company's new "bottom draw" poly spray tank for ATV's has a low center of gravity for greater safety, and is designed to drain the tank completely dry. It mounts behind the driver's seat and has baffles on each side, with the tank extending down in front of the rear fenders. Fittings on the bottom of each side of the tank completely drain it.

"When you pump out most other ATV spray tanks there's still one to three gallons left in the bottom of the tank, which you have to drain out by hand," says Mickelsen. "This tank sucks the liquid from the bottom to com-



The power shift consists of a small motor, a control box, and rocker switch (top). The company also offers a "deepwell", 3 by 3 by 3-ft. box that fits on back of any 4-wheeler (middle). A new poly spray tank (bottom) has a low center of gravity and is easy to empty out.

pletely drain the tank. The tank is secured to the ATV rear rack by nylon straps. By loosening the straps and disconnecting a quick coupler the tank can easily be removed. The low center of gravity makes the tank safer to use on sidehills. Also, baffles mounted at the bottom of both sections keep the liquid from sloshing from side to side."

Fits Honda, Yamaha, Kawasaki, Suzuki 4-wheelers and available in 15 and 27-gal. sizes. The 15-gal. model sells for \$495 and the 27-gal. model sells for 515.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Superior Outdoor Power Center, 320 N. Commercial, Superior, Neb. 68978 (ph 800 333-5161 or 402 879-4785; fax 4787).

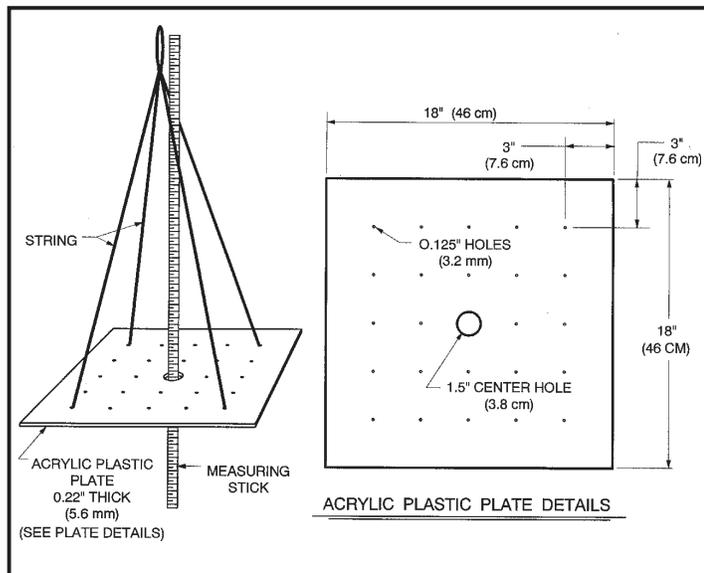


Diagram shows details of Rayburn's "pasture meter" for measuring available forage.

## Build Yourself A Low-Cost "Pasture Meter"

Here's how you can build yourself a low-cost "pasture meter" to help estimate how much forage is available for livestock. The idea comes from a West Virginia University forage specialist.

Ed Rayburn's meter measures bulk height of pastures, making it easy to estimate dry matter yield per acre.

"The key is calibrating it for the particular pasture where you plan to use it," says Rayburn. "In our case, that's a cool season grass/legume mix under rotational grazing."

His meter consists of an 18-in. sq., 0.22-in. thick Acrylite or Plexiglas plate with a 1 1/2-in. dia. hole drilled in the center. Twenty-four 1/8-in. dia. holes are drilled along five lines spaced 5 in. apart and starting 3 in. from the plate's edge. A yardstick extends through the middle hole, tied to the plate with a string.

To use, you simply walk through a pasture and take samples at random by placing the tip of the yardstick on the ground and lowering the plate until the forage canopy supports it. Then measure the height of the top of the plate above the ground.

For an accurate estimate of forage mass, Rayburn recommends taking 30 samples - in both high and low producing areas - per pasture.



The completed meter as it's used in a field. While it was developed for a southern cool season grass/legume mix, Rayburn's calculation of 432 lbs. of dry matter per acre for each inch of pasture height is based on more northerly climates, he says.

For every inch of pasture height, there are 432 lbs. of dry matter per acre. So if average forage height measured with the plate is 6 in., forage mass is 2,592 lbs. of dry matter per acre. Dry matter/bulk height calibration varies with species, season and location.

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