

10-FT. TALL "TERRA TIRES" DWARF PICKUP ITSELF

Colossal "Bigfoot" Stomps The Midwest

Bigfoot, the world's largest 4-WD pickup, was built as a recreational off-road vehicle for Bob Chandler, Hazelwood, MO.

Chandler started with a 1974 Ford F-250, modifying it to go virtually anywhere in the rugged hills of Missouri. One thing led to another and Bigfoot kept getting bigger and bigger. The appearance of the truck in the movie "Take This Job And Shove It" created a demand for it on the show circuit and Chandler hasn't gotten to use it for recreation since. Because of the great demand for the truck, Chandler has since built three

more versions and may soon build a fourth copy.

The engine in Bigfoot is a 460 cu. ft. Ford. Highly modified, the engine is fitted with Hampton 671 blowers and two 1000 cfm Predator racing carburetors.

The truck uses a Rockwell military 5-ton axle. A beefed-up Ford C6 transmission and a Harvester transfer case are also used on the truck.

The most distinctive items on the truck are, of course, the huge tires. The trucks are sometimes shown in 66-in. Goodyear Terra tires that are considered "normal" wear. With



Bigfoot's powered by a highly modified 460 cu. in. Ford engine and has a 5-ton Rockwell axle.

adaptors, however, the truck can be fitted with 10-ft. tall Firestone tires that Chandler found in a salvage yard in the Northwest.

The two latest model Bigfoots have '84 bodies and essentially the same equipment inside.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bigfoot 4X4, Inc., 6311 N. Lindberg, Hazelwood, Mo. 63042. (ph 314 731-2822).

SOUTH DAKOTANS ALSO MAKE SCARCE REPAIR PARTS FOR BROKEN TOY TRACTORS

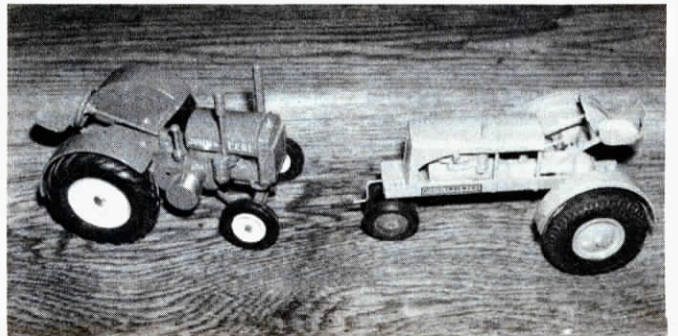
Old Barn Houses New Toy Tractor Factory

"Toying with tractors" has turned into a full-time profession for South Dakotans Dennis and Joan Parker, of Volga. They've converted an old barn into a toy factory that not only manufactures new toy tractors but also specializes in providing hard-to-find replacement parts for antique toy tractors.

The Parkers do the work themselves, except for hiring help to do the casting of new parts out of aluminum salvaged from old automobile

transmission cases. "This makes each part a little cheaper than it would be if cast out of aluminum," explains Dennis, who for the past 15 years has been an avid collector of toy tractors.

Joan handles the Parker's growing mail order business of selling replacement for old toy tractors. She can provide many new pieces for toy tractors right from her stock supply. If she doesn't have the needed parts on hand, or can't get them, Dennis makes them. "All I need to know in



Parker's all-metal toy tractors are 1/16th scale.

sending out the correct part is the make, model number and year," she points out.

Parker-built, all-metal toy tractors are 1/16 scale. They're sand cast aluminum with machined and formed steel parts. Prices range from \$225 for a 1937 John Deere A; \$165 for a 1955 Farmall Super M; \$150 for a 1938

Allis-Chalmers WC, 1956 Case 400 and a 1938 John Deere D; and \$100 for a 1959 replica of a Minneapolis Moline UBE.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dennis and Joan Parker, Rt. 2, Box 72, Volga, S. Dak. 57071 (ph 605 983-5987).

THEY'RE TURNING CONCRETE LAWN ORNAMENTS INTO MONEY

Farm Couple Finds Profitable Sideline

By Wally Schulz

"It all began when I suggested to my husband that I look for a job in town to earn some extra money. He didn't approve of my leaving the farm so I decided to look for a sideline job I could perform right here on our farm," recalls Mary Kirkman who, with her husband Norm, makes and sells concrete lawn ornaments to supplement income from their dairy farm near Burlington, Wis.

The couple started slow by investing in several different molds. They made up a few ornaments, then displayed them on their front lawn for passersby to see.

"It was amazing the way motorists stopped by and bought them," says

Mary. Before long, the Kirkmans needed more room for their fast-growing sideline so they turned their garage into a workshop. When the business outgrew the garage, they expanded into the basement of their farm home.

Last spring, after operating for three years in the garage and basement, the Kirkmans moved the still-expanding business into a new 26 by 30-ft., two story workshop. It's used exclusively for their booming lawn ornament business.

Their top-selling ornament is a life-size figure of a deer. Other favorites are cows, horses and poultry.

From the months of April to Sep-



Kirkman says the top-selling ornament is a life-sized deer.

tember, concrete ornaments for sale are displayed on the lawn. After Labor Day, they're carried inside for display under cover. Prices range from a few dollars to upwards of \$150 for large animals weighing over 400 lbs.

"We spend many happy hours making molds, and painting concrete animals during the winter months. While blizzards rage outside, we're warm and comfortable inside, turning concrete into dollars. It's fun

watching these concrete animals come alive under the strokes of a paint brush," says Mary.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Norm and Mary Kirkman, Rt. 7, Burlington, Wis.