

“Punched Out” Half Tires Great For Covering Bunker Silos

The problem with using old tires as weights when covering bunker silos is that they're heavy and also water gets inside which attracts mosquitoes and other insects.

FARM SHOW knows of at least two companies that cut bias ply truck tires in half and then punch holes in them. The holes make them lighter and easier to carry. The punched-out half tires weigh only 30 to 35 lbs. apiece.

West Point Design, West Point, Neb., sells its silage tire weights for \$1.25 apiece plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, West Point Design, Inc., 2074 South Hwy. 275, Box 255, West Point, Neb. 68788 (ph 402 372-2408; fax 2440).

Ed Brownlee of Ravenel, S.C., sells his punched-out truck tires for 35 cents apiece



Cutting bias ply truck tires in half and then punching holes in them makes the tires lighter and easier to carry.

plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ed Brownlee, Box 389, Ravenel, S.C. 29470 (ph 800 440-9617).

Post Hole Digger Equipped With “360 Degree Swivel”

Tired of having to constantly adjust the 3-pt. lift arms when using a post hole digger on hillsides, Edwin Kolar solved the problem by fashioning a U-joint type swivel on top of the auger gearbox that allows the auger to rotate a full 360 degrees.

“Digging post holes on our hilly pastures is now a much easier job,” says Kolar.

He started with a 20-year-old Emco digger equipped with a 9-in. dia. auger. He unbolted the casting from the top of the gearbox, rotated it 1/4 turn, then bolted it back on. He then had a welding shop make a 1/2-in. thick, 6-in. wide steel bracket with rounded ends. A 6-in. long, 3/4-in. inside diameter pipe is welded to the bottom of the bracket in line with the tractor. A bolt inserted through the top of the gearbox casting and through the pipe allows the auger to swing left or right. Another bolt inserted at a right angle through the bracket and the end of the digger mounting arm allows the auger to swing forward or backward. Both bolts have self-locking nuts.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Edwin Kolar, 889 23rd Ave., Wolbach, Neb. 68882 (ph 308 246-5344).



U-joint type swivel on top of auger gearbox allows auger to rotate from side to side and forward or backward on hillsides.

Bolt inserted through top of gearbox casting and through a pipe welded to steel bracket allows auger to swing left or right.



“Pedal Chair” Marries Wheelchair To Bicycle

A homemade “pedal chair” that combines a wheelchair with a bicycle wheel and bicycle forks and handlebars, makes it easy for Ray Funk of Reynoldsburg, Ohio, to get around at farm equipment shows. He can even take one of his grandchildren along with him.

“It works just like a tricycle except that the seat is a lot more comfortable. I replaced the original wheelchair seat with a rubber padded one made for a moped,” says Funk.

A homemade steel frame was built to attach the bicycle fork to the wheelchair frame. The bike fork was modified to fit a motorcycle wheel equipped with homemade pedals. To keep the pedal chair from oscillating to the left and right every time the pedals are turned, he attached a pair of cylinders between the forks and wheelchair. As the forks turn left or right, the cylinders extend or retract to absorb the “thrust” and eliminate any change in direction.

“The cylinders work so well that I can sit and pedal without touching the handlebars and the pedal chair will still continue forward



Homemade “pedal chair” consists of a bike frame and front wheel fitted with pedal cranks.

in a straight line,” says Funk.

He mounted a small seat with a backrest and safety belt on back of the wheelchair so that he can carry his 4-year-old grandson.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ray Funk, 7735 Donwick Drive, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068 (ph 614 755-4351).



There's a big market for pavement sweeping, says Steve Young, who sells this pickup-mounted “power sweeper”.

New Way To Make Money With Your Pickup

If you're looking for a part-time business, you might be interested in this pickup-mounted “power sweeper” that's designed to clean up parking lots and other paved surfaces.

“There's a big market for pavement sweeping and you don't have to make a huge investment to get started,” says Steve Young, AA-Tach, Scottsdale, Ariz.

The company's sweeper is a self-contained unit that fits into the bed of almost any pickup. It has a 2-yard capacity poly hopper. A 78-in. wide pickup head rides along the ground and a 10-in. dia. hose sucks debris up into the hopper. Rubber flaps seal the pickup head against the pavement to help generate suction.

The suction fan is driven by its own auxilliary engine.

To unload, the operator manually opens a pair of unloading doors at the back of the hopper, then either rakes the debris onto the ground at a dumping site or shovels it into a dumpster.

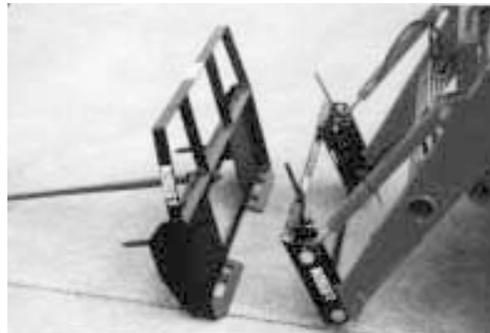
“It's a simple system that's easy to oper-

ate,” says Young. “There are no expensive hydraulic systems to maintain. It comes with camper-style jacks that make it easy to load and unload the sweeper. The job takes only about 5 minutes. The system weighs about 1,000 lbs.

“Potential customers include retail outlets, apartment complexes, hospitals, universities, etc. Most of the time the work is done at night. The going rate for sweeping contractors is \$60 to \$85 per hour, so people who work two or three hours per night can easily generate \$2,500 per month of income. Some contractors in colder areas supplement their sweeping business with a snow removal service, using a snowplow that attaches to the front of the pickup.”

Sells for \$13,900 plus delivery.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, AA-Tach, 6929 North Hayden Road, Suite C4614, Scottsdale, Ariz. 85250 (ph 888 922-8224; fax 435 574-3169; website www.aatach.com).



Hitch consists of two parts. One part pins onto loader mounting brackets and the other pins onto the attachment.

Universal Hitch Mounts Skid Steer Attachments On Loader Tractors

“Our new quick-tach hitch lets you quickly mount attachments designed for skid steer loaders onto loader tractors, such as bale spears, buckets, or pallet forks,” says Phil Kaster, Kasco Mfg., Shelbyville, Ind.

The hitch consists of two parts. One part pins onto the loader mounting brackets and is equipped with a flat steel bar across the top and steel pins on each side. The other part pins onto the attachment.

To mount an attachment, you raise the loader until the flat bar slides under a bracket on the attachment-mounted hitch. Then, rotate a pair of levers that pop the pins through brackets at the bottom of the hitch.

“It duplicates the hitch commonly used on skid steer loaders so that you can use steer loader attachments on any small loader tractor,” says Kaster. “Generally, skid steer loader attachments are less expensive than loader attachments.”

Fits most smaller loader tractors.

The loader-mounted part of the hitch sells for \$489 and the bucket attachment for \$235.

The company also makes an adapter hitch that lets you mount modern skid steer attachments on older model skid steer loaders. The hitch hooks onto two steel prongs at the bottom of the skid steer mounting system. To hook up the attachment you drive the skid steer up to it and raise the loader arms, then manually rotate two levers that are already on the loader arms.

“By removing our uni-hitch you can still use your old attachments,” notes Kaster, who notes that the system fits older Case, Gehl, Deere, Mustang, and New Holland skid steer loaders.

Units for Deere and New Holland skid steer loaders sell for \$589; for Case, Mustang, and Gehl, \$620.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kasco Mfg. Co., Inc., 170 W 600 N, Shelbyville, Ind. 46176 (ph 317 398-7973).