Reader Letters

In 1998, you reported on the way I mounted a New Holland haybine header on a Deere swather (Vol. 22, No. 4). The header was not painted in the photo you used since I had just completed field tests.

After a year of use, I liked the machine so much I built a second one. I painted both of them Deere green this past summer after making several upgrades and improvements.

With the best components from two good manufactuers, I couldn't be more pleased. I've had calls from all around the country. Your article generated a lot of interest. ***(Dave Miller, 85090 Winesap Rd., Milton-Freewater, Ore. 97862 ph 503 938-6253)***

We have a wood-burning stove in our shop. We cut wood for it throughout the year. Most of the wood comes from fencelines and edges of woods that we trim up. In the past,

we would cut the wood, then split it and load it into a pickup, and then unload it again someplace to dry. Then after it's dry, we'd wheelbarrow it over to the shop to burn.

Last year we eliminated a lot of handling by building firewood racks so we only have to handle the wood once. The racks are simply three wood pallets nailed together. The bottom pallet is 6 ft. long. We nailed a 4-ft.

pallet to either end. A 2 by 4 nailed between the two pallets about 3 ft. up in the back braces the ends.

We can move the firewood racks with our 3-pt. mounted forklift. So we can haul them to the woods, fill them up, and then store the wood on them for drying. They work great. We especially like that they keep wood off the ground. ***(Scott Marbach, 7088 N. 600 E., Decatur, Ind. 46733 ph 219-724-3559)***

Here's a couple photos of a Case 995 tractor with logging tongs hooked up to the 3-pt. hitch. We used logging tongs years ago to drag saw logs to the sawmill. This setup is similar to that except that we used a steel cable connected to the tractor's stationary drawbar and ran it up behind the top link over a 4-in. pulley, back to another 4-in. pulley, and down to the tongs.

The main advantage is that you have a longer reach to hook onto a log. Yet you can lift the end of the log just as high from the ground. This works very well on this type of tractor. The rear wheels are located farther to the back of the tractor than on other tractors. I want to caution anyone using this or a

similar setup to make sure the tractor is not too light on the front end, causing rearup and

backward turnover. ***(Tom Williams, Tom Williams Machine, Inc., HCR 1, Box 1-A, Aurora, mo. 65605 (ph 417 678-3723)***

I thought some of your readers might be interested in this "scoop" attachment I made for my tractor to move dirt or gravel. I have a 1960's Ford 801 tractor but I don't have a

front-end loader for it and have never had enough need to justify buying one. In the past I just used a wheelbarrow or small trailer behind my garden tractor. Then I got an idea one day at a local scrap yard when I spotted a bucket from an old horse drawn earth mover. I bought it for 12 cents a pound and took it home.

With some scrap iron, two mounting pins, and a trip assembly off an old cultivator, I created a rear-mounted scoop loader that fits the 3-pt. hitch. I can back right into a pile of dirt or gravel to load and then dump with the lever, although I sometimes have to do some manual clean-out because of limited down-tipping motion. ***(Bob Hudspeth, P.O. Box 51, Era, Tex. 76238 ph 940 665-5942)***

About 71 years ago I cut out a verse explaining how to tell the age of a horse. I lost the clipping and had hoped to find it again after all these years. Imagine my surprise when I opened up the last issue of FARM SHOW and saw the verse in the Ag World section of your paper. Thanks for running it. I haven't actually farmed for over 40 years but I still love to read about it. ***(Edward Roghair, 1130 SW Wanetah Way, McMinnville, Ore. 97128)***

I have a new product designed to be used on air seeders and air drills with double-shoot air systems. It's a fertilizer injector that enables a double-shoot air drill or seeder to place a portion of fertilizer with the seed, leaving a majority of fertilizer separate. It mounts on any double-shoot system using a 3-in. hose delivery system. It places a portion of your dry fertilizer without having a third tank, and can be adjusted from 0 to 25% of total fertilizer applied. Installation is easy and the system costs less than $10 per foot of drill (Canadian). It gives seedlings a jump start while leaving a majority of fertilizer separate from seed. ***(Boyd Smith, 37 Allsop Dr., Red Deer, Alberta T4R 2V2 Canada)***

We've been manufacturing a small tile plow for 16 years and have sold many to FARM SHOW readers. The plow normally sells with a 4 or 5-in. boot and there's an 8-in. flat front which lifts dirt.

Recently, some of my owners have come up

with an interesting new use. I made them a special 3-in. boot with a 6-in. flat front which pulls 30 percent easier. Owners in Kansas and Utah are using the 3-in. boot to lay 1 1/2-in. schedule 40 plastic conduit for electrical lines for irrigation. Another individual is buying one for a vineyard to run 3-in. tile between his grape vines. One more is buying one to run 1 1/2-in. water line on his ranch in Wyoming.

I'm also finding that some individuals like the 3-in. boot to run short lines with 3-in. drain tile because it pulls so much easier.

If interested, please call for literature and a VCR tape of the plow in action. ***(Don Wurdinger, Farm Drainage Plows, Inc., 909 4th St. N.W., Waverly, Iowa 50677 ph 319 352-3911)***

I built a lightweight pair of tongs to lift and hold large blocks of wood while they are being split. They hang from the end of a bale

spear on my skid steer. I hold the log with the tongs as I spilt. No hand lifting is needed until the final split when the tongs are removed from the log. ***(Lloyd Armstrong, RR3, Sunderland, Ontario L0C 1H0 Canada)***

Here's a photograph of an antique meat slicer which I have restored. When I found the slicer at a sale, it was very rusty and all moving parts were seized. I sandblasted all parts and soaked the chain in WD-40. I chromed the

flywheel and other parts. There's no stainless steel in this slicer. Just a lot of cast iron and steel. It has a sliding table which slides at the turn of the wheel. It'll do everything from shaving thin slices to cutting big chunks. On the front of the wheel are these words: "Sterling Slicer, No. 90, N.R. Streeter & Co., Rochester, N.Y. Patented 1908". ***(Ted Fiforowich, 18 Henderson Dr., Yorkton, Sask. S3N 2Z2 Canada)***

I made this three-wheeled "motorcycle" out of a 1981 Isuzu 2-door car with a 61 hp. diesel and 5-speed transmission. The car got

45 mph at 60 to 65 mph. It weighed 2,500 lbs. The motorcycle I made from it weighs 1,865 lbs., with 450 lbs. on the Honda front fork. I replaced the rear 13-in. tires with 14-in. tires. The motor mounts directly to the frame – no rubber mounts. Runs real smooth. The rig measures about 15 ft. long. There's a seat for two in front and a rear "rumble" seat facing backward for two more.

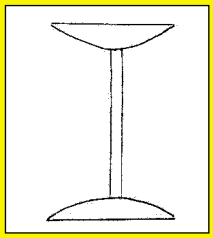
It runs great and gets 60 to 70 mpg. The engine has just 87,000 miles on it so it should last a long while. ***(George Smith, 529 West Jackson, Fremont, Neb. 68025)***

I was looking for a rig that would shelter me from winter weather when feeding livestock. So I converted a 701 Uni-Harvester. My father, Don Potts, and I made a single arm

loader out of square tubing and added a bale fork. It is a cheap and easy way to feed cattle during winter months. It cost just $500 out of pocket to build. The loader comes in handy for other jobs around the farm. ***(Jeff Potts, Burnettsville, Ind.)***

Worn-out riding mowers can be made into useful 2 and 4-wheeled trailers. You just strip the tractor down to the frame so you have the wheels, axle, and main support frame. Then

just build a cargo box out of plywood to fit on top, and make a tow bar. Works great to pull behind a newer garden tractor.



I made a birdbath out of a pair of old concave discs. Just mount a disc at either end