Bob and Rick Smith built this self-propelled mower out of parts from an IH 403 combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

**Combo Mower Built From Combine, Tractor Parts**

Bob and Rick Smith say their big farm mower is built so well and is so easy to service, it should virtually last forever.

The unique mower was built out of parts from an IH 403 combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

The first step to building the combo mower was to drop the engine down to rest on the frame of the IH. “The framing had to be moved closer together to support the engine. Then the frame was reinforced by 6-in. steel channel iron,” says Bob Smith.

The engine, along with the water and oil supply, were moved to a spot behind the power plant, in line with the hydraulic drive. The mower combination was fitted with the old grill and hood from the Oliver tractor, mounted on the rear to protect the engine assembly.

To bring engine power to the Bush Hog mower, a jackshaft was added that drives three V-belts and pulleys which reduce pro speed from 1,800 rpm’s to 540. The old 3-pt. hitch from the Oliver keeps the mower securely attached at the moving speed of 3 mph or road speed of 12 mph. The previous owner, Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine mower. It took Filer 200 shop hours and $2,000 to complete the project. The Smiths bought it a couple years ago and have been using it ever since.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rick Smith, Rt. 1, Box 131, Brownstown, Ill. (ph 618 283-1160).

**Easy-To-Make Floating Intake Pipe**

A unique water float made from plastic pipe saves a lot of frustration when trying to suck water out of a pond, says Nick Calibaba of Stoughton, Sask., who came up with the idea after struggling with various ways of keeping his suction hose free from debris.

“I tried all kinds of things to hold the hose up, but nothing worked very well until I got the pipe idea,” he says. “It took a lot of experimenting, but the float finally settled on works just great. I’ve used it now for four years.”

Calibaba’s own experience using the float was so positive that six months ago, he started selling the devices. He calls them “Bar C Water Floats” and says he’s had only positive feedback about them.

The oval-shaped float is made up of four elbows and a couple pieces of 2-ft. long PVC pipe. The pieces are cemented together so they’re airtight and then pressurized.

The 3-in. dia. suction hose clamps to the float. The suction pipe has multiple rows of holes drilled into it, creating a built-in screen. The float holds the sucking hose about four inches from the top of the water, so that the operator never has to worry about the screen plugging.

“I’m also going to make a 2-in. float with a check valve on the end. These will work well for pumps that don’t hold their prime,” Calibaba says. “There’s a lot of work that goes into making these pipe floats. It takes about three days to make one.”

He says the floats are also useful in another application - for households that use dugouts for their water supply. By anchoring the float to cables with weights, and tying the pressure system’s suction hose to the float, it’s possible to maintain a suction hose level two feet from the bottom of the dugout. This way, in the wintertime, the hose level would never fluctuate with the water level, and it would never come up and freeze in the ice.

Calibaba is selling his Bar C Water Floats for $450 (Canadian) plus shipping and handling.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Nick Calibaba, Box 345, Stoughton, Sask., Canada S0G 4T0 (ph 306 457-7070).

**Sling Shot** Pumpkin Launcher

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.

There are all kinds of pumpkin shooters out there but teacher Norman Wilson and his physics class at Pana High School, Pana, Ill., have come up with a new idea. He and his students recently built a “sling shot” pumpkin launcher that shoots pumpkins with greater accuracy than ever before.

“We built it to compete in the Illinois Punkin Chuckin’ Meet sponsored by the Morton, Ill., Chamber of Commerce,” says Wilson. “We managed to shoot our pumpkin 763 feet to hit an old car that had been parked off to the side.”

Miles Filer, Vandalia, Ill., built the combine and an Oliver 1850 tractor. A Bush Hog 10-ft. mower deck mounts on front.