

# Latest New Products From Germany's Agritechnica Show

Associate editor Dawn Throener recently traveled to Germany to tour that country's biggest farm equipment show.



## Krone's Giant Forage Hauler

It was hard to miss Krone's Big X Cargo Forage Hopper at Agritechnica.

The self-propelled machine has a big V-8 engine and stands about 25 ft. high, 50 ft. long and rides on six 3-ft. wide tires. It's the first in a series of "Big X Cargo" forage haulers.

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## 2-Wheel Diesel ATV

The Ecorider is an electric start, 2-wheeled, diesel-powered ATV that's on the market in Scotland.

The Ecorider stands about 4 ft. high, 7 ft. long and weighs 331 lbs. "It's built heavy but is still light enough for one user to stand it back up if it falls on its side," the company says.

It runs at speeds up to 25 mph on 11-in. wide tires. It can tow 552 lbs.

Comes in forest green.

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## "Motor In Wheel"

### Hillside Mower

An innovative hillside mower that can hold its ground on steep mountainside fields earned a gold medal for innovation at Agritechnica in Hanover, Germany.

Brielmaier Motormaher, a German company that specializes in mowers, put the motor and hydraulics inside the wheel on the walk-behind hillside cutter.

That keeps the center of gravity low and makes handling easy. It's known simply as "Q1."

It works because a turnaround steering system lets one half of the cylinder go forward while the other turns backwards.

The machine can cut up to 11 ft. at once on 60 degree slopes.

The company plans to start manufacturing it in Europe in 2006.

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## Air Filter Cleaner

Claas won a silver medal at Agritechnica for a new machine that cleans all types and sizes of air filters without the dusty mess.

To use, you simply select the proper size air nozzle for the filter you're cleaning, put it inside the machine and close the door. Compressed air slowly rotates the nozzle around the filter and up as it pushes air through the filter from the inside to clean it.

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## Remote Control Glider Gives Birds Eye View Of Crops

CropCam, a Stony Mountain, Manitoba company demonstrated its mini agriculture plane at the Agritechnica show in Hanover.

The 4-ft. long, radio-controlled toy glider weighs 6 lbs. with a wingspan of 8 ft. It has a .15-cu. in. engine with a 6-oz. gas tank and flies up to 60 km/h in winds up to 30 km/h.

You simply throw it in the air and the glider flies to a preprogrammed point and takes high-resolution images of the specified area from a digital camera mounted underneath.

For a "big picture" of the field, the plane flies up to 2,100 ft. and takes six partially overlapping images. If you need more detailed information, you can fly it at 400 ft. with the camera taking 90 photos.

The CropCam is designed to last for more than 100 flights.

The gas model sells for \$10,500 and the electric version for \$11,500.

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## "Downed Apple" Collector

A small German manufacturer showed this new rig for picking up apples off the ground.

It consists of a drum covered with short metal spikes. Apples are picked up off the ground by the spikes, held in place by a clear plexiglass shield, and dropped into a hopper.

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## Hillside Tractor

You can ride the steepest slopes on Linseal's amazing 4-WD hillside tractor that goes up to 25 mph and automatically adjusts to slopes while you remain vertically seated comfortably. Each wheel is driven by a separate hydraulic motor. It has a turning radius of about 3 ft. and a 3-pt. hitch on front.

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## New Trampoline Game

Berg Toys has a new trampoline game for kids called "Tattoo Trampoline." It's for up to 10 players, and the object of the game is to remain on the trampoline as long as possible. The trampoline has six numbered and colored figures called "tattoos" that represent different jumps the player must perform in order to remain on the trampoline.

The player starts at the center and another player calls out a number and the jumper performs it. If the jumper doesn't perform the right jump at the right time, the turn is over.

The Tattoo Trampoline sells for about \$756.

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# Motorized Dump Cart Made From Old Riding Mower

Lester Rose, Yellville, Ariz., found new life for an old 8 hp rear engine Sears riding mower by converting it into a motorized dump cart.

"It looks a lot like the ones sold commercially but those cost \$1,500 or more. Because these old riding mowers are everywhere and cheap, a lot of people could build their own," he says.

Although the mower parts didn't work, the electric start engine, 5-speed transmission and gearbox were fine. "The front section simply unbolted from the rear section," says Rose. "I mounted a swivel wheel at the back to ride on." He made handlebars of 1 1/4-in. thin-walled tubing.

Rose constructed a 32 by 40-in. wood dump box and bolted it to a frame over the engine. A piece of angle iron helps make

dumping easier.

The right handle grip serves as the clutch and a long handle connects to the gear shift. The brake is on the left handlebar. The on/off switch and gas feed are mounted on the mower's original panel that's welded to the crossbar of the handlebars. "I have a trip lever that holds the box down till I need to dump it." With the pivot point ahead of the axle when dumping, the whole thing wants to tip over so he created a "kickstand" that activates from a lever attached to the left handlebar.

He added a straight handlebar to the right side of the box that extends past the handlebars so he can grab hold of it with both hands to dump the entire box.

"It works just great for hauling rocks off



Lester Rose used the engine, transmission and gearbox out of an old riding mower to make this motorized dump cart.

our Arkansas rocky hillside."

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