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## Multi-Purpose Tractor Forks Can Do Most Anything

The list of jobs that 77-year-old Alvin Findlay of Snowflake, Manitoba does with his two sets of loader forks amazes his friends and family. He mounts the special forks on his New Holland 9030 and TV145 bi-directional tractors.

"These bucket forks have paid for themselves many times over, because they have allowed me to clean my own corrals and pick rocks without needing any other machine," he says.

The bigger fork is 9 ft. wide by 5 ft. deep, and has 18, 5-ft. long, sharp teeth that are tapered and spaced about 6 in. apart. These teeth are 1 in. wide and 5 in. deep at the base. They're made for spearing bales but also work beautifully to pick up rock. The fork cost Findlay \$5,200 (Can.) to build.

His smaller fork is 5 1/2 ft. wide by 5 ft. deep, and has 17 tapered teeth spaced 2 in. apart. These teeth are 1 in. at the tip and 6 in. at the base. The fork cost about \$3,000 (Can.) to build and Findlay loves it, too, because it's so fast at separating stones from dirt. Because of the narrow tooth spacing, it can pick up fist-sized stones, he says.

The teeth on each fork are interchangeable, and bolt into receptacles at the back of each fork.

"I've used these forks for six years. Their frames are made from 3-in. heavy steel tubing and the teeth are heavy, too, so you need a good loader to use them," he explains. "They do a beautiful job of dragging the driveway and landscaping, too."

Findlay says he can carry three round straw bales at a time on the bigger fork, and two on

the smaller one. To maximize performance, he removes or adds teeth according to whichever job he is tackling.

These units have turned rock picking from a chore into a pleasure, according to Findlay. In fact, he sold his conventional rock picker because it was slow compared to using the forks.

"If all I had to do was pick stones, I'd be happy," he says. "You can do it in almost any kind of weather and just stay in the comfort of the cab."

He uses the forks to dig stones out of the ground, clear brush, and pick roots. They allow him to pick up downer or dead cows and move them or bury them. He clears snow in winter, and loves how the open back provides excellent visibility. To unload, all you do is back up, according to Findlay.

"With a bi-directional tractor, you can really see what you're doing," he exclaims. "You could thread a needle with those teeth if they were small enough!"

Using either one of his forks, Findlay can also pick and load logs, load silage, string fence wire, push posts in the ground, use it as a frame for scaffolding, or for raising rafters (by putting on a section of 12-ft. by 6-in. sewer pipe as an extension/crane with a 30-ft. reach), separate silage plastic from dirt, and many others uses.

Findlay says he'd like to find a welding shop or manufacturer that would be interested in producing the forks commercially.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alvin Findlay, Box 114, Snowflake, Manitoba, Canada R0G 2K0 (ph 204 876-4716).



Smaller fork is 5 1/2 ft. wide by 5 ft. deep and has 17 tapered teeth spaced 2 in. apart. Teeth can be removed temporarily for certain jobs.

## "New" Uses For Cowboy Chaps

Cowboys have been wearing chaps for years and know that they're great for protecting their legs on the back of a horse. But Charles Schram discovered that they're great for a lot of other jobs, too, so he created a new type of chaps that aren't as cumbersome as leather ones.

Chore Chaps are made from lightweight cotton canvas and have a poly coating inside for wind and water resistance. "Thanks to elastic straps, one size fits all," Schram says, adding that they do have smaller sizes for children.

The company also offers water and wind resistant chaps with a pocket on each leg for gardening and fishing, orange chaps with a 2-in. wide reflective tape down each side for horse riding and orange chaps with a pocket on each leg for hunting.

Sell for between \$19.95 and \$24.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Chore Chaps, 802 Tipperary Drive, Papillion, Neb. 68046 (ph 866 590-6668 or 402 504-1932; email: thechorechaps@aol.com; website: www.chorechaps.com).



One-size-fits-all chaps are made from lightweight cotton and have a poly coating for wind and water resistance.

## Hand-Powered Fork Lift

D & R Manufacturing Ltd. at Fiske, Sask. designed this new winch-powered lift to help move aeration fans from bin to bin but it can be used to handle many types of cargo.

The Aer Lift has a hand winch on it for moving the mast up and down, and a forklift between the front wheels. By placing a wood pallet on the fork, a stable platform is created. The unit also has a brake to hold it in place when needed. It lifts up to 500 lbs., to a height of up to 7 ft.

"This makes it easy to use one fan on several bins," says inventor Richard Epp. "It uses a winch to position the fan in place for mounting on a flat or hopper bottom bin. The wheels are big enough to roll easily over rough ground."

The Aer Lift sells for \$650 (Can.) plus shipping and handling.

Epp says available options include a 12-volt motor that drives the unit, and a swivel on the small back wheel for improved maneuverability.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, D & R



You can lift 500 lbs. to a height of up to 7 ft. with this hand-cranked lift.

Manufacturing Ltd., Box 64, Fiske, Sask. SOL 1C0 (ph 866 665-6677 or 306 377-4436; email: darmani@sasktel.net; website: www.darmani.ca).

## Made-To-Measure Boots

"I've got the strongest, lightest work boots you can buy," says George Ziermann, Baker City, Oregon, who has been a bootmaker since 1967.

But fine footwear doesn't come cheap. Prices start at \$295 plus S&H. But Ziermann says they're worth it.

"My boots will outlast any other boot two to three times," he says. "I use nothing but the finest materials you can buy and the best workmanship I can produce."

He uses full grain 5 1/2 to 6-oz. hand cut cowhide sewn together using four different machines with nylon thread to make smooth seams that are guaranteed waterproof. It takes him about 3 weeks to complete a pair.

Although he makes stock shoes, Ziermann specializes in true made-to-measure footwear for men and women. For an extra charge, he measures each foot and makes the boot to fit.

Other features in the boots include a tongue made from soft 3-oz. garment cowhide. Insoles are made from quality leather and he uses brass hooks and eyelets.

Ziermann also sells leather saddlebags, knife sheaths, and Romeo slippers and chaps.



"My boots will outlast any other boot two to three times," Ziermann says.

The proof that Ziermann's boots are among the finest is that much of his work is for professional loggers.

For a free catalog, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, George's Handmade Boots, 2928 Madison Street, P.O. Box 554, Baker City, Ore. 97814 (ph 541 523-6365).