

“All-Wheel Steer” Fertilizer Trailer

“It’s built heavier and was cheaper to build than anything on the market,” says Jerry Webb, Herrold, S. Dak., about the all-wheel steer fertilizer cart he built to pull behind his 12-row planter.

“My total cost was \$2,900 plus 10 winter days spent in the shop. That’s about one third the price of a new comparable fertilizer trailer. I used it last year to plant corn and sunflowers and plan to use it to apply starter fertilizer on soybeans next spring. It turns short to follow the planter.”

The trailer is equipped with a 300-gal. tank that holds liquid starter fertilizer to apply in the row. Liquid nitrogen is carried in a 1,000-gal. tank and is applied beside the row.

He used an old Case 8-bottom plow beam to build the axles, cutting the plow beam in half, and the toolbars off two International Harvester 4-row cultivators to support the tanks. The tires and wheels came from an old fertilizer spreader and the spindles from sal-

vaged International Harvester 914 combines. Some new steel was purchased to make the axle pivot points.

Both axles steer thanks to a tie rod that connects the opposite corners of the axles. The tie rod consists of a length of sq. tubing that leads from the left side of the front axle to the right side of the rear axle. Swivel points on both ends of the tie rod allow it to move up and down to follow the ground contour and also turn to either side.

Hoses lead from the tanks to a squeeze pump on the planter. The 1,000-gal. tank is secured by mounting hoops, and the 300-gal. tanks by straps.

“It works fantastic, and it’s built heavy - the frame will never twist,” says Webb. “I use my Deere 4440 130 hp tractor equipped with dual wheels to pull it. The tractor has all it can handle.”

The trailer’s hitch came off a junked-out International Harvester pull-type windrower.



“I built it for about one third the price of a new comparable fertilizer trailer,” says Jerry Webb about his “all-wheel steer” fertilizer trailer.

“I actually used the hitches off two windrowers and welded them together. I needed the extra strength to make sure it holds up without bending when going over rough

ground, etc.,” notes Webb.

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Wheelbarrow Wheels Stabilize 3-Pt. Mounted Rototiller

“My King Kutter 3-pt. mounted rototiller makes a nice seedbed for my organic grown vegetables. However, whenever the tractor wheels would drop into a hole, the tiller would dig down too deep. I used a pair of wheelbarrow wheels to solve the problem,” says Ray Bjorgaard, De Soto, Kansas.

He mounted a 13-in. wheelbarrow wheel on each side of the rototiller. That way he can set the top link on the 3-pt. hitch at the depth he wants and let the tiller float.

“It makes for a smoother, more evenly tilled seedbed,” says Bjorgaard.

Each wheel is supported by a 12-in. long, 3/4-in. dia. bolt that goes through an L-shaped length of 3-in. sq. tubing, which in turn slides into a length of 3 1/2-in. sq. tubing already on the rototiller. “I used wheelbarrow tires because they have heavy rims and aren’t likely to break,” says Bjorgaard. “To remove the wheels I just take out the bolt and slide the square tubing apart.

“Everything that I used came from my scrap pile except for the wheels, which I bought at Northern Tool for \$9.95 apiece.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ray



By mounting a 13-in. wheelbarrow wheel on each side of his King Kutter 3-pt. mounted rototiller, Ray Bjorgaard can set the top link on the 3-pt. hitch at the depth he wants and let the tiller float.

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“It’s a poor man’s manlift,” says Lisle Dunham about the portable scaffold he built from a Vermeer round baler.

Portable Scaffold Built From Round Baler

Lisle Dunham turned a Vermeer round baler he bought for \$300 into a scaffold for construction work around his Grinnell, Iowa, family farm.

“It’s a poor man’s manlift,” Dunham says, explaining that it can be hitched to a tractor to move around quickly and easily.

As a project engineer for Vermeer, Dunham knew what he would find when he stripped sheet metal, rollers and rubber belts off the baler. He welded an A-frame structure to the baler’s tailgate to support a 4 by 10-ft. treated wood platform with 1 1/4-in. square tubing safety rails on each side.

“It lifts up to 15 ft. off the ground,” Dunham says. With pivoting, parallel links on each side, the platform self levels as it raises. He uses the tractor’s hydraulics to raise and lower the scaffold. The platform also pivots laterally at the center to level out on uneven ground.

“I added manually set outriggers to make it rock solid,” Dunham said. “I used square tubing and made it adjustable. The tubing fits in a receiver to shorten and lengthen.” Lock bolts hold the work platform securely in place. The outrigger bases are on the ground and need to be manually moved to set the correct height. Dunham says he’s considering mounting the outrigger bases on the baler frame instead.

The scaffold can be used on its own by stabilizing it on the baler’s screw jack or while hooked up to a tractor. When moving the scaffold, Dunham locks transport pins to keep the frame rigid and protect the hydraulic lines and cylinders.



He welded an A-frame structure to baler’s tailgate to support a 4 by 10-ft. treated wood platform with safety rails on each side. It lifts up to 15 ft. off the ground.

The portable scaffolding eliminates the set up and tear down time regular scaffolding requires, Dunham adds, and it can be raised to any height - from 2 to 15 ft. off the ground. An added higher pivot point for the platform allows an 18-ft. working height.

“I know I’ve got my money’s worth out of it,” he concludes. Dunham spent \$300 on the 35-year-old baler and another \$450 for new steel, as well as using scrap angle iron.

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Coyote decoy is 3-D so geese see it from every angle. Mounted on a center stake - with a real fur tail - the coyote moves with the wind.

Coyote Decoy Repels Pest Geese

Wild geese may think twice about landing in your yard or around your pond if they think they see a stalking coyote. Chicago-based Bird-X has been making and selling bird control products since 1964 and introduced the 3-D coyote in 2007.

“Our methods are non-lethal and humane,” Zemsky says. “We solve the problem at the source. Nobody wants goose droppings on their lawn.” The droppings can be a liability if someone slips and falls. They can also carry more than 60 diseases.

The coyote decoy is 3D so geese see it from every angle. Mounted on a center stake - with a real tail - the coyote moves with the wind.

Since geese are smart, Zemsky recommends moving the coyote around the area where geese congregate. It can be discreetly placed near vegetation or in areas that aren’t as visible to humans. “We recommend one to four coyotes per acre,” Zemsky says.

The coyotes work in a variety of locations and work on other pests besides geese - any pest animal that coyotes naturally prey on. The 3D coyotes sell for \$59 each or \$52.50 each for six or more.

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