

He Drives In Reverse To Operate His Snowblower

"I got tired of having to look back all the time to operate my 3-pt. mounted snowblower. So I mounted an extra seat, steering wheel, and controls on one side of my Allis Chalmers WD 45 tractor, allowing me to operate the tractor in reverse with the snowblower in front of me," says Lyle Rawn, Mount Forest, Ontario.

The 6-ft. wide, pto-driven snowblower works exactly as it was originally designed to. "It's almost like driving a combine. I sit up beside the engine where I can see everything perfectly," says Rawn.

The add-on seat is off another implement and is bolted onto a metal frame that he bolted to one side of the tractor and also to the rear axle. The frame also supports the add-on steering wheel as well as a horizontally-

mounted steering shaft. He mounted a pulley on the shaft and another pulley on the tractor's original steering column, allowing him to steer the tractor from the add-on seat.

He clamped an extension rod onto the tractor's original gearshift and throttle. A hand clutch is hooked up to the tractor's original foot clutch, providing Rawn with live power to the snowblower. An extension rod hooks up to the tractor's original hydraulic lift lever control and is used to raise and lower the snowblower.

To change the direction of the blower spout he grabs a metal band that's welded onto the spout and turns it.

"During the summer, I use the same tractor with an 8-ft. rotary flail mower to trim roadsides. To switch to mowing I remove the



Lyle Rawn mounted an extra seat, steering wheel, and controls on one side of his AC tractor, allowing him to operate it in reverse with the snowblower in front of him.

steering belt and the other control extensions. I leave the add-on seat on during the summer but never use it. It takes only about 10 minutes to change back and forth between blow-

ing snow and mowing."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lyle Rawn, RR 3, Mount Forest, Ontario, Canada NOG 2L0 (ph 519 323-1537).

Post Puller For Electric Fence Posts

Pulling out electric fence posts can be an awkward job. You have to grab the post with your hand and tug on it, torquing it back and forth. Sometimes you kick the post around to knock it loose, which can bend the post. This new tool grabs electric posts for easy removal.

The Goldenrod post puller works equally well on rebar or smooth posts of various sizes.

The tool consists of a length of flat hardened steel with a vinyl handle and a deep, tapered notch at one end. The notch has small "teeth" embedded in it.

To remove a post, you slip the notch over the post and pull up on the tool while grabbing the top of the post with your other hand to keep it steady. As you pull, the notch wedges itself against the post to form a sure grip.

"It's a simple little tool that gives you a temporary handle on the post so you can jerk it out of the ground," says Ron Haase, Dutton-Lainson Co., Hastings, Neb. "The diameter of the post will determine how deep it'll go into the notch. It really works neat if you use one puller on each side of the post, which results in a more balanced pull and increased leverage."

Sells for \$4.50 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dutton-Lainson Co., Hastings, Neb. 68902 (ph 402 462-4141; 402 460-4612; dlsales@Dutton-lainson.com; www.Dutton-lainson.com).



Goldenrod post puller has a deep, tapered notch at one end with small gripping "teeth" embedded in it.



To remove a post, you slip notch over post and pull up on tool while grabbing top of post with your other hand to keep it steady.



Electric-powered "ATV" is really a converted Sears Craftsman riding mower.

Electric "ATV" Works Cattle Quietly

"I didn't want to use a noisy gasoline motor when checking cows during calving season," says Francis Weber of Wadena, Sask., who made an electric-powered "ATV".

Since he likes to "scrounge" materials, the project cost him very little.

Weber bought a scrapped Craftsman riding mower for \$20. It was just a shell, as the wrecked motor had already been removed, along with the front tires. But the back tires were good, so he switched them to the front and installed some old ATV tires on back.

He powered the rig with a used 12-volt Smith-Roles drill fill motor. He mounted it in the old engine cavity and built a frame

above each back fender to hold the two used 12-volt batteries. He used the original drive belt and pulleys from the mower to drive the transmission.

"I put the batteries in the back because I didn't want it to be too heavy on the front," he explains. "I had to buy the battery cables and an electrical switch, which cost me another \$20, but everything else was scrounged. I pull the calf cart in low gear and it works well."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Francis Weber, Bos 626, Wadena, Sask., Canada S0A 410 (ph 306 338-2711).

Company Offers Small Kilns And Wood Drying Advice

The ability to produce quality kiln-dried lumber isn't limited to just large scale operations, thanks to a Burgaw, N.C. company, which manufactures small and mini kilns.

Kiln-direct.com introduced its new line of small kilns in 2006, complementing their already extensive line of large kilns and do-it-yourself kits.

"Our small kilns are designed like full-size lumber kilns using aluminum/stainless steel construction, the best foam insulation, and control systems," says company president Niels Jorgensen. "This means there's no compromise on quality, which is normally the case when it comes to small lumber kilns."

The company's "Mini Lumber Kiln" has a capacity of 2,000 to 5,000 bf and foam-insulated walls with an R-value of approximately 32. The loading door is at the end of the chamber, and there's heat recovery equipment built

into the venting to reduce energy costs.

The full featured control system has an optional integrated wood moisture meter and has a wireless link for better supervision and record keeping at your office computer.

A larger "Small Lumber Kiln" has a loading capacity of 6,000 to 9,000 bf.

On both units, the controls and equipment are pre-wired, and the heat system is ready to be connected. They come ready for installation on a concrete foundation, which the customer needs to have ready when the kiln is delivered.

"The concrete foundation becomes the kiln floor and is the most durable surface for loading and unloading with a forklift or cart. We can either deliver the kiln or you can come and get it yourself," Jorgensen says.

The company's website provides free lumber drying information such as kiln theory



Kiln-direct.com's new line of small kilns have many features found on full-size kilns.

and construction, trouble shooting and up-grading information.

Prices vary depending on options. Leasing is available.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kiln-

direct.com, Box 159, 200A Progress Drive Ext., Burgaw, N.C. 28425 (ph 910 259 9794, fax: 910 259 1625; sales@kiln-direct.com; www.kiln-direct.com).