

Tandem Axle 4-WD Tractor, Trailer

Jerry Bruecker, Kaukauna, Wis., converted his Massey Ferguson 8 hp garden tractor into a 4-WD, tandem axle model. He also built a high flotation dump trailer to pull behind it.

"This rig lets us haul excess ground from graves dug in our local cemetery without damaging the turf," says Bruecker.

The dump trailer rides on four 12-in. wide stock car wheels aligned in a row, and is raised up or down by a heavy duty cordless drill which shaft-drives a transmission mounted on the trailer frame. The transmission has a 140 to 1 gearbox ratio, which makes it possible to dump a 4,000-lb. load in just 35 seconds.

"I came up with the idea because when graves are dug, there's always excess ground that has to be hauled away. A skid loader had been used, but it made too many deep wheel ruts," says Bruecker.

He bought another identical Massey Ferguson tractor and removed the rear end assembly, which he mounted behind the tractor's rear wheels. As a result the tractor now has two hydrostatic transmissions, which operate simultaneously using the tractor's original hydrostat control lever.

"It's amazing what this 8 hp tractor will pull. It has a lot of traction not only because it has 4-WD, but because it has two rear ends that are pulling together all the time," says Bruecker. "It'll pull a 4,000-lb. load of dirt with no problem.

"Hooking up the two transmissions was a simple job because there's a lever on the bottom of each transmission. I used one of the tie rods from the tractor that I cut up to link the levers together. They work simultaneously. The Massey tractor has a very rugged transmission."

He welded a frame onto the add-on rear end and attached it to the tractor. He also added a homemade 2-ft. sq. box on top of the rear end, which is used to carry tools, weights for traction, and a cushion for a rider. A home-built pivot allows the tandem axle wheels to go up or down on rough terrain.

The trailer is entirely home-built and hooks up to the tractor via a ball hitch. It has a 6 by 8-ft. box with 10-in. sides. There are two sets of wheels on each side, with a short axle mounted between each set of wheels.

Bruecker used 1/4-in. thick, 4-in. angle iron to build the trailer's frame. The hitch is made from 3-in. sq. tubing and has a bracket on it that supports a heavy duty drill. The drill shaft-drives a gearbox that has a spool mounted on back of it. A length of cable leads out from each side of the spool and goes up alongside a vertical pipe with a pulley on top of it, and then is connected to the box's frame.

A vertical length of cable is attached to the spool and is used to keep the box from "over centering" and dropping down too far as it goes up. "The vertical cable moves in the opposite direction as the horizontal cables,



"It lets us haul excess ground from graves dug in our cemetery without damaging the turf," says Jerry Bruecker, who converted his Massey Ferguson 8 hp garden tractor into a 4-WD, tandem axle model. He also built a high flotation dump trailer to pull behind it.



so when they're winding in it's winding out. It acts as a stop so the box can't go too far up," says Bruecker.

The trailer's endgate opens automatically as the box is dumped.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jerry Bruecker, 481 County Road CE., Kaukauna, Wis. 54130 (ph 920 766-2937; jbruecker@yahoo.com).

Where To Get Parts For Cubs And Cub Cadets

Need a part for an old Cub Cadet or perhaps an old Cub itself? R.F. Houtz & Son has been selling Cub Cadet tractors and parts since they were first test marketed in 1959. Today they still carry parts going back to the original model.

"We only sell and work on Cub Cadet products," says Rob Houtz, fourth of five generations in the family business. What started as an International Harvester dealership selling to farmers in 1934 is now surrounded by the suburbs of Chicago. "We sell new tractors and buy and sell old ones in every condition for parts and resale. We only sell original parts, no reproductions or after market. We

have more than 15,000 parts numbers on our computer and many more not yet entered."

The first model introduced and its parts are in much demand from collectors. Houtz recently sold one of the 7 hp tractors in perfect condition to a collector in New Zealand for \$1,500. Parts have been shipped to Canada, South America and Europe with business done by phone and email as well as in person.

Houtz handles all kinds of requests. "I have one customer who is waiting for us to find an original pan seat with no rust, no cracks or welds, in perfect condition. It has to be just so."



A wide variety of Cub and Cub Cadet parts are available from R.F. Houtz & Son, Elburn, Ill. They've been selling Cub Cadet tractors and parts since they were first test marketed in 1959.

Houtz says he will buy any Cub tractor in any condition. The only question is price. Retiring collectors contact him because they know he will find a good home for their tractors and parts.

"We may get a call and buy as many as 10 tractors from a collector," says Houtz. "Right

now we have more than 200 on the lot for parts or resale."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, R.F. Houtz & Son, Inc., 245 E North Street, Elburn, Ill. 60119 (ph 630 365-6551; fax 630 365-6579; rob@rfhouthz.com; www.rfhouthz.com).



Stock tank de-icers are available in a variety of wattages, depending on where you live.

Stock Tank De-Icers Geared For Your Zone

K&H stock tank de-icers can be used as floaters or as submersibles by simply removing the float ring. What's more, they're available in a variety of wattages depending on where you live.

"Energy conservation is the driving force behind K&H, saving customers the most efficient product that still gets the job done," says Larry Cobb, vice president of sales and marketing.

A walk-in freezer with fans to create worse case scenarios was used to develop the stock tank de-icers, before testing them on north-

ern Wisconsin farms. With test data and farmer feedback, K&H developed charts for various zones and tank sizes, so customers can purchase the lowest wattage de-icer to fit their needs and save money. K&H offers five choices from 250 to 1,500 watts.

Prices range from \$34.99 to \$54.99. Dealer inquiries welcome.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, K & H, P.O. Box 75157, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80970 (ph 719 591-6950; sales@khfmg.com; www.khfarms.com).

Insulated "Bridge" Keeps Well Water Flowing

Instead of burying the water line from his pump house, Ken Voigt ran the 1-in. water line through an "insulated" bridge that's about 2 ft. off the ground.

"If there's ever a leak or something has to be replaced, I won't have to dig in the ground to get at it," says Voigt.

The bridge has a metal roof, with the walls and floors made from hardboard siding. The siding is nailed to a wooden framework, with 3 1/2 in. of insulation lining both walls. Aluminum foil lines the walls to retain heat.

The pumphouse is made from the same materials.

"The entire pumphouse roof can be easily removed if I ever need to pull the pump out. I just take screws out along the sides and use a big I-bolt at the center of the roof to lift it off," says Voigt.

Voigt uses a forced air furnace to heat his house. To keep the pumphouse warm, he ran



"If there's ever a leak or something has to be replaced, I won't have to dig in the ground to get at it," says Ken Voigt, who ran the 1-in. water line from his pump house through an "insulated" bridge that's about 2 ft. off the ground.

a length of ductwork through the bridge to the pumphouse.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Voigt, 9208 Pasture Lane, Wausau, Wis. 54403 (ph 715 842-8471; KV57@aol.com).