

## Windspire Produces Low-Cost Energy

Forget about giant propellers spinning in the breeze. Windspire from Mariah Power is a 1.2 kW, 30-ft. tall, 4-ft. dia. unit that spins in position. Designed to be a "personal" wind system, the unit comes complete with a built-in wireless modem that transmits power production information to a computer.

"We wanted a low cost product that the average person could afford," says Walt Borland, CEO, Mariah Power. "It comes with everything you need to plug it into the house or grid. No separate pole or inverter is needed."

The straight-bladed Darrieus design was introduced in June, 2008. The company says a Windspire can produce up to 2,000 kWh of electricity a year in 12 mph (average) winds. The design is a self starter and produces electricity even at low speeds, but has a survival rate of 105 mph. Installation takes only a few hours. The cost for a fully-installed Windspire ranges from \$9,000 to \$12,000 before the 30 percent Federal tax credit and local rebates available in many areas. The turbine also qualifies for REAP grants through the USDA.

Borland reports that more than 450 Windspires have been installed across the country. He credits the economical cost of a Windspire and a 10-year payback on the machine for the response. They've opened a new factory in Michigan to increase production, he adds. Windspires have been installed around the country at farms, homes, businesses and schools.

Mariah Power claims its low speed Giromill design rotor and high efficiency generator designed for those low speeds sets their machine apart. Rotor tip speed (rotor



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edge) is only two to three times the speed of the wind for nearly silent (5 dB estimated at 5 ft. from the base) operation. The total integrated system of rotor, generator and inverter optimizes efficiency.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mariah Power, 5450 Louie Lane, Reno, Nev. 89511; ph 775-857-4888; www.mariah.power.com).

**Reader Inquiry No.20**



**N-Complete brings old Fords back to like-new condition and has a catalog of common and hard-to-find parts.**

## Remanufactured Ford Tractors

Old Ford tractors can be remanufactured to like-new condition for less than half the cost of a similar size new tractor, says N-Complete, a company doing a booming business re-manufacturing Ford tractors built from 1939 to 1964. Their new Crossfire Dual Exhaust System increases horsepower by up to 30%. Call for details.

**Remanufacturing is not to be confused with restoring.** Restoring amounts to fixing what is broken, painting and detailing the rest. Remanufacturing, however, mandates that a tractor be completely disassembled to bare, clean castings. Then, inspected and reassembled with new components as required to meet the original manufacturer's specifications. The end result is virtually a new unit and comes complete with a one year warranty. The company remanufactures customer tractors in addition to providing new units for sale.

**N-Complete has a large Parts Catalog!** They sell and ship parts world wide. They carry used parts, as well. Call to place an order or request a catalog at the number listed below.

Technical Assistance:

They are well known for taking time to help solve customer's problems and have a technical assistance line to help you with any tractor problems you may have. For Technical Assistance please call **765-785-2314**.

For more information or a free catalog contact:

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, N-Complete, 10594 E 700 N, Wilkinson, Ind. 46186. (ph toll-free parts only number: 877-342-2086, or 765-785-2309; fax: 765-785-2906; website: www.n-complete.com).

**Reader Inquiry No.21**

## Front-Mount Sicklebar Mower

An old walk-behind sickle mower purchased for \$20 was modified for use with the front hitch by Kyle Sand, Avon, Minn. A 1/2 hp Briggs and Stratton motor with a 1 to 6 reduction gearbox provides the power. It's mounted on a length of 8-in. channel iron that fits the receiver hitch so the winch can lift and lower the mower.

The motor, with a 6-in. pulley on the gearbox, mounts directly over a 3-in. pulley on the mower's driveshaft, further reducing speed. A bracket for an idler pulley and a handle for engaging it were fabricated from flat stock and angle iron.

A length of 3/8-in. rod from the inside of a wire spool mounts to the front of the mower. It serves to bend tall grasses and stalks away from the mower as it cuts.



**Modified walk-behind sickle mower mounts on front hitch.**