

## “Made It Myself” ATV Attachments

High school senior Kyle Sand loves to find new ways to use his Honda 450 ATV. Working with his dad, David, he came up with unique front and rear hitches that let him operate a variety of attachments not normally seen on an ATV.

“We pick up a lot of things for not much money and modify them to our needs,” says Kyle.

Assembled on this page is a sampling of Kyle and David’s handiwork.

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Made from two 12-in. sweeps off an old chisel plow, 1-row push-type cultivator rides on gauge wheels. Winch lifts cultivator out of ground.



## Push-Type Cultivator

A one-row cultivator was made from two 12-in. sweeps off an old chisel plow. The sweeps were bolted to a 2 by 2-in., 1/4 in. thick steel tube toolbar that fits into the receiver hitch. H-brackets were fabricated for gauge wheels that mount to the toolbar with U-bolts so they can be adjusted for the desired depth. Activating the winch lifts the cultivator out of the ground for transit on row ends.

Sand also mounts a mini field cultivator on the tow-behind 3-pt. hitch.



Tow-behind 3-pt. hitch is lifted by an electric winch.

## Tow-Behind 3-Pt. Hitch

To handle heavier-duty attachments and add even more versatility to their ATV, the Sands decided to build a tow-behind, 3-pt. lift cart. However, instead of hydraulics, an electric winch provides lift to the Cat. I hitch.

The main frame is designed to telescope from 4 1/2 to 8 ft. wide. Holes at 4-in. intervals in the shafts offer multiple widths.

“Just pull the pins, and slide the wheels in or out,” says Kyle.

The main beam also serves as a mounting point for the 2000-lb. winch, which will provide the lift, and a simple jack.

A battery mounted on the top cross bar of the front frame provides power for the winch. The cable from the winch runs to a pulley mounted behind the battery. It then travels down to a second pulley on the lower cross bar of the rear frame. The final run of the cable is to an anchor point directly above the first pulley.



Modified straw chopper tows behind ATV to chop corn stalks.

## Straw Chopper Chops Stalks

A \$10 straw chopper picked up at auction does a great job chopping stalks. All the Sands had to do was mount it on Category I brackets and power it.

“We built framing out of 2 by 2-in., 1/4 in. thick steel tubing to match existing brackets on the straw chopper and the hooks on our 3-pt. lift cart,” explains Kyle. “The biggest expense was a \$250 engine we bought to power it. We mounted it on a stand at the end of the chopper to match up with existing drive pulleys.”

Kyle fabricated an idler pulley mounted to an arm that can be locked in place under tension to engage the chopper. The arm pivots on the end of the chopper. A short piece of strap attached to it rides on a piece of angle iron also bolted to the end of the chopper. When the arm pivots to engage the idler pulley, the strap fits into a slot on the angle iron. When the handle on the arm is pushed down further, the strap end jumps out of the slot, and the arm can be released to disengage the idler pulley.



Power is supplied by a gas engine, mounted at one end of chopper.



Engine belt-drives existing drive pulleys on chopper.