

## Old Cultivator Shanks Used To Build Grapple Fork

A North Dakota farmer came up with his own inexpensive, heavy-duty grapple fork that mounts on the bucket of his New Holland skid loader.

Harlen Grovom, who farms near Park River, used part of the frame and some shanks from an old IH Vibra Shank field cultivator to build the grapple fork. He bolted it to the 6-ft. wide bucket on his New Holland 225 skid loader.

"I saved a lot of money and it's a great grapple. Cultivator shanks are always built strong so they'll stand up to a lot of tough use," says Grovom.

The grapple fork has seven 2-ft. long curved shanks spaced about 6 in. apart. Each shank measures 1 in. thick by 2 in. wide.

He cut off part of the cultivator frame and bolted it onto the back of the bucket. A pair of hydraulic cylinders are used to raise and lower the entire unit. The frame swivels up and down on 1-in. thick bolts that go through a pair of steel bars welded to the frame.

"I use it to handle everything from rocks to 2-ft. long blocks of wood that I use in my wood stove. I'm amazed at how well it works," says Grovom. "Last fall I picked up 10 loads of rocks with it and never had to get off the skid loader at all. The shanks open up about 7 ft. high and are spring-loaded, so I can pick up really big loads."

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Harlen Grovom used part of the frame and some shanks from an old field cultivator to build this grapple fork. He bolted it to the bucket on his New Holland skid loader.

## Berry Cleaner "Works Like Magic"

Sidney Stubbs, Beaverlodge, Alta., used the heat transfer screen from the back side of an old refrigerator to make a low-cost berry cleaner.

"It's a simple setup with no moving parts, and it works fast. I can clean 2 1/2 gal. of huckleberries in only 3 min.," he says.

The berry cleaner measures about 5 ft. long and 1 1/2 ft. wide. One end rests on the end of an ordinary ironing board, and the other end rests in a big metal bowl on the ground. Stubbs sets pails of berries on the ironing board and pours them into the top end of the cleaner. Leaves and stems fall through to the ground and the clean berries roll down into the bowl.

He cut the screen off the refrigerator and

used a bolt cutter to cut out every other "rib" on both sides, then bent the screen's edges upward to make 6-in. high sides. He attached a board to the upper end of the chute with an angled metal plate that he pours berries onto for cleaning.

"It works like magic. I pour berries on top of the screen, and they come out clean," says Stubbs. "The pail I pour berries out of will often be green with leaves, but the bowl at the bottom of the cleaner will be entirely blue with no leaves."

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Berry cleaner uses the heat transfer screen from the back of an old refrigerator. Leaves and stems fall through to the ground and the clean berries roll down into the bowl.



Lawn chair is fitted with the seat off a Grasshopper riding mower. With wheels on front and a grab bar on back, it can be easily moved to wherever it's needed.

## Lawn Chair Fitted With Grasshopper Mower Seat

Marvin Johnson got a surprise gift from his son on his last birthday – a lawn chair fitted with a seat off a Grasshopper riding mower.

"We used Grasshopper mowers for many years to cut our grass, and I always said the seats on those mowers were the most comfortable chairs on our place. I guess Chris remembered that," says Johnson. "My wife invited several friends over to my birthday party and we were sitting down to eat when Chris went outside, rolled the chair up to the house, and rang the doorbell. There sat this beautiful chair. I was overwhelmed, and surprised how nice it looked.

"With wheels on front and a grab bar on back, I can easily move the chair like a

wheelbarrow to wherever it's needed. It's also easy to move in and out of storage areas to keep it out of the weather."

Chris bought the seat on eBay equipped with its original footrest. He made a base for the chair out of 1 by 6-in. plastic boards. He mounted a pair of 5-in. wheels on front, connecting them with a threaded bolt axle.

"The wheels normally set about 1 in. off the ground, but lower to the ground when the chair is tipped up for transport," notes Johnson.

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Deere swivel rocker is fitted with a Deere combine seat and comes complete with a 1-qt. paint can that serves as a beverage holder.

## Deere Swivel Rocker

Patrick Alles of Roanoke, Ind., put together this "Deere swivel rocker" using a Deere combine seat and some scrap metal. It's painted green and yellow and comes complete with a 1-qt. paint can, insulated inside with some foam rubber that serves as a beverage holder.

"It's a very relaxing seat, and our grandkids love it as well," says Alles. "Not only does the chair rock back and forth, but it also can be swiveled from side to side."

The seat came out of a Deere 105 combine. Alles raised the backrest about 6 in. to make the seat more comfortable. It's mounted on a metal pipe that slips inside another pipe, allowing it to swivel. The rockers were fashioned from the frame of an old trampoline.



The chair's rockers were fashioned from the frame of an old trampoline.

The entire unit comes apart into 2 pieces for easy transport.

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