Steve Cunningham rigged up this home-built wing for his snowplowing tractor so he can push ridges and snowdrifts off his driveway, without worrying about driving his tractor into the ditch.

"Wing" Helps Clear Narrow Driveway

Steve Cunningham lives in the mountains of New Hampshire, where a small snowfall might be 6 in. and a big one can sometimes be 3 to 4 ft. "We've got a narrow driveway that's a quarter mile long, and pushing snow with a single blade leaves ridges on the sides," Cunningham says. "I built a wing plow for my tractor that works in conjuncton with our front-mount plow. This homemade setup allows me to move those ridges on both sides at least 2 to 3 ft. into the ditch. I never have to worry about the tractor sliding or pulling itself off the driveway in the process."

Cunningham made the wing from a 5-ft. snow blade that was originally built for an ATV. The front of the wing mounts to a 6-ft. bar that extends out from the right side of the tractor from the front snowplow brackets. The rear of the wing has two articulating arms that attach to a fitting on the bottom of the loader arm. A cable runs from the rear wing mounts up through a pulley and connects to the quick tach bucket mount.

"I regulate the height and angle of the wing blade by changing the tilt angle of the bucket mount. When I pull the bucket mount in, the wing is raised. When I move it out, the wing is lowered. Since the pulley holding the cable is mounted on the loader arms, raising and lowering the arms doesn't affect the wing angle," says Cunningham.

The wing has one other feature that Cunningham says really makes it ideal for his use. "I wanted to put it on and take it off without removing the front blade and using the loader to lift it," Cunningham says. "I made a triangular pallet out of wood and put it on heavy-duty caster wheels. I roll it out my shop door onto the concrete apron, pull up next to it and set the wing on it. It takes me just a few minutes to remove the brackets from the tractor and drive away. With the wing on wheels I can move it anywhere in the shop."

The wing works together with his front-mount snowplow.

The main plow on the front of Cunningham's tractor is a Fisher model made for pickup trucks. "To mount that I made brackets that extend down and under the front of the tractor. I have chains connected on each end of the blade up to to the loader arms so I can raise and lower the blade. I can turn it side–to-side with the dual-acting hydraulic cylinder."

Cunningham says his snow-moving setup is ideal for his yard and driveway. He sprayed high-density polyethylene on the blade and wing so heavy and wet snows peel off and don't stress the mountings. He can easily remove the blade and wing and attach the bucket if he needs to move large piles.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Steve Cunningham, 351 Old Springfield Rd., Sunapee, N.H. 03782 (ph 603 763-4359).

Whether pulled by 2 or 4 horses, Jesse Fisher's glass-lined "Harvestore" snowplow scoops up snow fast and dumps it where he wants.

Snow Flies Off Glass-Lined "Harvestore" Snowplow

A panel from a Harvestore silo does a great job keeping Jesse Fisher's driveway cleared of snow. Whether pulled by 2 or 4 horses, it scoops up snow fast and dumps it where he wants. Snow slides easily off the glass-fused steel.

"Our driveway is on a hill, and the snow makes it difficult for the milkman to back up to the milk house," explains Fisher. The blade is self-dumping. He devised a tow chain system that pulls the scraper blade through the snow with a team of horses.

"I took my plans to a neighbor with welding and metalworking equipment," says Fisher. "He helped with the design and building it. I couldn't have done it without him."

When they were finished, they had a scraper that works like a charm. Once the blade is filled with snow, Fisher releases the chain, and the panel tips forward over the gathered snow. The operator's platform rides up over the back of the panel as half circle plates attached to the front of the blade act as runners.

"After the snow dumps, I stop and back the horses up," says Fisher. "The scraper rocks back on its edge, the platform slides back to the rear and I can reattach the tow chain."

To get the runner plates he needed, they cut 2-ft. radius, half circles from the edge of a Harvestore panel and welded a 3-in. steel band to each circle to act as runners. Fisher made room for the tongue, which had to pass through the blade to the operator's platform by cutting an additional 8-in. deep notch out of the blade.

"I used angle iron to mount the 2 half circles to the blade, leaving about 4 1/2 ft. between them," says Fisher.

Once blade is filled with snow, Fisher releases a chain which causes panel to tip forward and glide over the gathered snow.

He also used angle iron to mount sections of Harvestore panels at either end of the blade as wings to catch snow. He also added a 9-ft. length of angle iron to the back of the cutting edge. This reinforces the edge, but also helps it skim the road surface.

"We raised the ends a bit so they don't catch on the lawn," explains Fisher. The operator stands on a 16 by 52-in. platform made from diamond plate steel.

Fisher says the scraper, which cost about $600, has worked great. He recommends it to anyone who keeps draft horses. He says his horses seem to enjoy the winter job, as they are full of energy with limited work to do through the winter.

"We pile the snow up, and the horses just walk through and over with each dump," says Fisher. "We can get piles 6 to 7-ft. high. It is fun work and kind of exciting."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jesse Fisher, 347 School Lane Rd., Gap, Penn. 17527 (ph 717 442-8958).

IH Tractor Cab Makes Winter Work Fun

Douglas Strouse, Mason, Mich., recently sent FARM SHOW photos of the cab he built for his IH 504 tractor.

"I drive on the road 2 miles each way to some woods where I cut up logs for my outdoor furnace, so during the winter it could get mighty cold before I built the cab, which has a heater inside to keep me toasty warm. It now makes driving to the woods a fun job," says Strouse, who painted the cab red and white to match the tractor's colors.

Strouse started his project by building a frame out of 1-in. sq. tubing that attaches to the tractor's frame. He used 3/16-in. plywood for the doors and window frames and 1/2-in. plywood for the roof. The door bolts to the frame with hinges and closes securely with a spring-loaded latch. The windows and doors are fitted with 1/8-in. plexiglass.

To heat the cab he used the heater core and fan motor out of a Ford 4400 backhoe.

The cab is designed to be lifted off the tractor using a shop crane. "By removing 4 bolts I can lift the cab off for the summer," says Strouse.

Strouse made a couple of other modifications to the tractor. He welded a stainless steel straight pipe on the exhaust, but says it's so loud he'll probably replace it with a muffler.

Douglas Strouse built this cab for his IH 504 tractor. It's designed to be lifted off the tractor using a shop crane.

He also used 3/4-in. plywood to make a 2-ft. sq. toolbox that's bolted to a pair of 3-in. angle irons on front of the tractor. "I use the toolbox to carry my chainsaws and gas, chains, tools, and water," says Strouse.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Douglas P. Strouse, 1149 S. Aurelius Rd., Mason, Mich. 48854 (ph 517 204-8635).