



Bucket-mounted dirt blade lets Ledbetter blade dirt without getting dirt in bucket. It can be quickly popped off so bucket can be used to lift and load material.



Blade is sized to match a standard 6-ft. bucket and drops about an inch below bucket's cutting edge. Teeth extend about 4 in. below edge of blade.

One-Of-A-Kind Dirt Blade Fits Any Bucket

Henry Ledbetter and his friends can blade dirt and push brush with their loader-mounted blade, then pop it off quickly and lift and load with the bucket. Best of all, it will fit any bucket of a similar size.

"We were clearing some land and figured there had to be a better way to spread dirt," says Ledbetter. "It was a community project. All my buddies can hook up to it and use it to clean up from storms or put out food plots at our hunting clubs."

Frank Lusk has been involved in the dirt blade's development from the start. He

describes it as the neatest implement he has seen in his 70 years.

"The first day we had it, I put it on my bucket and leveled a driveway with it," he says. "It cut off the high spots and leveled them off without getting any dirt in the bucket."

The blade is 38 in. high and 72 in. wide, sized to match a standard 6-ft. bucket and to drop about an inch below the bucket's cutting edge. It is made out of 3/8-in. steel with a 2-in. strip of plate steel welded along the bottom of the blade.

The blade has teeth made from 1 1/2-in. angle iron welded to the blade. They extend about 4 in. past the edge of the blade with 4 of them extending back up the length of the entire blade. The mount lets the bottom of the blade swing free when the bucket is tipped back toward the tractor.

"We mounted the blade to the top of the bucket using four 3-in. lengths of pipe as receivers," says Lusk. "One is welded to the top of the bucket to line up with a pipe welded to the top edge of the blade. To mount the blade, just line them up and slip a 6-in. pin

through the pipes."

The mount makes it easy to swap the blade out on different loaders equipped with similar receiver pipes. "Just lean it up against a tree, pull the pins and drive away," says Lusk. "Pull up with a second tractor, pin the blade and go."

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"No Hassle" Hinged Pto Guard

John Humeniuk made the pto guard on his tractor a lot less annoying by adding a hinge to one end. Now when he wants to connect a shaft, he lifts the rear of the guard and slides on the shaft.

"I developed the guard when I was given an old Super M Farmall to restore," he explains. "I restored the fenders and redid the front end and wanted to put a guard on it, too."

When the replacement guard arrived, Humeniuk noted the three L-brackets and bolts designed to attach the guard to the tractor. He cut away the L-bracket top center on the guard. He replaced it with a strap hinge, boring a hole to match the original in the L-bracket.

In order to maintain side-to-side stability, Humeniuk welded the bolts in place on the side L-brackets. He then bored out the matching holes in the cast rear end.

To attach a shaft, Humeniuk raises the rear of the guard and hooks it with a bungee cord. Once the shaft is installed, he lowers the guard and the bolts slide into place.

"I like having the guard in place, but I also use the Super M for lots of chores like running a Bushhog mower," says Humeniuk.

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Pto guard is hinged to make it easier to connect pto shaft.

Inventor Launches High Capacity Soaker Hose

Wisconsin inventor Dean Landers invented the giant soaker hose to help home owners and commercial businesses protect their properties from fire.

Basically he supersized a soaking garden hose to produce the new product. Built out of high quality, lay-flat pvc hose material, this 4-in. dia. super soaker hose has the ability to supply 600 ft. of protection around a home, office or farm building. Landers says it provides the same amount of water protection in just an hour as 2 1/2 loads from an airborne water bomber. Whether a structure is near a dry prairie, dense forest, or other structures with potential for fire, this amount of water has been proven to keep structures safe from a surrounding nearby fire.

In 2007 a raging forest fire in Minnesota burned 57 square miles in just over a week in the Superior National Forest. Several hundred homes were saved in part due to home sprinkler systems, Landers says. Those only put out about 50 gal. per hour, and they rely on electricity. Lander's Giant Soaker drenches an area with 25,000 gallons per hour. "It's common sense that the more water you lay on or in front of a fire, the better," says Landers. "Our system is powered by a standard off-the-shelf water pump. An open body of water like a tank, pool, or a nearby lake, pond, or even ocean, can be the water source. It's a simple product that anyone can install and use."

Landers, who's a six-year veteran fire fighter



Giant perforated hose is pressurized by a gas-powered pump to help protect properties from fire. It can drench an area with more than 25,000 gal. per hr.

and hose maker for the British Columbia fire squad, says that breaking into the fire defense market has been difficult because fire departments are reluctant to change.

Chad Christensen, who owns the 62-year-old Illinois Company Fol-da-tank, will handle marketing and distribution to both consumer and commercial markets for the Giant Soaker because it goes hand in hand with their portable tank products. More on this company is available on their website <http://www.fol-da-tank.com> or visit them on Facebook.

A Giant Soaker Hose system, complete with pump, sells on Amazon.com for \$1,995.

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New "hotspot" device connects through Verizon or AT&T to provide WiFi in moving vehicles or farm equipment.

"Hotspot" Delivers WiFi To Farm Vehicles

Farmers, ranchers and people living in remote areas now have a new way to connect their tablet or computer to the internet. Mito Corporation offers "hotspot" devices that connect through Verizon or AT&T networks.

Established in 1974, Mito has been helping people connect in many ways from their earliest mid-70s-era equipment to some of the most modern auto-products like vehicle backup cameras, monitors, mirrors, bluetooth and remote start systems. Their 12-volt mobile Hotspot is a recent addition, and one that works for farm and commercial equipment, too.

The Hotspot turns on and off with the vehicle, so no separate battery or use of a

charger plug is necessary. Once installed, the device links to an existing cell phone plan with Verizon or AT&T via the mobile data connection on a smart phone. Once that connection is set up with the phone, the Mito device provides a mobile wifi internet signal for up to 10 internet capable devices such as a tablet, laptop, or other screens within range. The Hotspot is password protected.

Farmers can use the Hotspot in tractors, combines or any machine with a 12-volt battery system.

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