

## “Glue-On” Treads Boost Traction On Older Tires

“Our new glue-on treads are designed to boost traction on worn tires. They’re easy to apply and are far more cost effective than buying new tires,” says Dave Auble, GlueTread LLC, Hiram, Ohio.

He and son Andy have come up with a kit that includes pieces of new, pre-cut rubber tread and an adhesive that bonds the pieces to the tire. The kit is designed for off-road tires found on 4-wheelers, utility vehicles, golf carts, and tractors. The treads glue on right over the tire’s existing treads and require about an hour to cure.

“Our add-on treads won’t convert a tire with worn lugs to like-new condition, but if the rest of the tire is still good they’ll let you keep going without having to spend the money for new tires,” says Auble. “The treads are especially useful if you’ve got an old vehicle with limited life or with tires that haven’t been off in many years and may be difficult to remove.”

Various tread sizes and styles are available. Standard tread pieces measure 1 1/2, 2, or 3 in. long, 1 in. wide, and 1/2 in. thick with longer sizes available for tractor tires. Short knobby treads are available for ATV’s and utility vehicles.

“The cost to improve the tread on an average tractor tire, which may require up to 100 tread pieces, is about \$50 per tire. If the tire is really bald the treads can be glued on side by side,” says Auble. “The cost to update a bald front tire on a utility vehicle is about \$20 per tire. We can hand cut the treads in our shop to whatever size the customer wants.”

The 2 men use a super glue-type adhesive called Cyanoacrylate combined with a rubber compound that dries quickly and bonds firmly. “There’s no need to remove the tire from the rim, and the wheel assembly can remain on the vehicle,” says Auble.

The company first confirms what the customer needs. “We ask which part of the tire you’re trying to fix, whether the tire is completely bald or not or whether it’s just scalped. Then we ask you to measure the tread length on it,” says Auble.

No special tools are required to install the treads. “It works best if you sand down the worn treads until they’re smooth before applying the glue,” says Auble. “The adhesive shouldn’t be used to fill in a gouged tread because you won’t have any rubber to rubber contact so the tread won’t bond.”

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Pieces of pre-cut rubber tread glue on right over tire’s existing treads to boost traction.



Glue-on tread kit comes with a special adhesive that bonds pieces to tire.

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## “Lambster Wheel” Keeps Lambs Happy

A New Zealand farmer has invented a novel way to keep lambs happy. Bradley Stewart came up with the idea of a “lambster wheel”, which is sort of a big hamster wheel he built to get his orphan lambs walking. They seem to love using it.

The lambster wheel consists of a big expanded metal wheel that’s held onto a wooden post in Stewart’s shed. The wheel rotates on a single stub axle, and allows the lambs to run even when their space is confined. Slats spaced about a foot apart help provide traction.

The wheel is a fun way to keep lambs entertained whenever they’re in the shed, says Stewart.

“I raise up to 300 orphan lambs, and even when they can run outside in the pasture they’ll still spend a lot of time in the shed either eating, playing or snoozing in the sun. They appreciated some ramps that I had previously built to run around on, so I thought



New Zealand farmer Bradley Stewart built this “lambster wheel” to keep orphan lambs entertained.

they might like running on a spinning wheel, too,” he says.

He used the front wheel stub assembly from an old car, and part of an old ewe mothering pen to weld the wheel together.



Tom Cotter’s rotary hoe interseeder allows him to plant cover crops between corn rows early in the growing season.

## Rotary Hoe Interseeder Gets Cover Crops In Early

Tom Cotter gets cover crops sown early with his rotary hoe interseeder. Cobbled together as an experiment, the toolbar and rotary hoe units worked better than expected.

“I thought I would try it and make changes as I went along,” says Cotter. “However, it worked so well the first time that I’ve never done another thing to it. I can interseed cover crops on 200 acres a day.”

Cotter was already an advocate of planting cover crops following harvest. The new machine allows him to interseed, planting cover crops between corn rows early in the growing season.

“The first year I tried it with an old Hagie high clearance sprayer,” recalls Cotter. “I pulled the water tank off and mounted a little spinner spreader on it. My son sat beside it and powered it with a cordless drill.”

That experiment worked well enough that he decided to get serious. Two old 8-row

rotary hoes were picked over, with the best gangs, each with 2 rotary hoe units on it, set aside.

“I mounted them on a 3-pt. toolbar made from 2 old 8-row cultivators,” says Cotter. “A neighbor welded heavy-duty hinges on the ends of one, so I ended up with an 18-ft. center and two 11-ft. wings.”

Cotter mounted the rotary hoe gangs so they lined up between the corn rows. He mounted a Gandy air seeder to the toolbar with delivery hoses right behind the rotary hoe units. The hoes lightly fluff up the soil and residue, providing a good seedbed.

“In 3 or 4 days the cover crops are starting to grow,” says Cotter.

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John Moellering is still using the whirlwind terrace plow he built 36 years ago. Slices of sod feed into vertical augers that throw the dirt up to 30 ft.

## Whirlwind Plow Still Builds Terraces After 36 Years

John Moellering’s whirlwind terrace plow is still building terraces and fighting fires 36 years after being featured in FARM SHOW (Vol. 8, No. 6). The plowshares slice the sod into the mouths of vertical augers that throw the dirt up to 30 ft. The only touch-up needed during all this time was to the hard facing on the 14-in. dia. augers.

“I still rebuild terraces with it, as the terraces wear down with farming and wind erosion,” says Moellering. “We also still use it to fight fires, especially when combining in the summer. I run it 10 in. deep when terracing, but only 3 to 4 in. deep when fighting fires.”

Moellering fashioned his plow after an old 1-bottom terracer sold by IH in the 1950’s and 1960’s. He started by removing the middle bottom on a 3-bottom IH plow and shifting the rear bottom to provide space for its auger.

“I used IH parts for the plow and used gearboxes for the 14-in. vertical augers that I made,” says Moellering.

He modified the remaining 18-in. plowshares by cutting off the rear half of each so they would slice the sod, but not turn it over. He also extended the moldboards from 16 to 18 in. and hard-faced them with tungsten. Together, they still cut a 36-in. wide

swath in the sod. A hydraulic cylinder adjusts depth.

To throw the dirt, Moellering mounted 2 heavy-duty, belt-drive gearboxes from an old IH W9 tractor above the augers. Banded pairs of V-belts transfer power from the pto shaft to the gearboxes.

To vary the distance the dirt is thrown, he can change pulleys in the gearboxes or simply vary throttle speed.

When making the augers, Moellering hard-faced them using about 4 lbs. of tungsten. To touch them up, he uses a stainless steel torch made in Germany. He simply screws a container of tungsten powder onto the top of the torch, and when he presses a button, the tungsten feeds out with the oxygen and acetylene.

“You can lay it on a surface like smearing on hot butter,” says Moellering. “It comes in 1 or 5-lb. containers with 5 lbs. costing about \$500.”

Ironically, when he built the plow, the entire cost was only 3 times that 5-lb. container.

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