



Eddie Sloan has more than 100 antique tractors that he's restored. He displays 12 of his oddest tractors on a 1986 Ford car-hauler.

Mobile Tractor Display A Big Hit On The Road

Eddie Sloan has more than just an unusual tractor collection. He has a unique way of displaying it, using a 1986 Ford car-hauler as a mobile display for 12 of his "oddest" tractors.

"I started with Minneapolis-Moline tractors, but my interest is oddball tractors," Sloan admits. He has more than 100 antique tractors he's restored and stores in two large barns.

Tractors that are most unusual – and fit in the semi trailer spaces – are chosen for the 78-ft. long display. The tractors include a 1920 Avery cultivator tractor, a Porsche Junior, a 1923 Fageol, Brockway, Sears, Eimco and other unusual models.

Sloan says the ratchet and pipe system securing vehicles works well to hold his tractors in place when he heads to events like this year's Half Century of Progress Show in Rantoul, Ill.

"We get a lot of looks and good comments," Sloan says. "I plan to get a second car handler."

He admits he's been having fun with tractors since he started collecting them more than 30 years ago. FARM SHOW readers may remember his "crazy tractor" featured in Vol. 15, Issue 6. He remotely controlled a Minneapolis-Moline R that sprayed water on unsuspecting parade watchers. The tractor also blew bubbles, honked a siren and horn, and flashed its lights – all remotely.

When people drive in his yard, a motion sensor turns on the headlights of a Minneapolis-Moline "R" parked on the roof of one of his barns. But, of all his ideas, the 64-year-old grain farmer appreciates the semi display the most.

"I have a shed it goes in, and it makes it easier (than loading and unloading)," he explains. "What better way to take 12 trac-



When people drive into Sloan's yard, a motion sensor turns on the headlights of a Minneapolis-Moline "R" parked on the roof of one of his barns.

tors to a show at one time?"

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"No Hydraulics" Big Bale Cutter

Levi Fisher devised the Quikut to slice big round bales for his dairy herd. Five years later, his first unit is still working great with only an occasional sharpening needed with a hand grinder.

"It's practically maintenance-free," says Fisher. "It has a grease zerk on a brass bushing, but it never spins, only turning slightly each time a bale is sliced."

The Quikut consists of a sharpened disc coultter blade. The blade on its bushing is mounted to a tubular steel arm sized to slide over a skid steer or forklift fork.

"Just slide it on and a quick-attach pin locks it in place," says Fisher. "Drive up to a bale and lower the arm. The down pressure alone is enough to slice through bales."

Control provided by the down pressure makes it easy to adjust how much of the bale is sliced open. Fisher and his son Michael

use it to slice bales into quarters for forking off layers for hand feeding or into a TMR mixer. Bales can be sliced open whether wrapped or unwrapped.

"We leave the plastic and net wrap on as we don't use plastic on the ends," says Fisher. "It slices right through the plastic and into the bale. If it hesitates on the plastic, we know we have a dull blade. It takes only a couple of minutes with a hand held grinder, and it's good to go again."

Fisher estimates having to sharpen the blade a couple of times a year. He has seen no other wear on his 5-year-old unit.

"I see no reason it won't last another 20 years," he says.

The Quikut is made locally, and Fisher ships them direct from his farm. The 52-lb. unit sells for \$295, plus shipping. While most sales to-date have been within Pennsyl-



Sharpened coultter mounted on a tubular steel arm slides over skid loader fork. Down pressure alone is enough to slice through bales.

vania, he has shipped units to surrounding states and as far west as Missouri.

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