

Ugly Duckling Tractor Restoration

When Phillip Morris saw the 1980 Case 1390 tractor, it was pretty ugly. Someone had shot up the tires, radiator and sheet metal. When the owner said he was going to send it to the junkyard, Morris said he would take it.

"I took it into my shop and fiddled around with it," says Morris. "I drained the old fuel out, put in new and it fired right up."

Morris likes fixing things on the side, so he went to work on the Case.

"I stripped it all down, put on new tires, and then sanded and painted everything," he says.

While the mechanics required only minimal work, like a rebuilt injection pump, the surface was another story.

"I replaced pretty much all the sheet metal and hydraulic hoses and changed a few other things," says Morris.

One of the changes was to replace the digital gauges with manual gauges. As part of the sheet metal makeover, they were mounted in a new cluster.

Parts were hard to come by as the model was only built from 1980 to 1983. All the fenders, the hood and the grill were built from scrap.

"I squared off the hood to give it more of an old IH look," says Morris. "When I was done, we ran it, and it didn't have a leak on it. It runs really well."

The ugly duckling turned out to be a pretty good tractor.

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Before and after photos show Phillip Morris's restoration of a 1980 Case 1390.



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SuperTrees are a cross between Chinese and White Willows. They can grow 6 to 8 ft. per year.



Hybrid SuperTree Great For Windbreaks

By Lydia Noyes

Karsten Nursery says it can speed up the process establishing an effective windbreak with its Hybrid SuperTree. As a cross between the Chinese Willow and the White Willow, this stately species is sold to Midwest farmers and ranchers primarily for windbreaks.

Karsten Nursery has been in the tree business for over 4 decades. The nursery first specialized in standard bare-root windbreak trees like honeysuckles, green ash, and viburnum, but realized it had something special after propagating their hybrid willow.

"We planted 600 SuperTrees around our nursery and spent 5 years observing them before we decided they were something we wanted to sell," says Joel Karsten. "Now, 30 years after that first planting, we have seen the tree's entire life cycle, and we are very excited about how it has performed."

The Hybrid SuperTree stands out from other windbreak species due to its growing speed and strength. Both traits mean they can act as a windbreak within 3 years of planting. Says Karsten, "In some parts of the country, these trees will grow 10 to 14 ft. per year, but in our shorter growing season here in Minnesota, we see 6 to 8 ft. per year."

Most quick-growing trees, like poplars, are weak and tend to drop branches, which

litters fields and creates a mess on the ground. In contrast, the SuperTree isn't subject to weak branches and broken limbs in the same way.

Says Karsten, "Last summer when the Derecho storm went through Iowa, we were pleased to hear from many of our customers down there that the SuperTrees survived the storm very well. Even when other trees were completely shredded, the SuperTrees just bent over and popped back up. We sold more of them to farmers in that part of Iowa this past spring than ever before."

As a hybrid, the SuperTree won't produce seeds or grow suckers from the roots. It's an un-invasive grower that won't take over wetlands or uncultivated areas like other willows can. And the tree's denser wood makes for fair firewood.

While Karsten Nursery still sells over 100 other tree species, the Hybrid SuperTree consistently outsells the rest, and demand increases each year. SuperTrees are available for purchase starting at \$7 each in quantities of 10 up to \$5 each for 1,000 or more. Shipping is additional.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Karsten Nursery, 1313 Willow Circle, Roseville, Minn. 55113 (ph 651 470-2096; joel@karstennursery.com; www.growfastwillows.com).

He Printed A Better Mousetrap

Brian Buhler, Wasilla, Alaska grew up in a small farming community in southern Minnesota and went to college to become an automation engineer. He created a 3D printed mousetrap with a touchless sensor that triggers a microcontroller with a servo motor to drop the rodent into a bucket. The trap resets itself automatically.

"Regular mousetraps work great. The problem is when you set 15 traps and catch 15 mice there are still 25 out there. Poison works too but sometimes mice crawl under something to die, leaving an awful smell," says Buhler.

Buhler has been selling his trap for about a year and half. He uses Prusa 13 printers to "print" the traps which take 6 hrs. for the mouse trap and 8 hrs. for the rat version.

"I have a place in Crosby, Minn. and tested three traps. I had 13 mice in one bucket, 11 in another and 9 in the last. The Ultimate traps beat spending the first day back at the cabin cleaning up after mice."

Traps are available in regular or long flap versions. They run on 120-volt AC or on batteries.

Traps start at \$58.90 for the battery powered Ultimate Mouse Trap with free



Traps are printed using 3D printer technology and use a sensor to trigger the trap.



shipping for U.S. orders. FARM SHOW readers can get a 7% discount using the code "FARMSHOW".

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Safety cage base is designed to slip over the lip of the bucket and works on different size buckets.

Safety Cage Slips Over Lip Of Bucket

Tony Negen knew standing in his loader bucket wasn't safe, so he fabricated a safety cage that slips over the bucket lip. Based in part on a story he once saw in FARM SHOW, Negen used salvaged materials, including an old pig sorting gate.

"The base is designed to slip onto forks, but I added heavy wall, steel tubing so it can also simply slip over the lip of the bucket," says Negen. "With the fork sleeves still in place, I also have the option of using forks with the safety cage."

Negen welded scraps of steel between the 2 by 5-in. fork sleeves and the 2-in. steel tubing to create a 3/4-in. gap to match the bucket cutting edge. "The gap needs to be 1/8 to 1/4-in. bigger than the cutting edge of the bucket," says Negen. "This is a critical part of the cage framing, as it has to hold the weight of the man and the equipment as he is leaning forward to reach and cut tree limbs. It has to do that without bending open or breaking off."

"I made it 23 1/2 by 60 in., which is what the base was," says Negen. "The depth is adequate and keeps the weight closer to the lift points on the loader than if it was deeper. I've used it on both a 47-in. and a 60-in. bucket."

Negen made the sides of the safety cage and one end by cutting down a 16-ft. gate he once used to sort pigs. The gate had been built with 1-in. sq. steel tubing welded to 35-in.



The cage can also be used with forks.

high by 16-ft. hog panel.

When in place with a person in the cage, Negen usually slides a couple of 2 by 2-in. boards across the open end for safety. The floorboard is 1/2-in. plywood he had on hand.

"With the cross members on the base, the 1/2 in. is fine, but you might want to go heavier if you use fewer cross members," says Negen.

When using the cage, Negen runs a chain around it and the loader as an extra safety measure. With it in place, he feels much more secure than with his old open bucket and not just for himself.

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