

Landwehr has more than a dozen tractors that have been restored. He prefers Deutz for their German heritage.

Deutz Dealer Also Collects, Restores

"I like to collect what people don't see every day," says Dale Landwehr. So instead of the better known "green" tractor, you'll find green Deutz and Deutz-Fahr tractors, a blue and yellow Lamborghini tractor, and other European tractors on his Stratford, Wis., property.

Landwehr traces his obsession for Deutz back to his teen years when his father, LaVern, fixed his neighbor's Deutz tractor and decided to start a Deutz dealership in 1976. Dale Landwehr and his sister, Carolyn Stroetz, currently own the Deutz-Fahr dealership. Besides selling new tractors and equipment, Landwehr's real passion is restoring and preserving the old. He has a salvage yard with a couple of hundred tractors (mostly Deutz) for parts to sell to customers or use for his restorations.

He and his friends, Steve and Sue Breseman, have more than a dozen tractors that they've worked on together to restore. Though some are from other manufacturers such as Oliver, Landwehr prefers Deutz.

"We are German," he notes. "And Germans are noted for precise machining and quality workmanship. Deutz tractors have always been diesel and are very fuel efficient and put out lots of power on a lot less fuel."

The first tractors had water-cooled engines, but Deutz switched to air-cooled engines in 1950. The company kept the air-cooled engines until 1990, which set them apart from other models.

Landwehr's oldest tractors are from 1948 and 1949, with water-cooled engines, that he had shipped from Germany. He notes that some models featured double seats as Germans often used them for farming and general transportation.

A 1977 3006 was a popular tractor model

that LaVern purchased for his use, and Landwehr bought it from him for his collection. Landwehr's wife, Sonia, likes to drive a 1952 single-cylinder, air-cooled diesel in parades and shows. Another eye-catching tractor is "The Beast," a 1957 3-cyl. Deutz that's heavy for a 45-hp. tractor.

Though most of the tractors in the collection have been completely torn down, restored and painted, Landwehr likes to keep wellpreserved tractors in their original condition. For example, he has a 1964 Deutz 55-05 55hp. tractor he purchased from Canada with low hours and the original tires.

"The 1964 Lamborghini attracts attention," Landwehr adds, noting it is also part of the Deutz-Fahr family. Through the years, Deutz made acquisitions, including with Allis for a short time. The merger with Fahr added farm equipment to the line.

Another innovation by Deutz was adding a 3-pt. hitch, PTO and hydraulics on the front as well as the back. Landwehr has a 1979 Intrac 2004 that was popular with small farm operators because it could run two pieces of equipment at the same time.

Besides full-size tractors, Landwehr has a large collection of toys and memorabilia in a building near his business, Landwehr Repair. He gives tours by appointment only. Part of his collection can be seen on YouTube: Landwehr Repair – Deutz-Fahr Collection Testimonial.

Farmers and collectors looking for Deutz parts can also contact him through his business.

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Imhoff used a pickup and parts from a semi, combine and tractor to create his rat rod.

Rat Rod Built From A Bit Of Everything

Rich Imhoff could tell right away when he saw a 2008 Ford pickup with only 50,000 miles on it that it was rat rod ready. The body was badly dinged up.

"One taillight and the grill were the only pieces on it that weren't bent or dented," recalls Imhoff. "The doors were tied on with rope."

Imhoff has fun with cars. He was previously featured in FARM SHOW with a bi-directional car that had two front ends (Vol. 23, No. 5). He decided to also have fun with the pickup, which he got cheap.

"I stripped off the body, including the cab, and started adding stuff," he says. "Everything went together really well."

He replaced the truck cab with a cab from a 6600 Deere combine, setting it in place over the dash so he would still have a radio, heat and air conditioning. The doors would have been awkward to climb out of, so he replaced them with doors from a Peterbilt semi-tractor.

"Getting the Peterbilt doors to fit was my biggest challenge," says Imhoff. "The bottom of the cab had to be pushed in a little."

Imhoff cut out the center of the old hood and welded in the hood from an IH 504. The center grill is IH but also includes a Ford emblem. Expanded metal fans out to either side.

A new rear end came from a Deere 6620 combine. Imhoff laid some 2 by 4s across the rear frame of the truck where the bed had been, unbolted the rear end from the combine, and set it in place behind the cab.

"I ran lights back to the rear and screwed everything down," says Imhoff. "The opening to access the straw walkers is right behind the cab. I can flip it open to get in that way. I modified the back end of it with a tailgate that can flop down."

The rat rod even has its own invasive pests. Imhoff made bug-like creatures out of shoe stretchers and mounted them on the hood.

To finish it off, Imhoff made a Chevy bowtie out of log chains. He attached it in front instead of a bumper.

Imhoff admits that his rat rod will likely never be finished. For one thing, he already has his eye on his next project.

"I'm thinking about selling the rat rod and building something different," says Imhoff. "I'm already planning it out."

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Electric Fence Weaning Works Great

By Heather Smith Thomas

Rob Davidson lives on a ranch in northeastern Alberta near the small town of Two Hills. He has raised and pastured cattle for many years, using rotational grazing with electric fence. He has discovered that when it comes to fence-line weaning, electric fence works best.

"It's amazing what you can do with electric fence. You can use portable electric fence for sorting, loading cattle, etc. Once cattle are trained to an electric wire, they don't question it. You can even make a "fake fence" out of baler twine to temporarily block a driveway or some other area you don't want the cattle to enter.

Davidson says he's found that an electric fence works better than non-electric fence to wean calves. Calves that grow up around electric fences have great respect for them and are afraid to touch them.

The calves will sleep a little bit away from the fence because they are afraid of that thing that bites them, even though their mothers are right on the other side. If they get shocked while wanting to nurse, they associate that nasty experience with nursing and don't want to try to approach mom that closely again. It's a mental association that dissuades them from wanting to nurse.

"At that point in the calf's life, all mama is for that calf is a source of food. Mama teaches the calf to graze and what to eat, where to go



Davidson explains how to train cattle with electric fence.

for water, etc. because they travel together and the calf mimics mom. But the desire to nurse can be altered with an electric shock," Rob explains.

The deterrent, however, has to be applied when the animal is thinking about nursing coming to the fence to get to mom to nurse - so that the two things are associated and connected in the calf's mind and memory.

He Made A Better Hand Pump Sprayer

"I recently needed a hand pump sprayer and went looking for one in my barn. I had several but none of them worked because of damage caused by the chemicals I used in them over the years," says Colin Smith, Franklinville, N.J.

"Not wanting to spend money on another new one, I grabbed an old one and took it to my shop. First, I removed the pump and sealed the air valve. Then I got a truck-type tire valve stem that has a screw-on nut to hold it in place. I drilled a hole near the top of the spray tank for the valve and used a stem puller to put it in and tighten it.

"Then I filled it with water and put the old hand pump back in. I then used a small battery-powered bicycle air compressor that I bought online to pressurize the tank. You can set the little compressor to whatever maximum pressure you want. Just turn it on, set it to 10 psi, and start spraying. You won't have to stop and pump every other minute."

"Don't use a regular compressor to pump it up because if you over-pressurize, the sprayer could blow up. "

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Smith converted an old hand sprayer to use a small battery-powered pump.