Made It Myself

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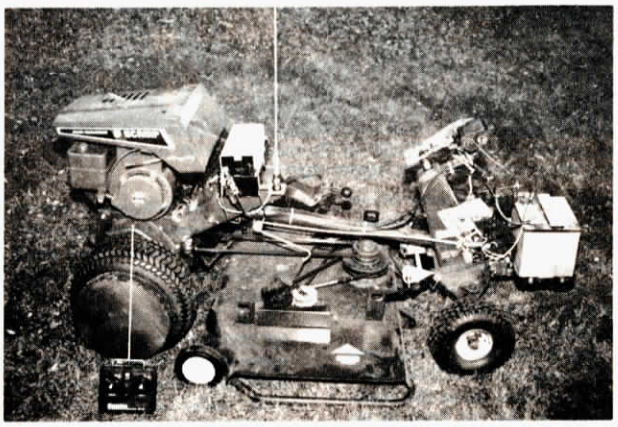


Remote Control Riding Mower

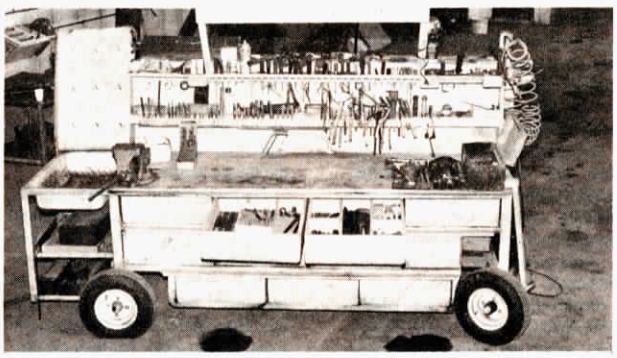
"I was extremely interested in your article (Vol. 10, No. 5) about the remote control Kubota riding mower because at the time I read the article I was halfway through building my own remote control mower," says Roger Meihak, Forest Lake, Minn.

"I built the mower because I have a hillside that's too steep for a rider to safely mow. I started with a used Allis Chalmers "Scamp" mower. I first replaced the deck with a Toro 36-in. deck and installed wheel weights on the rear wheels. That's necessary because with no rider, the mower gets top heavy.

"The remote controls consist of a 2-channel model airplane transmitter and receiver. The servos actuate micro-switches on the tractor which energize relays that energize the GM electric window motors used to steer and control the other operations on the tractor. Because of the increased electrical power requirements, I installed an auto alternator and battery. Total cost of modication was $750.

"Modified in this way the mower will start, stop and turn remotely while I sit safely in the shade. One word of caution: Until you learn to run the remote controls properly, stay a long way away from your wife's favorite rose bush!"

Contact: FARM SHOW Follow-up, Roger W. Meihak, 10150 223rd Street North, Forest Lake, Minn. 55025.



"World's Best" Portable Workshop

Canadian farmer Wilfred Mollenbeck, St. Gregor, Sask., built a portable workbench that he tows around his shop and from building to building on the farm.

Wilfred says that besides making it easy to take tools to the job, the portable workbench also makes it easy to keep his farm shop clean. "I've made most of the large tools in my shop portable to make it easy to keep things clean."

The portable shop was built with all-new parts for a total cost of $458. In the shop it can be easily rolled around by one person. Outside, Mollenbeck pulls it with a small garden tractor.

The front of he bench features 10 sliding tool and parts drawers and racks for arranging tools. The rear of the bench is fitted with 59 self-cleaning bolt bins. The bench has a number of shelves and a wash-basin with a rack to hand parts. In addition, the bench has two 110-volt plug-ins.

A 2-in. ledge on the bench stops oil from running into drawers. There's a 6-in. vice on the bench.

Contact: FARM SHOW Follow-up, Wilfred Mollenbeck, Box 46, St. Gregor, Sask. S0K 3X0 Canada (ph 306 366-2113).

Push-Off Plate For 3-Pt. Bale Forks

"Lets you use a 3-pt. bale fork to load round bales into high-sided feeders or up onto trucks," says Joe Kaderabek, Ohiowa, Neb., about a scissor-action push-off plate he designed to fit any 3-pt. bale fork.

Until he built the push-off plate, Kaderabek says he couldn't lift bales high enough with his 3-pt. He had to break them open to get them into feeders. The push-off plate also lets him stack bales on top of each other for storage.

The push-off device consists of single 3 by 8-in. hydraulic cylinder, a set of double scissors, and a push plate with two spikes. The bale-handling device mounts just above and centered between the two bale spikes on Kaderabek's bale hauler.

While loading a bale the push-off plate is retracted. To load into a feeder, the 3-pt. top link is used to tilt the fork upward and then the push-off plate pushes the bale off the fork.

Kaderabek is trying to locate a manufacturer.

Contact: FARM SHOW Follow-up, Joe Kaderabek, General Delivery, Ohiowa, Neb. 68416 (ph 402 295-2354).

Unused Grain Bin Turned Into Tractor Storage Shed

George Wiemers, Greenview, Ill., used a cutting torch to turn an unused 6,000 bu. grain bin into a storage shed for his tractor and scraper.

In cutting out the door opening, he shaped it to match the tractor's outline. "I did this so I wouldn't have to cut away any more metal than necessary," says Wiemers. He didn't do any extra framing around the edges of the opening, nor does he use the cutout portion as a door. The opening faces to the east.

"Keeping a tractor out of the rain and weather makes more sense than fillig a bin with $5 soybeans, keeping them 6 months, then selling them for $4.75," Wiemers says. When he made the conversion, the 6,000 bu. bin was still suitable for grain but he no longer needed the storage space. "Once you've converted a bin to machinery storage, there's no converting back," he points out.