

## Made It Myself

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### Low Cost Bale Thrower

"Baling hay alone is difficult without equipment to place the bales on the wagon. You have to continually stop the tractor, then jump down and reshuffle bales. My local dealer wanted \$1,900 for a bale thrower. That's more than my baler is worth. I didn't have it.

"Not wanting to forsake baling, I built a hay rack 9 ft. tall on my best wagon and bolted an 8 ft. extension to my baler's loading chute. It has 2 by 4's underneath for support and old barn tin on the bottom so bales will slide easily. Ropes from the rack hold the extension chute in such a manner that the bales flow up and out, falling a little past center into the wagon.

"To make the extension hinge and bend when turning corners, I removed the outside bolt holding the two sections of the original loading chute together. When taking corners, a gap several inches wide opens up.

"Very few problems have occurred with this setup. First, you must make sure the bales go straight up without bulges. Second, be sure the bales are not hung up on your support ropes,



or that your hay wagon is too full. I can now bale 70 to 80 bales before having to climb into the wagon to reposition bales to make room for more. About 125 medium sized bales fit onto my wagon. It only takes a few minutes to remove the chute extension from the baler.

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### Homemade Chisel Plow

David McCoy built his own chisel plow last fall to help make his lightweight offset disc more effective, especially in sod. He says the idea works well, especially considering it cost him just \$160 to build.

"I like using conservation tillage equipment on our rolling silt clay loam soil here in central Ohio but I didn't want to no-till" says the Fredericktown farmer. "I either had to use a straight chisel, a heavy offset disc or powered tillage. The powered machines cost too much to op-

erate, the simple chisel leaves sod ground too rough, and new offsets take too much horsepower and don't come in widths small enough for my 80 hp. tractor.

"I used an 8-ft. section of 4 by 4-in. tubular steel that cost \$50 new, chisel standards that I bought for \$80, a 3-pt. hitch from a used subsoiler bought for \$35, and bolts and paint that we had on hand. It made my lightweight offset much more effective, not only in sod but also in the fall on corn stalks to save a



### Tractor Or Loader Bale Fork

Handyman Ken Connaughty designed and built this big bale loader that hooks onto the bucket of a front-end tractor loader, or onto a tractor 3 pt. hitch.

Says the Lanesboro, Minn., farmer: "It's designed so you don't have to take the loader bucket off before working big round bales. You simply attach it to the bucket."

After initially bolting or welding a permanent mechanism to the top of the bucket, installing or removing the bale loader takes about 30 seconds. The fork will lift and stack any size big bale to the loader's maximum lift height. The fork's attaching mechanism is a 3 pt. hitch system (Category

I or II), allowing it to also be used on the rear of a tractor.

"If you already have a rear-attaching bale fork, you can add mine to your front-end loader and carry bales front and rear," explains Connaughty. "With my fork, you can stack bales at least two high in the baleshed."

The fork tines float up to 18 in. so the bucket doesn't have to be pitched just right. The bucket can even be pitched clear down, as if dumping, and the tines will still punch under or into a round bale.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Connaughty, Rt. 1, Box 29, Lanesboro, Minn. 55949 (ph 507 875-2252).

### Wheeled Trash Burner Resembles Steam Engine

Harlan Courtney, Oskaloosa, Kan., put together an eye-catching "go anywhere" trash burner out of an old water pressure tank and an iron-wheeled manure spreader. It looks like a steam engine.

He took the 3-ft. dia. by 9-ft. long tank, cut out one end to install a hinged door, then attached the front and rear axles and iron wheels from an old manure spreader. The trash burner even has a pivoting hitch for transport.

Courtney cut a hole in the ¼-in. thick steel for the 8-in. dia., 4-ft. tall smoke stack, and a



hole in the bottom of the tank for a draft. He says he could easily roll his trash burner inside during winter months to heat his farm shop.

