

Stretching to reach the sun, these four Hackberry trees have grown about 10 ft. above their 30 ft. silo home.

A Silo Full Of Trees

An old, abandoned silo near Milltown in eastern South Dakota serves as a sanctuary for four huge Hackberry trees.

The full-grown trees stretch about 10 feet above the 30 ft. silo, which was originally built by the Milltown Hutterite colony around the turn of the century. The silo's current owner — Ed Baltzer, of Parkston, S. Dak. — uses the land surrounding the silo for pasture.

The trees sprouted and took root on their own. Billy Juhnke, a life-long resident of rural Milltown, recalls first noticing the trees growing inside the silo in 1954 when he was hunting. Through the years, the silo has protected the growing trees from wind and weather, and has also sheltered them from direct sunlight. Apparently, lack of sunlight didn't hinder their growth. They kept growing inside the silo until their tops reached beyond the top of the silo.



Silo has protected the trees from storms for more than 25 years.





Gary Gendall's half-scale model of an MF 760 combine is based on blueprints supplied by Massey Ferguson.

HALF-SCALE REPLICA

Wooden Massey Combine Salutes Saskatchewan

Gary Gendall of Dalmeny, Sask., wanted to celebrate Saskatchewan's 75th birthday last year by building something symbolic of the province's agriculture.

He came up with a half-scale model of a Massey Ferguson 760 combine, made out of plywood!

"A combine, to me, really represents a Saskatchewan farm and this is what I wanted to portray," Gendall explains. "A combine represents harvest and harvest, if we're lucky, means the rewards of a good crop."

Plans for the combine came from a Massey Ferguson combine assembly plant in Brantford, Ont. Gendall scaled the plans down and built his replica from 3/4 in. plywood and some other wooden materials. Tires and paint were donated by a local Massey Ferguson dealer.

Although there's no engine, the table auger, steering wheel, control levers and cab door all work like the real thing when moved by hand. Gendall pulled it behind his pickup for the Celebrate Saskatchewan parade in Macoun, Sask.

"It was a lot of fun, but I have no plans to build another," he told FARM SHOW. "I jokingly told my wife I was going to build a tractor next, but she wants some bookshelves, instead."