

Made It Myself

(Continued from previous page)

Poly Hubs Keep Tractor's Rear Wheels From Breaking Off Stalks

Dudley Johnson raises seed corn and plants it in a "6-2" pattern - six female rows alternating with two male rows. He uses a 2-row stalk chopper to destroy the male rows after the corn has pollinated. The problem was that whenever he chopped the male rows, the protruding axles on the rear wheels of his Farmall 400 tractor would occasionally break off stalks in the female rows on either side.

He solved the problem by cutting the ends out of an old 500-gal. poly water tank and fastening them to each wheel. He drilled a pair of holes in the poly and ran a length of chain through to the back side of each wheel. An 8-in. dia. steel plate bolts to the center of each poly cover to fit against the end of each axle.

"The poly covers deflect stalks instead of breaking them. They fit perfectly and



cover the entire wheel," says Johnson. "The only other alternative is to cut the axles off."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dudley Johnson 712 Elm St., Kanawha, Iowa 50447 (ph 515 762-3342).



Portable Battery Charger

"My tractor is stored about 100 yards from an electrical outlet and rather than run an electrical line to the tractor, I made this portable battery charger that I can take to the tractor," says Harold Brewer, Lebanon, Tenn.

"The problem is that I only use the tractor to put out hay every couple weeks so it doesn't run enough to keep the battery up.

"I put a 3-hp. Briggs & Stratton engine on a piece of plywood and hooked a GM alternator to it. I put a 6-in. pulley on the engine with a 3-in. pulley on the alternator. I went to a generator and alternator rebuild shop and traded the stator for a one-wire stator, which eliminated the field wire.

"The engine runs at about 3,000 rpm's.

When you hook up the battery, it pulls down to about 2,000 rpm's. The alternator puts out 15 amps and 14.6 volts. I have an amp meter and volt meter hooked in line so I can read them at any time. A 15 min. charge and the battery is ready to go.

"There's one 10-ga. wire coming from the battery post and one 10-ga. wire coming from the ground. The wires are about 10 ft. long with alligator clips. The whole setup is light enough to carry around. Since I took this picture, I added a T-handle between the engine and alternator to carry it."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harold Brewer, 3390 Chicken Rd., Lebanon, Tenn. 37090.

Two-Bucket Cart

This new two-bucket cart works great to carry 5-gal. plastic pails up and down the alleyways in confinement buildings.

It's made out of 1/2-in. dia. rod with a 40-in. detachable handle. It's only 29 1/2-in. wide so it'll fit through the narrowest gates.

It carries any height of 5-gal. bucket, from 13 to 19 in., either by adjusting chains and S hooks from which buckets hang or by simply hanging them from hooks on the frame. In both cases, however, weight is on the cart, not the operator, notes the manufacturer.

Sells for \$375 plus S&H.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, D.P.S. Manufacturing, 1390 County Road 5, Corunna, Ind. 46730 (ph 219 281-2047; fax 2747).



Old Feed Wagon Converted To Portable Covered Feed Bin

Bill Kurtz, St. Croix Falls, Wis., converted an old flare box wagon into a portable covered feed bin that he parks next to a feed bunk, providing a low-cost, easy way to feed cattle.

He used 2 by 4's and plywood 4-ft. high extensions. A corrugated steel roof slopes away from the feed bunk to keep rain from draining off it into the bunk.

He cut a 2 by 3-ft. hole into one side of the extension where feed is augered in. He also cut a hole into the end of the wagon so that he could install a full-length door which he opens whenever he wants to shovel feed

into the bunk.

"It's a simple idea but it works good," says Kurtz. "I use a front-end loader to put silage in the bunks, then I shovel grain on top of it. The wagon holds about 4 tons of feed. I used an old trailer house frame to make the feed bunk. I narrowed it up and then mounted sheet steel to form the bottom. I also mounted an old horse-drawn manure spreader hitch on front."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bill Kurtz, 2187 State Rd. 87, St. Croix Falls, Wis. 54024 (ph 715 483-3866).



Self-Propelled Wick Wiper

By C.F. Marley

Killing tall-growing weeds and volunteer corn in soybean fields is a quick and easy job with this self-propelled wick wiper built by Greenfield, Ill., farmer Harvey Lorton.

He made the frame out of 2 by 4 steel tubing. It's powered by a 2-stage log splitter hydraulic pump driven by an 8-hp. Briggs & Stratton engine. One stage of the hydraulic pump is 8 gal. per minute and the other is 3 gal. per minute. The 8 gal. per minute flow goes to the front drive wheel while the 3 gal. per minute flow goes to raise

and lower the 20-ft. wide rope boom. A valve allows both stages to be directed to the front drive wheel, as needed, for higher transport speeds.

The front wheel is driven by a hydraulic motor. It also steers the rig via motorcycle-type handlebars. The narrow wheels slip through narrow row beans without damage.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harvey Lorton, Greenfield, Ill. 62044 (ph 217 368-2168).

