



Double Tank Grain Hauler

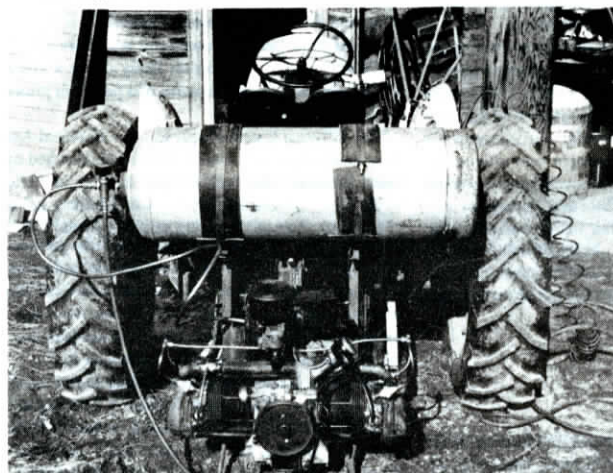
South Dakota farmer Doyle Olsen converted a used semi-trailer gravel hauler to a "double tank" grain trailer to handle corn and small grains on his farm near Irene.

He first stripped the gravel truck down to the bare frame and then built mounting brackets for two gravity boxes. To support the front of the big grain trailer, he cut the rear end and fifth wheel off a junked semi truck, and mounted a tongue on it so he can

pull the rig with a tractor.

Olsen says the double tanked hauler works great because of its short turning radius. He can turn completely around on a country road without having to back up. He spent just \$500 to build the grain trailer, not including the gravity boxes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Doyle Olsen, Rt. 2, Box 15, Irene, S. Dak. 57037 (ph 605 263-3641).



Volkswagen Air Compressor

"A mechanic friend of mine had all sorts of VW engines lying around. I decided to try to turn one of them into an air compressor," says Glen Hornseth, Kelowna, B.C.

"I first took the motor apart and put new rings and bearings in it. I built up the exhaust lifters with brass on the sides to keep them from moving in the block when the motor was running. I then reassembled the motor, minus a few parts. I took the heads apart and put lightweight springs on the exhaust valves and left out the exhaust push rods. Then I installed the heads, reattached the motor to the bell housing, and mounted the motor and bellhousing on a steel plate that hangs on the 3-pt. behind the tractor.

"I hooked the tractor pto to the motor. It turns the motor in the direction it would go if it were running normally. I then took out the spark plugs and put one-way valves in each plug hole. I hooked all these valves to

a larger main line that runs to a storage tank made from an old propane tank. It has a safety valve set at 120 psi. I capped the exhaust ports with copper pipe that runs to the intake manifold, because they now work as intake valves. I removed all parts from inside the carburetor and installed an air filter to keep the air clean. The motor never seems to get very warm but the air lines get hot from the compressed air, resulting in condensation.

"The compressor works great. I use it all the time to run impact wrenches and for other general use. I plan to mount a generator on the motor to provide electricity for lights and I may also try to double the input shaft speed to see if I can get even more air out of it."

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Harold M. Johnson, Editorial Director



"Condominium" Calf Housing

Wisconsin farmer John Murphy, of Lena, saves space and shortens feeding time by "double-decking" his calves in two-story calf condominiums.

"Each deck holds 6 calves in individual stalls. With all 12 in a group, it's fast and easy to feed them, yet they're not too crowded," says Murphy.

"Stalls (20-in. wide and 4-ft. long) are large enough to be comfortable, yet narrow enough so calves can't turn around. Calves are left untied and have plenty of room. Styrofoam insulation in the ceiling (2-in. thick) along with good ventilation and a 20-in. roof overhang, helps keep the building cool even in the hottest weather but comfortable in the win-

ter," he points out.

The 7-ft. tall building is equipped with 2 by 2-in. floor slats spaced 1-in. apart. The floor also has a solid rubber belt across the front to protect the calves' knees.

The top row of crates have tapered galvanized pans under each crate so Murphy can easily wash or scrape out manure from under the calves. He notes that you could also put pans under the lower level, or let waste go on the ground and then move the building from week to week.

Murphy rotates larger calves to the lower crates and puts new-born, smaller calves up above.

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