

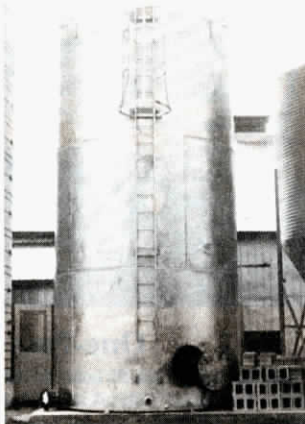
## Oil Tank Makes Great Bulk Bin

"I spent less than \$2,000. A new bulk bin with similar capacity would have cost \$5,000 or more," says Ian MacCuaig, Dalhousie Station, Quebec, who turned a "junked" oil tank into a bulk feed bin for his livestock building.

MacCuaig painted the 5/16-in. thick sides of the 12 by 24-ft. tank with aluminum paint and then washed the inside thoroughly with a high-pressure washer. He installed an aeration floor at the bottom and cut a hole for a fan. He also installed two air vents at the top of the tank and put a ladder on both the inside and outside. He made all the modifications to the tank as it lay on its side in the yard, and then hired a crane to set it up on a concrete pad next to the barn.

MacCuaig plans to convert a second bulk oil tank - bought along with the first tank from a demolition company - to which he plans to add a hopper bottom.

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MacCuaig, Dalhousie Station, Quebec, Canada JOP 1G0 (ph 514 764-3464).

## ATV "Skip Row" Planter

When Ken Tolle has a problem on his farm north of Topeka, Kan., he usually mentions it to his city cousin, Larry Cutsinger, who sells structural steel for a Topeka company. Cutsinger invariably solves the problem.

A couple years ago Tolle told his cousin that he was frustrated by the "skips" his plate planter left when planting soybeans. He wondered if his cousin could rig up something that would let him fill in the rows using a Honda three-wheeler.

Cutsinger did a little kitchen table drafting and came up with a design for an ATV 1-row planter that exactly filled the bill for Tolle, and also doubles as a spot sprayer trailer for hand-spraying tall-growing weeds or volunteer corn.

The ATV planter consists of a single row unit off a John Deere plate planter that mounts on a two-wheel frame. An extended control handle lets the operator raise or lower the planter as needed from the seat of the ATV.

When the unit is not needed for planting, a single pin disengages the planter from the trailing frame and a small flatbed



trailer bed that's fitted with an old tractor seat mounts in its place. Tolle uses it to spot spray weeds. The trailer can also be used for odd hauling jobs around the farm.

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Story and photo reprinted courtesy Grass & Grain, Manhattan, Kan.

## Round Bale Feeder Saves Hay

Building a wood bunk around a round bale feeder saves hay, says Albert Soucy, Leoville, Sask.

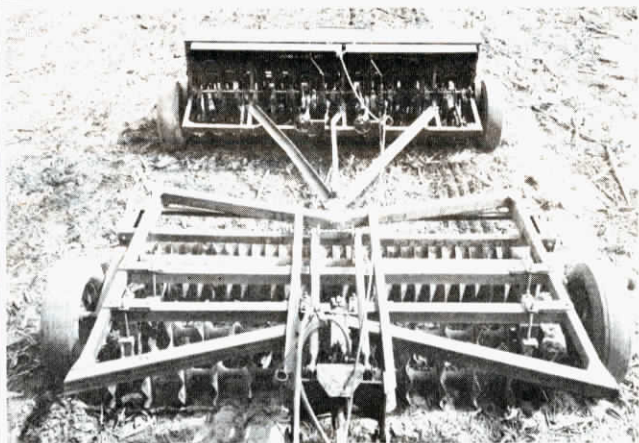
Soucy built a 16 by 5 ft. "X"-shaped metal feeder surrounded by a rectangular wood bunk 2-ft. off the ground. The bunk can be used to feed minerals, ground grain or silage, says Soucy. But its main purpose is to save dropped feed. "The cows reach for the hay, and whatever they

drop, including alfalfa leaves, falls on the bunk where they clean it up. You don't lose nearly as much feed on the ground as with conventional round bale feeders."

The welded-together frame is formed from 2 7/8 in. tubing, including two parallel tubes which form the base. Feeder bars, spaced 16-in. apart, are made from 1 by 1 in. tubing. The wood bunk, made from 2 by 6-in. boards, is bolted together and supported by a framework made of 2 7/8 in. tubing. Soucy moves the entire unit with a front-end loader. The feeder holds two round bales, but Soucy says he plans to make a 30-ft. long feeder that will hold six round bales - enough to feed 40 cows at a time.

Soucy spent about \$500 to build the unit.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sous' Welding & Muffler, Box 171, Leoville, Saskatchewan, Canada SOJ INO (ph 306 984-2077).



## "Yes-Tiller" Replaces No-Till Rig

"I'm always looking for a better, more efficient way to reduce the number of trips through the field when planting small grains and hay into corn ground," says David C. McCoy, Fredericktown, Ohio, whose new "Yes-Tiller" replaces his former "no-till" rig.

FARM SHOW's Vol. 11, No. 5 issue featured McCoy's home-built Spider Plow, a secondary conservation tillage tool that mixes chopped cornstalks with the upper layers of topsoil. It consists of a set of four gangs of intermeshed 21-in. cast iron spider wheels set in a V-shaped pattern. McCoy runs the Spider Plow through the field in the fall and then pulls his special-built double-framed grain drill - previously featured in Vol. 11, No. 4 - behind a light tillage tool for one-pass planting in the spring. Until he built the Yes-Tiller, he used a spring tooth harrow ahead of the drill but he had problems with constant plugging of the harrow teeth under the "trashy" conditions.

"I needed a conservation tillage tool that wouldn't plug. The 'Yes-Tiller' does the job providing light tillage to create an excellent seedbed without any plugging

problems whatsoever," says McCoy.

He built the Yes-Tiller using the cut-down frame of a Massey Ferguson 52 disk. He welded Oliver culti-packer rollers to the back of the frame. Under the front part of the frame, he mounted two parallel gangs of 2-in. wide no-till fluted coulters that lightly till the soil every 3 in. ahead of the culti-packer rollers and the grain drill, which trails behind. Like the Spider Plow, which he still pulls in the fall, McCoy says the Yes-Tiller doesn't do a lot of tillage but does enough to get the crop in.

"The Yes-Tiller never plugs up and could be used under both conservation and conventional tillage systems. I also think it has potential as a pasture renovation tool. I pull it and the grain drill with a 60 hp. tractor," says McCoy, who has practiced conservation tillage for the last 7 years. He built the Yes-Tiller for \$700. He'd like to find a manufacturer for it.

For more information, send a self-addressed stamped envelope, to: FARM SHOW Followup, David C. McCoy, Rt. 1, 16413 Old Mansfield Rd., Fredericktown, Ohio 43019 (ph 614 397-4664).



## Swather Bale Handler

"We like the maneuverability and the up-front visibility," says Bill Hawthorne, Chadron, Neb., about the Hesston 620 swather he converted to handle big round bales.

Hawthorne replaced the swather header with a 3-pt. off an old Allis Chalmers tractor. He mounted the 3-pt. on a support frame that consists of a railroad tie (as a lower brace) and a flat-iron cross brace (to support the top link). A set of Farmhand loader controls were mounted next to the operator's seat and tied into the swather's hydraulic system. With a Dew Eze bale loader mounted on the 3-pt., the swather's header lift cylinders now raise and lower the bale loader.

"It's better than a tractor-mounted 3-pt. bale loader because it's up front so you don't have to twist around to see it. Also, the baler's hydrostatic drive eliminates the need to constantly shift gears and it'll turn around in its tracks, which makes it easy to maneuver in small stack yards. You never have to back up," says Hawthorne, noting that he added weights to the rear of the windrower to counterbalance the weight of the bale. He also built a pig box that mounts on the 3-pt. to transport pigs from place to place.

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