



“Haylage Digger” Saves Wear On Loader

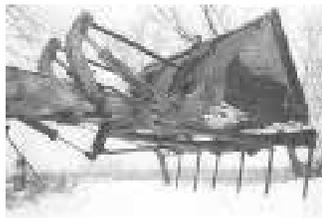
“It saves a lot of wear and tear on my loader and gets the job done faster,” says William Russ, Roscoe, Ill., who made his own telescoping “haylage digger” that rotates forward under the 8-ft. wide bucket on his International 4366 4-WD loader tractor.

The loader bucket and digger mount on back of the tractor, which Russ reversed by turning the steering wheel, seat, and controls around.

The “haylage digger” consists of 1 1/2-ft. long teeth welded to an 8-ft. long, 4-in. dia. pipe. The pipe attaches to a pair of 3-ft. long hinged “arms” that fasten on just behind the bucket. A hydraulic cylinder connected to a hinge point on the arms is used to rotate the digging teeth forward for use or backward out of the way under the loader.

To use the teeth, Russ tilts the bucket part way down, then rotates the arms forward until the teeth are tight against the bottom of the bucket. He pushes the bucket and teeth down into the haylage to tear off a chunk, then retracts the teeth so he can load the bucket.

“Haylage packs very tight in bunks which can put a lot of stress on a conventional loader and bucket. The teeth eliminate that stress and also make the haylage much easier to load,” says Russ. “Another



advantage is that the teeth tear off only a small amount of haylage without disturbing the rest of the pile and exposing it to air. It virtually eliminates spoilage. I used mostly scrap material and spent less than \$100.

“I really like how the turned-around tractor handles. The loader is off an old International backhoe loader tractor which I already had. The weight of the loader on back of the tractor counter balances the weight of the engine so it has great traction. I bolted the loader arms to tank mounting brackets on the frame above the rear wheels and mounted the loader lift cylinders onto the tractor frame.”

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Converted Fire Truck Hauls Camper, Tractor

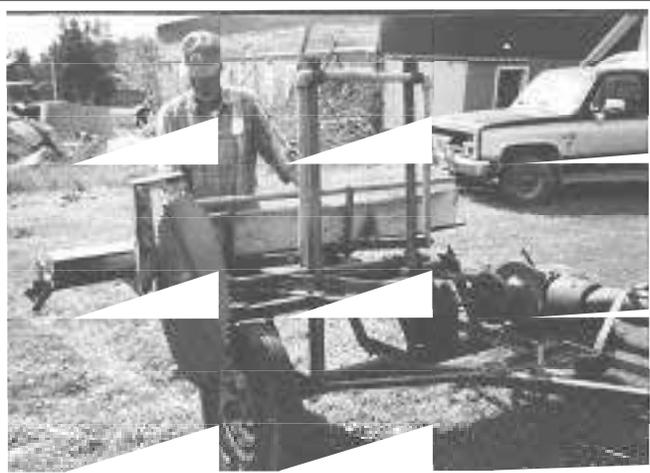
It's not too often you can find an old fire truck to buy but when Indiana farmer Hank Friday got the chance, he took it. He converted the truck into a flatbed truck fitted with a pickup camper.

“Not much remains from the original 1961 fire truck. The original engine was junk so I repowered it with a 455 cu. in. Oldsmobile engine and a 400 hydro transmission with a 4-speed Brownie transmission behind. The second transmission gives the extra speeds needed to get her

moving up to highway speeds, especially since the rear end ratio is 6:33 to 1. The truck gets 6 mpg on the road. Empty weight is 14,000 lbs.

“I cut the back of the cab off so I could mount an 8-ft. camper over it. We use this truck for all kinds of jobs on the farm and to haul my old John Deere tractors to antique farm tractor shows. Once the tractors are unloaded, we have a camper complete with a 22-ft. patio.

“I only have about \$2,000 invested in



Buzz Saw Made From Pull-Type Silage Chopper

Gaylord Kaduce, Owen, Wis., converted an old Deere No. 6 1-row silage chopper into a low-cost buzz saw.

“I already had the chopper and I paid \$10 for a used saw arbor with a 30-in. blade. The rest was made from scrap material so it didn't cost much to build,” says Kaduce, who uses the pto-driven saw to cut firewood.

He stripped the chopper down to the frame and drive system. He mounted the saw arbor on a steel subframe that he then bolted to the back of the chopper. The chopper's pto shaft runs through a right angle gearbox which chain-drives the arbor. He mounted a slip clutch on the driveshaft coming out of the gearbox, then mounted a big sprocket on the slip clutch and a smaller sprocket on the arbor in order to gear it down. He made a 5-ft. long wood table to feed wood into

the saw.

The table pivots into the saw blade for cutting and then automatically retracts.

“It'll cut through 8-in. dia. logs, and by turning the log over and cutting it from the opposite side it can handle 1-ft. dia. logs,” says Kaduce. “A steel stop plate at the end of the table lets me automatically saw logs into 16-in. lengths. The plate is spring-loaded so I can push it down out of the way to cut longer blocks of wood. A small steel guard that I mounted on the table keeps wood from kicking back toward me. However, the blade itself should have a guard over it for safety. The pto shaft is shielded.”

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Handy ATV Trailer

A small trailer lets Idaho rancher Lynn Smith get a lot more done with his ATV.

He made it using the front axle off an old Ford car. Scrap steel was used to make a frame for the bed of the trailer. A triangular-shaped hitch attaches to a ball hitch on the back of the ATV, which came factory-equipped with a rear hitch.

the truck, including an electric winch to help load the flatbed. I plan to eventually re-power it with a 671 Detroit diesel and 13-speed transmission.”

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hank Friday, 9002 North - 500 East, Rolling Prairie, Ind. 46371 (ph 219 778-4667).

The bed of the trailer is a piece of exterior plywood with angle iron bolted along the sides and underneath for support. The angle iron along the sides helps keep bales and other loads from sliding off.

The trailer is the perfect size to hold four small square bales. The 4-wheeler can pull a load of 800 to 900 lbs. Smith uses it for bales, tools, fencing materials, sick calves, and other jobs. He's even used it as a log skidder, tying one end to the trailer and letting the other end drag on the ground.

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