

Cub Cadet Loader Tractor

"I converted my 1972 Cub Cadet lawn tractor into a mini loader tractor. It works great," says Bob Schmidt, Sturgeon Bay, Wis.

The tractor is equipped with three 1 by 2-in. hydraulic cylinders - two to raise and lower the loader arms, and one to tilt the bucket. Power is supplied by a belt-driven hydraulic pump and reservoir that mount under the hood. Schmidt had to remove the original gas tank in order to make room for the pump and reservoir. He replaced the gas tank with two fender-mounted saddle tanks that he built out of aluminum.

"I can take the loader off the tractor by re-

moving four bolts and four quick couplers on the hoses," he says. "It'll lift 500 lbs."

The bucket measures 4 ft. wide and is built out of aluminum. The loader arms are built out of 1/8-in. steel box tubing.

"I use my converted loader tractor to move fallen trees that I use for firewood, and then to move the split firewood. I also use it to haul dirt and compost for our garden, and to carry stones and cement blocks. It also works great for snow removal," says Schmidt.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Schmidt, 217 N. 18 Ave., Sturgeon Bay, Wis. 54235 (ph 920 743-3103)



Kornkven's double rake hitch cuts an 80-in. swath and mows lawn twice as fast, while using a lot less fuel.

Flexible Double Mower Hitch

Chris Kornkven, Helenville, Wis., came up with a hitch that lets him pull a pair of push lawn mowers behind his Sears riding mower equipped with a 42-in. deck.

"I use it on my 2 1/2-acre lawn. With both mowers trailing behind, I can cut a swath almost 80 in. wide. It lets me mow twice as fast and use a lot less fuel," says Kornkven.

He removed the push handles on both mowers and used 1-in. sq. tubing to weld a hitch that attaches to a 2-pt. drawbar on back of the riding mower. He welded a pair of brackets made from 1-in. tubing on back of the first push mower and attached old garage door hinges to them. The hinges allow the trailing mowers to flex up and down on hills. He also attached a hitch on front of each mower. Each hitch has holes in it, allowing him to vary the cutting width.

The final modification was to add a metal skid bar to the left front wheel of the rear-trailing mower. The skid plate forms a protective "U" shape around the wheel.

"It trails nice - I can cut around some pretty tight spots," says Kornkven. "The 2-pt. drawbar keeps the trailing mowers from trying to run ahead of the riding mower on hills.

"I made the skid bar because I have a lot of fence posts that I have to mow around. The skid bar keeps the post from catching between the tire and the mower and helps the rear mower get around posts without bending or tearing up anything. It works real well in tight spaces, as well as mowing under trees and bushes," he notes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Chris Kornkven, N6280 County P, Helenville, Wis. 53137 (ph 920 699-2376).

Wagon kit fits 5 to 11 hp, 4-cycle two stage snowblower. It mounts in place of blower auger with just 4 bolts.



Kit Turns Snowblower Into Powered Wagon

If you hate putting away your two-stage snowblower after only a few months of use, you might be interested in the "Lil" Hauler Kit that turns most any snowblower into a power wagon that'll haul up to 800 lbs.

The wagon kit fits 5 to 11 hp, 4-cycle machines and simply attaches in place of the lower auger with four bolts.

The kit comes in two versions, one with treated lumber and the other made from

berglass. Caster wheels on the frame let it turn on a dime.

Sells for \$389 plus S&H. Fits Ariens, Gilson, Deere, Honda, MTD, Murray, Noma, Sears, Toro and others.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Grooten, Mr. Small Engine Sales, 9549 U.S. 31 South, Berrien Springs, Mich. 49103 (ph 269 471-5868).



Belt-driven hydraulic pump and reservoir under hood provides lifting power. Three 1 by 2-in. hydraulic cylinders control loader - two to raise and lower the arms and one to tilt the bucket.

Add-On Post Keeps Gate From Sagging

When you bolt a heavy gate to a post the gate can sag down, making the gate difficult to open and close. But if you space the hinge bolts farther apart you can often solve the problem, says Buzz Kutzler, who did just that by welding a 2-in. dia. galvanized metal post onto the end of the gate.

The post extends 2 in. below the gate and 1 ft. above it. It has hinges bolted onto it at both the top and bottom, allowing the hinges to be spaced farther apart than they would be on the gate, which results in less sag.

"It gives extra support to the gate which I think will double the life of the gate," says Kutzler.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Buzz Kutzler, 20499 399th Ave., Huron, S. Dak. 57350 (ph 605 352-8177).



Post welded to gate is 2 in. below and 1 ft. above it, which puts the hinge bolts further apart. This stops gate from sagging.



Cabs fit 18 to 70 hp tractors. Company generally offers two types of cabs for each tractor.

After-Market Cabs For Smaller Tractors

If you're looking for a cab for your tractor or skid steer, you might want to consider Sims Cab Depot.

They sell a line of cabs to fit 18 to 70 hp tractors, depending on the make. "Our main market is tractors in the 20 to 50 hp range," says Chuck Crawford, general manager.

He says the company generally offers two types of cab for each tractor. "Some customers wish they'd bought an OEM cab with their tractor and are willing to pay for one that looks like an OEM cab. Other customers only want the basics of weather protection to get them out of the wind, rain or cold and will pay the bare minimum for that option."

While all skid steers come with a ROPS cage, not all come with cabs. Sims offers them for Case, New Holland, Deere, Daewoo and Caterpillar, and will be adding Komatsu soon.

Installation takes between 4 to 8 hours for the cab and 1 to 4 hours for any optional accessories such as lights and heaters.

Prices range from as little as \$1,200 to \$5,000 or more.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sims Cab Depot, 200 Moulinette Rd., Long Sault, Ontario, Canada K0C 1P0 (ph 800 225-7290 or 613 534-2230; email: simsinfo@cabdepot.com; website: www.cabdepot.com).

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