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Vol. 13, No. 6, 1989

FORD PINTO ENGINE PTO-DRIVES STEERING AXLE SALVAGED FROM 4-WD MILITARY TRUCK

Extra Engine Converts Combine To 4-WD





Engine and transmission removed from a 1971 Ford Pinto car mounts on top of the combine behind the grain tank (top). A driveshaft off the transmission belt-drives a pto shaft beneath the rear of the combine that drives the steering axle (above).

By Bill Gergen, Associate Editor

"It's great insurance for combining in mud, and it cost far less to build than any commercial rear axle drive system on the market," says Robert Greenlee, Okmulgee, Okla., who converted a 1960 Massey Ferguson 510 combine to 4-WD by replacing the rear axle with the front steering axle from a 4-WD military truck driven by an extra engine and transmission removed from a 1971 Ford Pinto

The add-on engine mounts on top of the combine behind the grain tank. A driveshaft off the transmission powers a pair of sprockets that chain-drive a pto shaft beneath the rear of the combine that drives the steering axle. The home-built 4-WD system operates completely independently. To switch from 2-WD to 4-WD, Greenlee simply starts the 4cylinder, 80-hp Pinto engine and uses a separate throttle and shifter controls in the cab to control axle speed.

Greenlee converted the combine in the winter of 1986-87 after a wet fall kept him out of his soybean fields. "I didn't want to spend the money on a commercial rear axle drive system so I bought a used combine to make the 4-WD conversion. That winter I used it to cut 500 acres in the mud. My neighbors couldn't believe the job it did. One custom cutter who owned a big Massey Ferguson 860

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