

1957 Self-Propelled NH Baler

"It was on the market for only one year so this is one of only a few that are still around," says Bob Bowersmith, Radcliff, Ky., about his restored 1957 New Holland SP-166 self-propelled baler.

Bowersmith bought the baler in 1990 for \$600 from a man who found it at a junk yard. Amazingly, it came complete with the owner's manual and parts book.

"The company built just 305 of these self-propelled units. I know of only three others that still exist."

The self-propelled baler was built using components from several different manufacturers. For example, the front end steering mechanism and wheels are off a Cockshutt tractor, and the rear axle, wheels and 4-speed transmission are off a Ford truck. The transmission has three working gears and one road speed of about 12 mph.

Two 15 hp Wisconsin engines operate the

baler. One drives the baler, while the other handles the baling operation. One alternator and one battery provide electrical service for both engines. The single electrical system provides power to the starter on either engine. Otherwise the two engines operate separately with separate controls for each. The gas tank mounts under the driver's seat and provides fuel for both engines.

The machine is fitted with a conventional New Holland baler.

"It draws a lot of attention," says Bowersmith, who takes the baler to four different farm shows every year and sometimes demonstrates it in the field. "Most people have never seen anything like it.

"I don't know why the company quit making them. The driver has a great view and never has to look behind. However, there are some limitations. The rig was designed to pull a wagon, but it didn't work well on hilly



Bob Bowersmith restored this rare 1957 New Holland 166 self-propelled baler.

ground because it didn't have enough traction. Also, it was somewhat expensive. It sold for about \$3,000, whereas the company's 66 pull-type model sold for less than \$1,900. Or maybe the cost of maintaining two engines scared some people off.

"One person told me that because the ma-

chines didn't sell, they ended up taking some of them back to the factory and converting them to pull-type models."

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Another Restored NH SP Baler

Last year members of the Old Steam and Gas Club, Adamsville, Ohio, displayed a completely restored New Holland 166 self-propelled baler at a show.

It came from Muskingum County, Ohio, and underwent extensive restoration by members of the club.

"This self-propelled baler wasn't made for sale in Ohio due to our hilly farmland. However, this particular baler came into town on a truckload of pull-type balers and the New Holland dealer at that time agreed to take the self-propelled baler, too," says club member Zane Hittle. "I found it sitting in the weeds. The owner said it wasn't for sale. A few months later, this man needed parts for a 9N Ford. I told him I would get the parts he needed and trade him for the baler, and he agreed."

Extensive restoration was needed for the New Holland self-propelled model. Hay bales

had been left in the bale chamber for about 10 years so the chamber was rusted out. Also, one of the baler's two engines was missing. Hittle and some friends found two engines at public auctions and overhauled them before installing them on the baler.

Bill Knupp did the actual rebuilding work. The original manuals and parts books for the baler were obtained from a local implement dealer.

A year ago, they were able to make bales at a local festival. The New Holland self-propelled baler worked alongside the club's restored 1908 Ohio Cultivator stationary baler, which originally came from Bellevue, Ohio, and was owned by the Cockshutt Company in Canada.

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This New Holland 166 baler was restored by members of the Old Steam and Gas Club in Adamsville, Ohio.

BB Machine Gun Shoots 50 Rounds Per Second

If you've got a lot of money to burn - and you're looking for something to impress your friends - this new fully automatic, rotary barrel BB machine gun is like nothing you've ever seen.

The 19-lb., 29-in. long air gun has a 1,500-round internal hopper, with an optional external 5,000-round hopper. It shoots BB's at 490ft./sec. at 140-psi muzzle velocity. When you're shooting, the three barrels rotate quickly like an old-time Gatling gun.

"They shoot effectively up to 50 yards," Piper says. "You can add hop-ups to put backspin on BBs for more accuracy to about 75 yards."

The air guns shoot everything from 6 mm plastic or steel BBs to .177 caliber BB's. Starting rate is set at 40 to 50 rounds/sec. from the factory.

"The guns are a hybrid of gas and electric," explains Paul Piper, owner of Piper's Precision Products. "Battery packs rotate the barrels and open or close the air valve."

The air source can be anything from a shop air compressor to CO2 canisters.

Piper notes that he has three types of customers: collectors, military simulation gamers, and backyard plinkers who are just fascinated with the gun's complex mechanisms.

By using different size ammunition and adjusting the voltage, the guns can be shot in a basement, backyard or in a large field. Be-



Air gun's three barrels rotate quickly, like an old-time Gatling gun, shooting up to 3,000 BB's per minute.

cause they're air guns, it's legal to have them as fully automatic weapons - though some communities may have ordinances that prohibit them.

Piper has made 6-barreled guns in the past that sold for as much as \$5,000. The new 3-barreled gun sells for \$2,995. It's likely to sell out quickly since it's a limited edition model. Limited runs of models, such as Evolution, often sell out shortly after release.

More information, including videos of the air guns in action, is available on the website.

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Robert Glanville is the owner of this 1964 Deere 3020 "utility tractor". The low profile tractor is built like an orchard tractor, but without the wheel flarings on back

Rare Deere 3020 "Utility Tractor"

"Whenever I'm in the market for a tractor I always look for something rare. This one definitely qualifies," says Robert Glanville, Walton, Ontario, who's the owner of a 1964 3020 "utility tractor". The low profile tractor is built like an orchard tractor, but without the wheel flarings on back. It was intended primarily for working inside barns.

The first thing you notice about the tractor is the "underexhaust" muffler, which goes down and then back under the rear axle. The tractor has smaller than normal front and rear wheel hubs to keep the height down. Also, the operator's feet straddle the transmission because of the lower overall height.

"Only about 1,300 3020 utility tractors

were made, and only about 20 percent of them were equipped with a powershift transmission so my model is quite rare," says Glanville. "It was actually one of the first tractors to offer a powershift transmission."

"Usually these tractors were used for loader work so they're in pretty rough condition. Mine was in real bad shape, with hardly a piece of tin still left on it. The wheel rims were rusted off and the hood was gone. I also worked on the engine and transmission and installed new tires."

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