

Andrew Schuelke's 3-wheel caddy carries a 500 gal. tank and a roller pump.

3-SPEED TRANSMISSION DRIVES PUMP

Old Combines Converted Into Cheap Sprayer Caddies

"These homebuilt tricycle sprayer caddies incorporate herbicides accurately and cost very little to build," says Roger Schuelke, Marietta, Minn., about the rigs he and his brother Andrew built last winter, borrowing the tires and drivelines off two old Case 960 combines.

Roger's 4-wheel caddy, with two rear 18.4 x 26 combine tires and two front 10.00 x 20 front tires, holds a 750 gal. poly tank. He pulls the caddy behind a Versatile 800 4-WD tractor and 43 ft. field cultivator.

Andrew's 3-wheel caddy, with three 18.4 x 26 combine tires, holds a 500 gal. poly tank. He pulls the caddy behind a Ford TRS 35 tractor and a 30 ft. field cultivator.

On both caddies, the combine's original 3speed transmission drives a sprayer pump, sending chemicals to booms on the cultivators. To put the transmissions in gear, the brothers simply flip a lever, enabling the transmission to turn the shaft that normally would turn the combine's clutch. Roger runs the transmission in second gear to power a centrifugal pump; Andrew runs in third gear, to power a roller pump.

Roger, who used the sprayer caddy last spring on 420 acres of soybeans, says he built the rig for about \$1,000. "I paid one neighbor \$100 for the driveline, and another neighbor several hundred dollars for combine tires. The rest went for building the frame."

According to Roger, the home-made sprayer caddy works better than commercial equipment with ground driven positive displacement pumps. "Those pumps are accurate, but expensive. The pump alone costs about \$1,200, which is more than it cost me to build my whole caddy. What's more, commercial caddies with ground driven pumps aren't equipped with an agitation system. Mine is. I can keep chemicals suspended while I'm traveling, and if the tank sets for a while I simply pull the caddy down the field to agitate it," Roger points out.

The driveline, 10 ft. long and 4 ft. wide, consists of the transmission, bell housing, and planetary gears. To hold the driveline, Roger built a frame from 6 in. channel iron, adding a floor made of 2 x 10 boards. Then, he installed the 750 gal. poly tank, using cable to strap it to the frame.

He then built a short gooseneck which extends 18 in, ahead of the flatbed and is attached to a pivot point between the two 10.00×20 truck tires. Roger made the pivot point by welding the tires' spindles back to back, hubs facing outside. He welded the spindles on the bottom of a 4 in. (outside dia.) pipe and slipped a piece of 4 in. (inside dia.) pipe over it.

The tires on both caddies are on 120 in. centers and can straddle 30 in. rows perfectly, says Roger. "Andrew's home-built caddy, with a single front wheel, could even be pulled behind a mounted planter to apply liquid starter fertilizer." For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roger Schuelke, Box 124, Marietta, Minn. 56257 (ph 612 668-2532).



Roger Schuelke's 4-wheel caddy supports a 750 gal. tank.



The faded paint on this 2840 Deere tractor (see photo below) regained its "like new" appearance with a single application of Aussiebrite paint restorer.

BOOSTS RESALE VALUE BY AS MUCH AS 30%

"Aussiebrite": New Life For Old Machines

"Auctioneers tell us a single application of this new paint restorer boosts sale prices of used equipment by an average 25 to 30%," says. Tom Lyons, Reno, Nev., about Aussiebrite, a new spray-on product that chemically pulls pigment up out of faded paint, restoring 95% of the color to even badly faded old equipment.

A thin layer of Aussiebrite is applied to paint with a spray gun at pressures of 65 psi. Unlike paint, there's no need to mask tires, hoses, seats and decals. All that's required to prepare the surface is a good wash. "It restores the color of a machine without covering anything up. If you repaint a machine and then try to sell it, people can almost always tell it's been repainted and they think you're trying to cover something up," points out Lyons.

Within two hours of application, color begins to return to treated equipment. Lyons says the product actually pulls color up out of lower layers of paint to the outer surface. It takes 7 days for the product to fully harden during which time it the machine should be protected from moisture. In addition to faded paint, the product also coats and protects rubber hoses, seals and tires. It also works great to bring back color to oxidized fiberglass, such as the yellow roof on Deere combines.

Aussiebrite is imported from Australia where it was developed in hot western regions of the country. Lyons says Australian farmers apply the product to new equipment as a protectant. He notes that Aussiebrite is formulated for use on the enamel-based paints used on most farm equipment. A different product is available to treat the acrylic paints used on automobiles.

It takes about an hour and 3/4 of a gal. of Aussiebrite to treat a combine and header. Aussiebrite sells for \$153.50 per gal. The company is looking for dealers.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, YLC Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 6119, 2369 Dickerson Road, Reno, Neb. 89513 (ph toll-free 800 336-9158)



"Before" photo shows that although tractor was in good condition, its faded paint made it look old.

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