

Artist Karl Unnasch made this stained glass combine for a Wisconsin festival, replacing cab windows and other surfaces with stained glass panels showing different scenes.



A total of 32 panels were installed on the sides, back and front of the combine, including the header snouts. Lights behind panels illuminate them at night.

## **Stained Glass Artist Turned Combine Into Art**

Artist Karl Unnasch has a farm background, so it's probably not surprising that he looks at farm equipment differently than most artists. Unnasch made his stained glass combine for a festival in Reedsburg, Wis.

Unnasch calls his combine The Grand Masticator. He replaced cab windows and other surfaces with stained glass panels depicting a variety of scenes. A total of 32 panels were installed in the sides, back and front, including on the individual header snouts. Lights behind the panels illuminate them at night.

"The Deere 6600 was a little larger than the one my dad first used," explains Unnasch. "It was provided courtesy of Manthey Salvage in Mauston, Wis. and still ran when we got it."

Panels include the face of a mustached man chewing a cob of corn, a scene of Batman and Robin in a World War II Victory Garden, a take-off on American Gothic with earthworms, and more. Other panels emphasize the idea of chewing, such as one of a termite.

"Part of the stipulation for taking part as an artist at the festival was that the art be placed in a farm field," recalls Unnasch. "I thought a combine was the best 3-D object I could think of."

Unnasch worked on the combine for several months. It went on display in the Reedsburg area field for the festival in early October 2013. Meant to be temporary, it remained in the field by popular demand until March 2014. It is being prepared for permanent display in Reedsburg, though sponsorships are still being sought.

A nationally renowned artist, Unnasch maintains his studio, Pilot Mount Design, near his home farm in southeastern Minnesota. The art tour was sponsored and organized by the Wormfarm Institute of Reedsburg, a non-profit dedicated to connecting people with food, agriculture and art (www.wormfarminstitute.org).

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## **Powered Mini Milker Great For Small-Time Dairying**

Buck Wheeler has an upgrade for folks who liked his Udderly EZ hand-pumped milker (FARM SHOW Vol. 30, No. 4). His new, patented Ultimate EZ<sup>TM</sup> Milker uses an electric pump to milk two teats at a time, and it works on cows, goats and sheep.

"We've got so many customers that are older who have arthritis, fibromyalgia or other health conditions," Wheeler explains. "They wanted to milk two teats at a time, and I knew I needed a motor for that."

He worked on the Ultimate EZ Milker for four years and introduced it last October. It features the same inflations and containers used with the hand pump model. The inflations come in two sizes with silicone inserts for sheep and goats or cows. The milk goes directly into quart containers that come with the kit.

The new milker is powered by an aspirator

vacuum pump with a regulator and gauge for the perfect vacuum pressure.

"Set it to premarked arrows, 12 1/2 hg for cows and 11 for goats," Wheeler says.

Should milk overflow it goes through a hose into a canister instead of into the motor.

In a side-by-side comparison, the Ultimate milker beat a jug milker by a few seconds when milking goats.

In addition to being quiet, fast and easy to clean, Wheeler says customers appreciate that the milker is lightweight and easy to carry around. It weighs just 14 lbs.

Customers also appreciate the introductory price of \$549, which is about a third the cost of jug milkers. It comes with a year warranty, DVD instructions, and a canvas carrying bag with a vinyl bottom.

Several videos on Wheeler's website show how to set up the milker and milk with the



Ultimate EZ<sup>™</sup> electric milker is designed to milk 2 teats at a time. "Simply the best milker I've ever used – I can get 2 gal. in under 7 minutes," says Joy Smith, Questa, New Mexico.

Ultimate EZ Milker.

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