

Ford Diesel Powers His Farmall H

Indiana mechanic Bret Messer has one of the most unique repowered Farmall H tractors in the country. Messer's H has a 4-cyl. Ford diesel instead of a Farmall gas engine.

"The diesel I repowered the H with was manufactured in the early 1960's for Ford 4000 tractors," says Messer. "However, I don't think my engine was ever in a tractor. In place of a regular serial ID number it had a brass tag that said 'Donated by the Ford Motor Company for the advancement of technical education.'" Messer thinks the power unit was donated to a high school or a technical school. He bought the engine mounted in a stationary frame at a farm auction because it ran well and the price was too good to pass up. Two years later he finally installed it in the tractor.

"I had an old Farmall H that had definitely seen its better days," says Messer. "The motor was frozen and was missing the carburetor, manifold and seat assembly and there wasn't a bit of red paint on it any more." He removed what was left of the motor,

and says putting the Ford diesel in wasn't too difficult once he figured out the frame modifications and how to adapt the motor to the drivetrain.

"I removed some of the casting from the back of the block so it fit into the frame," says Messer. "Then I had to drill and tap new holes in the rear of the block to mount the adapter plate." With the help of a friend and his lathe, he removed the center of the Ford flywheel and used that piece for the adapter on the H flywheel.

Adapting other components to complete the project required creative thinking and scavenging parts from other equipment. Messer moved the tractor's lower radiator outlet to the other side so it lined up with the water pump on the Ford. He used the original H fan and when the blades didn't fit the housing, he substituted blades from an IH B that he shortened to fit. The fuel filters are from a 750 Massey combine, and the hinge for the throttle linkage is from an old H generator bracket.



Indiana mechanic Bret Messer says putting a 4-cyl. Ford diesel engine into his Farmall H wasn't too difficult, once he figured out how to adapt the engine to the drivetrain.

Messer adapted the Ford 3-bolt starter to the 2-bolt head on the original H and had a starter shop reverse the rotation. The new 12-volt electrical system kicks out plenty of power to easily start the diesel.

Messer says his "new" H runs great and people at collector shows think the Ford diesel is original equipment. The only

telling factor is the "HD" on the hood, which signifies H diesel in the same manner MD is used on diesel M Farmalls.

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Gary Kehler uses seismoelectric technology to find water. He's shown here drilling a test shot hole with equipment mounted on his ATV.

"Seismic" System Locates Best Sites For Water

A Washington company says its method for finding water beats "water witching" nearly every time. Their seismoelectric technology was developed by the oil industry years ago.

The system works by detecting electrical signals generated when seismic impulses are sent down into the ground. The return signals indicate the quantity of any water found.

The company says its equipment has been used to find water in the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Africa and the Middle East.

Alberta, Canada groundwater specialist Gary Kehler, who has operated a business called WaterFind since 2004, says using seismic equipment makes sense because of the cost of drilling, which can run between \$35 and \$40 a foot. "I regularly get calls from property owners who have already spent thousands of dollars and drilled a well 700 ft. to 800 ft. deep in single or multiple holes looking for water. Typically we can do a 6-site survey for less than a single 100-ft. test hole," Kehler says. He works ahead of some well drillers that won't drill in tough areas without the owner first getting a WaterFind survey.

Kehler says he's able to successfully locate groundwater 90 percent of the time in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Usually he's working in areas where dry holes often happen. "The percentage isn't perfect, but it's definitely more economical than drilling wells here and there hoping to find an aquifer with a good yield," says Kehler.



Sounding rods are driven into the ground about 15 ft. from the main hole. When a shotgun blast is fired into the hole, the seismic impact produces an electrical signal if water is present.

His charge for a typical survey is \$2,200. Kehler works with landowners to determine the best spots to survey, then does the field tests and provides a report back to the landowner in 10 to 14 days. His reports classify possible well sites by how much water they're likely to produce.

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Extreme Outback's 12-volt air compressors are waterproof and can be mounted anywhere and at any angle.

"Mount Anywhere" 12-Volt Air Compressors

"I'm always amazed by all the uses farmers find for our compressors," says George Carousos, owner of Extreme Outback Products, Vacaville, Calif. "Most farmers mount their compressor on the underframe of their pickup and use it for filling tires, cleaning filters, running air tools, blowing out lines, cleaning radiators and so on."

The company's two most popular models for farm use are the ExtremeAire High Output and Magnum models. The 12-volt, 3/4 hp High Output model has a fan-cooled motor and 150 psi working pressure to fill farm tires and air tanks and run impact wrenches. The 1.5 hp Magnum compressor is also fan-cooled and puts out 6 cfm free flow and 2.6 cfm at 100 psi. Both models offer superior filtering, stainless steel hardware, heat dissipation cylinder coating and powder-coated filter housing and fan shroud. Dimensions for the High Output model are: 14 in. long by 6 in. wide by 9 in. tall. The Magnum is slightly larger.

The company's compressors are available

in 12-volt or 24-volt models. They have an oversized UNI-filter that is crush proof, washable and reusable. Carousos says the compressors are permanently lubed with sealed bearings so they are waterproof and can be mounted anywhere and at any angle, including sideways or upside down.

The company also makes portable compressors in a weatherproof metal box. "The portable unit is really handy for use around a farm because it can be moved from machine to machine and is powered by a 12-volt battery," says Carousos.

Extreme Outback compressors range in price from \$415 to \$565 and include a 30-day money back guarantee and free technical support.

Carousos says Extreme Outback's compressors are pre-installed in many OEM machines, such as air seeders and planters.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Extreme Outback Products, 1051 Aldridge Rd., Suite A, Vacaville, Calif. 95688 (ph 866 447-7711; www.extremeoutback.com).

"Boot Sock" Boosts Traction On Ice

A "boot sock" made in Germany from a combination of fabric and metal boosts traction on compact snow and icy surfaces. The edges of the sock are sealed with a red plastic to keep the material from fraying. They fit over boots with a set of elastic straps. A large loop at the heel is used to help pull it on. It's held in place by a Velcro strap.

A big advantage is that you don't need to remove it for driving, or for walking around inside your house.

I-Socks come in a compact carrying case that can be easily stored in your pockets. They're available in 2 sizes - small, for boot sizes from 4 to 7; and large, for boot sizes from 8 to 12. They sell for \$40 at the British



website www.roofbox.co.uk. Not available yet in North America.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, www.gearweare.com/review/rud-i-sock-snow-and-ice-shoe-covers/#sthash.UcXSQtX.dpuf