



Home-built "bucket hauler" lets Jethro Beiler use his 4-wheeler to safely haul three 5-gal. buckets of feed.



## Handy "Bucket Hauler" Mounts On Front Of ATV

Jethro Beiler of Grove City, Minn. wanted to use his 4-wheeler to haul 5-gal. buckets of feed to his calf hutches, so he built a heavy-duty "bucket hauler" for it. It lets him safely carry three 5-gal. buckets at a time on front of the machine.

Made from 1 and 1 1/2-in. square tubing, the bucket hauler measures 37 in. wide and 13 in. deep and slopes down toward the front. The frame is divided into three 11-in. sq. "pockets" that contain the buckets, which set on lengths of horizontal tubing that form the floor.

The unit attaches to a home-built receiver hitch bolted to the front part of the 4-wheeler frame, and also attaches to the 4-wheeler's front rack with 2 clip pins.

"I use it on my Honda Rubicon 4-wheeler twice a day to haul feed and milk to my calf hutches, and also to pick up rocks. It's built

strong," says Beiler. "During the summer I also use it to haul grain to calves in a rented pasture 2 1/2 miles away. The pockets are just the right size to keep the buckets securely in place. As a result, I can drive down the road hauling buckets of feed at 35 mph without worrying they'll fall off."

He made the receiver hitch out of two different sizes of square tubing and bolted one to the hauler and the other to the frame. It absorbs most of the hauler's weight.

"It's handier to use than commercial basket racks that hang over the back of a 4-wheeler, and I don't have to lift the buckets as high," notes Beiler.

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## Rubber Wear Strips Extend Equipment Life

If you can use rubber wear strips on your blade or snowplow, Steven Chalmers of Castle Rock, Colo., would like to hear from you. He recently started a company that sells heavy-duty rubber strips made from used conveyor belt material.

"I purchase scrap trimmings of conveyor belt material, cut them to length, drill holes as requested by the customer, and sell them as rubber wear strips for snowplow blades," says Chalmers. "This is heavy-duty, stitching-reinforced conveyor belt material so it'll last a long time. I started selling the strips about 1 1/2 years ago and have already sold more than 1,700 ft. of material."

The idea came to Chalmers when he saw the material advertised for sale by Repurposed Materials, Inc. (www.repurposedmaterialsinc.com). "I buy large 1,000-lb. rolls of the material, then cut it up and sell it on my own website (www.RubberWearStrip.com). I have more than 50 bolt patterns to choose from across a dozen different lengths. The strips are 1 in. thick and anywhere from 4 to 5 1/2 in. wide. Prices start at \$53 with free shipping to the continental U.S."

Chalmers says he has also purchased from Atlas Belting in Wisconsin.

He says his rubber wear strips are "a dream to use". "The strip glides right over cracks in a driveway that would stop a tractor in its tracks, which is an unpleasant experience for the operator and hard on the tractor, too. The rubber is also easy on the surface you're plowing and more gentle on lawns if you happen to veer beyond the driveway or sidewalk. And, it makes plowing a quieter job."

He says the conveyor belt material isn't new so it will have assorted gouges and



Steven Chalmers sells heavy-duty rubber wear strips made from used conveyor belt material. The 1-in. thick strips extend the life of your blade or snowplow, he says.

scrapes in it. "However, the strips are 1 in. thick so there's still a lot of life left in them."

"The customer can drill his own holes, or go to my website and tell me which bolt pattern they want. Nuts and bolts are included only for smaller blades such as on garden tractors, ATV's and UTV's."

Prices range from \$53 for a 42-in. strip to \$89 for a 9-ft. strip, with free shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Steven Chalmers, 4829 N. Mesa Drive, Castle Rock, Colo. 80108 (ph 303 981-9879; steven@rubberwearstrip.com; www.RubberWearStrip.com).



If you're looking for parts for a New Idea corn picker, Mullet's Machinery and Parts can help.

## Where To Buy New Idea Pickers, Parts

Mullet's Machinery and Parts sells refurbished New Idea corn pickers along with used and new parts. The company also manufactures forecarts, wagon gears, sprayers and spreaders, as well as parts for horse-drawn equipment. They are also a New Idea dealer, giving them access to a shrinking supply of new parts.

"AGCO, the owner of the New Idea brand, still makes some parts, but the list is getting shorter," says Lavern Mullet, Mullet's Machinery and Parts. "We've started making more and more parts as new ones become unavailable."

Mullet's is now making close to a dozen shafts, flights, gears and a snapper bearing housing. They also salvage parts from New

Idea pickers that are beyond repair. They repair those that can be.

"We always have pickers on hand," says Mullet. "We go through them and get them field ready."

He notes that 2-row, narrow row pickers are currently in high demand. They sell for \$3,800 to \$4,500.

"If they have a sheller unit, they are more expensive," says Mullet. "We also work on New Idea spreaders and the company's other equipment."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mullet's Machinery & Parts, 6870 S. State Road 5, Topeka, Ind. 46571 (ph 260 593-2960).



Rubber "curtain" bolts on in front of rotary/disc-style mowers, hay cutters and conditioners, protecting tractor and driver from flying rocks and debris.

## "Rock Block" Bolts Onto Mowers

"Our patented Rock Block kits are designed to protect you and your tractor from flying rocks and debris. They bolt on easily in front of rotary/disc-style mowers, hay cutters and conditioners," says inventor John Horter, Bristol, S. Dak.

The Rock Block is designed for Deere, Case New Holland, MacDon, and Vermeer rotary and disc-style mowers, haybines, and conditioners. It consists of a rubber "curtain" that bolts onto the front of the machine using side and center-mounted metal brackets. On larger kits, the curtain hinges in the middle and by loosening a side-mounted knob, you can swing the curtain out from either end to service the cutterbar. The knob is attached to a threaded rod that runs through a nut welded onto the bottom of the side-mounted bracket.

"The kit doesn't hinder visibility and looks like it was factory made. It's a relatively inexpensive solution when you consider that it often costs less than replacing a broken window," says Horter. "It can help even if you don't have rocks, because a lot of people get hurt when mower blades come loose and go flying."

Horter sells kits made specifically for 12 of the most common brand machines, and says he's adding more all the time. He also offers universal kits that fit most other mowers.

"Our kits are well built and we've field tested them for years on our farm. All parts are powder-coated. The rubber curtain we

use is specially formulated to be durable, yet flexible. We offer a 1-year warranty on parts," he says.

He came up with the idea when he bought his first disc-style cutter about 10 years ago. "I was very hesitant because I had heard horror stories about people breaking windows on their tractors. There were other very crude styles of devices on the market, but nothing that I wanted to mess with so I started hanging rubber flaps from a framework that bolted to the mower. I had no intention of selling a kit.

"Then in 2013 I had my 3-year-old son, Dane, riding along with me in the tractor as I was disc mowing. We didn't have any sort of rock guard on the mower at the time. I hadn't used the new mower for more than an hour before I heard a loud boom, and the side window exploded. Dane was in shock and said, "Holy cow dad, what happened?" It was quite scary. The window cost \$1,300 to replace and about 2 days of downtime. Fortunately, we weren't injured from the rock that was thrown.

"The next day we started designing a kit." Retail prices for Rock Block vary from \$450 to \$850 plus S&H, depending on the model.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Horter, 225 Main St., Bristol, S. Dak. 57219 (ph 605 216-4852; horterfarm@nvc.net; www.therockblock.net).