



Aaron Nolt builds custom carriages, carts and wagons that are popular with businesses that host events.

He Builds People Hauler Wagons

If you need a horse-drawn or tractor-drawn wagon for your agritourism or event business, Aaron Nolt can help you out. The owner of A-A Carriage-Wheel Shop in New Holland, Penn., started by making and repairing wheels. Then, based on customer requests, he added building horse-drawn carriages and carts and wagons to his business.

"We use torsion axles and leaf springs for a better ride in the wagons," Nolt says, adding they are built on 6-ton running gear.

The 16-ft. long tractor-drawn People Hauler wagons have treated wood with exterior stain for the sides, kiln-dried poplar floors, seats on the side and down the center and fixed steps on the back. Horse-drawn wagons have the same seating configuration but are made of PVC board and have flip-up

steps on the back.

"We also have a metal frame wagon with a roof over the top for shade and protection from the rain," Nolt says.

He has sold wagons in several states in the East to farms and businesses that give rides and host holiday events. Price for the tractor-drawn wagon is about \$6,000.

Though most sales are for carriages, there's also growing interest in A-A's horse carts, suitable for competitions or pleasure riding. He also builds customized wagons.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, A-A Carriage Wheel Shop, 214 N. Shirk Rd., New Holland, Penn. 17557 (ph 717 355-9182; aacarriage@ibifax.com, www.lancasterfarminglocator.com/profile/aacarriage).

He Plants, Harvests Two Crops From The Same Field

Andrew Pohl worries less about yields than he does profit. While others chase maximum yields with one crop, he is looking at the profit potential of planting two crops in the same field at the same time.

"My goal is no inputs, and I'm doing it in steps," says Pohl. "Last year I reduced my fertilizer purchases by 30 percent. This coming year I hope to drop them to 50 percent of my traditional levels."

Given the ever-higher prices for fertilizer, any reduction is money in the bank. Pohl is holding onto that money by promoting an active soil biology through crop rotation, reduced tillage and fall seeding a legume cover crop. For the past two years, he has also experimented with intercropping two crops in the same field.

"I tried it for the first time two years ago," says Pohl. "I planted peas and oats, and it produced my highest net return per acre for the year. The low input costs and the return sold us on it."

At the time, Pohl planted peas at three bushels per acre and oats at one. He ended up with 65 bushels of oats and just under 30 bushels of peas. In single-crop fields, he would expect around 50 bushels of peas and from 80 to 100 bushels of oats. Given the prices two years ago, he would have grossed as much as \$400 for the oats on an acre or \$500 for the peas.

"With the combined yield, I grossed \$520 with very little fertilizer, plus the peas climb up the oats," says Pohl. "Normally the peas go flat when ripe, and if you get precipitation, they are harder to combine. Double cropping makes harvesting easier, and it's not as hard on equipment."

Pohl expects he can boost yields on both crops by adjusting the seeding rates and timing. He is also switching to barley and peas to clean up a wild oat problem.

He has also added a bushel or so of flax seed to his normal rate of wheat seed. "It had no impact on the wheat yield, and the flax went through the combine like butter," says Pohl. "I harvested 50 bushels of wheat and



Peas and oats intercropped in wheat stubble are just one example of how Pohl is using different crops together to reduce inputs and improve profitability.

20 bushels of flax. Flax prices were awesome, which really pushed up the profit with flax seed the only additional input."

Double cropping does require one additional important step. Pohl runs the combined grains through a Kwik Kleen to separate the crops for sale.

"I call it my Slow Kleen for wheat and flax, but mixes like oats and peas go through fast," he says.

This year was a tough one with hot, dry weather in Alberta. High temperatures in June hurt the flax, and yield dropped to only five bushels. Pohl thinks he did see some weed control benefits with the peas and oats. Unfortunately, the peas aborted from the heatwave, which also hurt oat yields.

"It was going to be challenging whether monocropping or double cropping," says Pohl. "However, wheat and canola did okay as monocrops. I am considering planting them together next year."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Andrew Pohl, RR#5, Wetaskiwin, Alberta Canada T9A 1X2 (ph 587-876-2110; apohl86@hotmail.com).



Real Harrows, LLC units let individual fingers, paddles and portions of star wheels be quickly replaced.

Custom-Built Harrows Fit A Variety Of Equipment

If you're frustrated with harrows on leading brands of vertical tillage machines, you're not alone. When Scott Buteyn started renting out vertical tillage implements and did custom tillage for local farmers, he experienced their frustration firsthand.

"I saw a lot of breakage," says Buteyn. "If they didn't break, then the brand offered only a couple of options. When they did break, you had to take a gang apart to replace a part, and if rusted tight, it could be an all-day job."

Buteyn set out to design the perfect harrow, which is one with lots of options, easy to repair and built heavy-duty so they won't break in the first place. He succeeded and is now marketing the harrows and the components that make them special through his company Real Harrows, LLC.

"Great Plains, McFarlane and Kuhns only offer one type of harrow each with their vertical tillage machines," says Buteyn. "I have six different harrow gangs that can be easily attached to them. Other brands may require customization."

He points out that different soils and conditions from the south to the north call for different types of harrows. Buteyn came up with a unique 20-ft. vertical tillage demonstrator.

"I can run four different harrows for a customer to compare what they do to the field," he says.

Breakage is no problem, thanks to his patent-pending spindle design. It lets individual fingers and paddles, as well as portions of star wheels and farrows, be quickly replaced. Break a finger, remove two screws, pull out the broken piece and put in a new one.

"My harrow design options are almost endless with your choice of spacing," says Buteyn. "All the pieces are laser cut to the size and shape the customer wants. I also make them three times stronger than what is out on the market today. My harrows have

been on the market for three years, and I have yet to sell a replacement part."

Buteyn's harrows can replace an OEM harrow on an existing machine, or a customer can order a new machine without a harrow and add one from Real Harrows.

Buteyn also makes rolling baskets for all three brands using round bars instead of flat bars. He notes that round bar baskets are unavailable from McFarlane, but his fit that brand too.

"In our testing, the round bars break dirt clumps up like a flat bar does, but it passes fewer stones because it has the same strength across 360 degrees. I also make them stronger so they will last longer than competitive rolling baskets."

Buteyn also makes single and double arm brackets. The spring design offers float and tilt for harrows and baskets.

"No one else offers down pressure on a harrow," he says.

When Buteyn made up short versions of his harrows and rolling baskets to take to trade shows, he discovered a new market. Strip tillers who saw the shortened units wanted them for their machines. He also offers a special closing wheel for that market.

"The only choice they have is a blade, no apparatus like a harrow for covering," explains Buteyn. "That gave me an idea for my closing wheel, which uses the OEM bearing, but my design sandwiches it. The size and shape can be changed."

Like others, Buteyn can't find factory-built machines to mount his harrows. As a result, he has started to build his own. Like his harrows, it promises to be different.

"It is in the drawing stage, but I think I have four unique, patentable features that no one else has," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Real Harrows, W4089 Scenic Rd., Campbellsport, Wis. 53010 (ph 920-464-0779; realharrows@gmail.com; www.realharrowsllc.com).

Hood-Mounted Guidance System

"Anyone needing guidance on a tractor, ATV or other field vehicle can have it with a new hood-mounted GPS system called onTrak," says Agriscision company representative Adam Keene. "At a price point under a thousand dollars, the system is affordable for most operators. Its pass-to-pass field accuracy is about 7 1/2 in."

The onTrak system uses a light bar system mounted on the hood of the tractor. Easy-to-see lights direct the operator and data is transmitted by wireless Bluetooth signal to an iPad, iPhone or Android device in the cab. The receiver has a rechargeable battery that provides 24 hrs. of continuous use. It provides guidance for following straight lines, radius or contour routes. The boundary feature even maps a field and measures its area.

The onTrak app in the phone or iPad records field map data by date, location and field name, saves it as a digital file or pdf



GPS system provides guidance for following straight lines, radius or contour routes and has boundary and mapping features.

and allows the operator to store or share the information. An internet connection isn't required for normal field operation.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Agriscision Ltd. (ph 011 44 1628 947221; team@agricision.co.uk; www.agricision.co.uk).