



Dykstra used a New Holland running gear to hold a mineral feeder, lick tank, and fly control oiler curtain.

Mobile Mineral Feeder Travels With The Herd

There's no dragging mineral tubs and lick tanks for Dan Dykstra when he moves his herd. The rotational grazer has a wagon decked out with needed supplements to move as he moves his cows.

"I rotate my 30-cow herd around 50 acres of pasture," says Dykstra. "I have one running gear for a water tank and a second one to hold a mineral feeder, a lick tank for protein, and a fly control oiler curtain hanging off the rear."

Dykstra found a running gear at a consignment auction for only \$150. It was a New Holland, ideal for the use as there was no reach running down the middle. He notes that it cost less than the mineral feeder and lick tank it carries.

"I ground the welds loose and stretched the frame a few inches so my Pride of the Farm mineral feeder would fit," says Dykstra. "I

used 2 by 2-in. bracing and angle iron to support it and the lick tank."

Dykstra salvaged sections of steel bracing from an older field cultivator to hang his fly control curtain from. He mounted one piece vertically to the back of the running gear and welded the second as a cross arm. Chains bolted to it support the reservoir and curtain.

"I wanted to be able to hang it low enough the calves would use it too," says Dykstra. "The lick tank has worked out well for the calves also. I no longer bother with a creep feeder. They lick what the cows leave until they're big enough to reach the tank themselves."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dan Dykstra, 18191 Malvern Rd., Morrison, Ill. 61270 (dykstrafamilycattle@yahoo.com).



Power Spur rotor head.

"Pulverizer" Mounts Between Skid Steer And Bucket

Level, pulverize and mulch material, and then load and haul with a bucket, all on the same skid steer. The Power Spur rake mounts to the skid steer arms. A bolt-on adapter mount can carry attachments ahead of it. The mid-mount design boosts both skid steer and tool efficiency.

"The Power Spur levels soil, chews up clods, and more," says Lester Martin, Reist Industries. "It can chew up the grass and sod of an old lawn, for instance. You can back up and chew up the ground's surface with the Power Spur, then drive forward and scrape it up with the bucket."

The Power Spur mounts close to the skid steer, so it takes up less room on a truck or trailer. An optional gauge wheel can be fitted to the Power Spur. However, when the Power Spur is used in line with a bucket, the bucket acts as a gauge wheel or depth gauge. The adapter plates can be adjusted for depth control.

The Power Spur has an aggressive bi-directional rotor that lets it reverse rotation as needed. It's driven by hydraulic motors at each end and has ditch cutters and side shields. The carbide tips on the rotor are



Power Spur with rock picker attachment.

designed to pass closely to the AR400 ledger. At the same time, the floating rotor prevents binding.

Power Spurs come in two models, the 79-in. long PS72 (\$9,700 CAD) and the 91-in. long PS84 (\$10,250 CAD). Both models require auxiliary hydraulics with at least 18 gpm flow. The PS72 weighs 720 lbs., and the PS84 weighs 770 lbs.

"We have dealers across Canada, as well as several distributors in the U.S.," says Martin. "Give us a call or visit our website for the dealer nearest you."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Reist Industries, 100 Union St., Elmira, Ontario, Canada N3B 3L7 (ph 519-669-1501; toll-free 877-467-3478; www.reistindustries.com).

DIY Hood Remover/Installer Allows For Solo Work

Tony Bunniss has developed an easier way to take the hood off his John Deere 3010 tractor. "Removing the hood was not a problem 60 years ago when I was working at an ag dealership," says Bunniss. "But alone at 81 years old, it's daunting."

It typically takes two people to remove the hood on this type of tractor because the hood must be lifted high enough to clear the muffler. When working at the dealership, Bunniss could always rely on a helping hand from other employees. But alone at home, the task is significantly more difficult.

"Today, I would need the help of two friends because I can no more raise my arms that high than I can fly," he explains. "So, I came up with a cradle that I attached to the hoist on my lift table (featured in Vol. 46, No. 2)."

The end product is articulated in four directions, swivels, and will stay where he sets it, making it possible to place the hood back on the tractor, level on all planes. It's fully adjustable and can be used for large and small tractors. The clamps that hold the cradle in place hold onto the metal flange under the hood and are padded to avoid scratching the paint. That's not a concern for Bunniss now, but it will be once he restores his tractor. Suction cups are included to keep the hood from tipping; they do not attach to the hood.

Overall, the hood remover makes it possible for Bunniss to perform maintenance on his equipment without inconveniencing his friends and neighbors.

"This worked perfectly," he says. "I painted it after I was done just to make it look pretty."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tony Bunniss, Webster Minn. (glennlee1964@gofast.am).



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Hubscher attached the planter modules to a 3-pt. toolbar on his compact Deere tractor. He fabricated a skid frame of 2 by 2-in. steel tubing with pockets for forks mounted on his Deere loader.

Little Planter Has Big Features

Darin Hubscher may plant only 10 acres of sweet corn, but he takes the job seriously. His 2-row planter has the technology of a much larger planter. The White planter units offer exact seed placement, and his liquid fertilizer system delivers precise amounts of phosphorous and nitrogen.

"I previously made a single row planter and broadcast my fertilizer, but it was expensive," says Hubscher. "I upgraded to two White planter modules on 60-in. row spacing and a fertilizer system that feeds the crop, not the weeds."

Hubscher attached the planter modules to a 3-pt. toolbar on his compact Deere tractor. He fabricated a skid frame of 2 by 2-in. steel tubing with pockets for forks mounted on his Deere loader. The skid, which is chained to the forks for safety, is the base for two tanks. Each is equipped with its own pump. One holds liquid phosphorus, and the other

liquid nitrogen.

The fertilizers are pumped through a Redball liquid flow monitor with the nitrogen double-banded to either side of the seed furrow. "I was injecting the phosphorus into the seed furrow, but I wanted a more even application," says Hubscher. "I added a Keeton liquid application tail tube to apply it to the furrow walls."

In another effort to avoid wasting fertilizer, Hubscher added a mechanical shut-off to the liquid fertilizer system. When he raises the planter, it hits a lever that shuts off the pump.

The entire system came together easily, notes Hubscher. "The biggest challenge was calibration," he adds.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Darin Hubscher, Box 3004, Swan River, Manitoba, Canada R0I 1Z0 (ph 204-281-4440; darinhubscher@gmail.com; Facebook: Worlds Sweetest Corn and Strawberries).