

## Combine Front End Mounted On Farmall

Larry Klahn turned a 915 IH combine steering system into a wide front end for his Farmall Super MTA (SMTA). The wide front made the SMTA a more useful loader tractor.

"The previous owner bought the SMTA new in 1954 and for the last 25 years used it to fill and pull a feed wagon," says Klahn. "However, with its narrow front end, when it was loaded, it was really hard to steer."

Klahn runs a welding business in addition to farming and was tired of taking his loader off when using his loader tractor for farming. The SMTA was going to be a dedicated loader tractor for use around the welding business and farm.

"I made a quick attach for the bucket and loader and built a set of pallet forks for moving pallets of seed or steel," says Klahn. "I decided I needed power steering and a wide front end."

Klahn looked for OEM and after-market wide front ends made for the SMTA by companies like Speeco and Schwartz. Everything he found was very worn. Power units made for the tractor by Behlen and Char Lynn were hard to find.

Klahn found a solution when a neighbor suggested he make a wide front with parts from a 915 combine.

"My neighbor had been parting out the 915, and the steering system was about all that was left," says Klahn. "I bought the steering axle, steering motor, steering wheel, and all the hydraulics with it."

Klahn removed the narrow front-end pedestal and fabricated a mount for the combine axle that fit in its place. He also removed the steering shaft and replaced the steering wheel on the throttle/steering wheel post with the steering wheel and motor from the 915.

"I kept everything original, in case I want to change it back at some point," says Klahn. "I can just unbolt the combine parts and bolt in the OEM parts."

Initially, he tapped into the OEM hydraulics to power the steering. However, the SMTA had been underpowered hydraulically for the loader. All it had was a small belt-powered pump off the engine. It couldn't handle both the loader and steering.

"I put a pto-powered hydraulic pump on the tractor and mounted a set of valves for it and auxiliary hydraulic needs," says Klahn. "The loader had been designed for one arm to be used as a hydraulic reservoir, but it wasn't needed with the OEM pump. I cleaned it out,



**Klahn removed the narrow front-end pedestal and fabricated a mount for the combine axle that fit in its place. He also removed the steering shaft and replaced the steering wheel on the throttle/steering wheel post with the steering wheel and motor from the 915.**



**Wide front-end steering hydraulics**

filled it, and tapped the pto pump into it. I left the OEM pump to handle the steering."

Klahn made one more change to the SMTA. "I took the original rear 13.6x38 tires, rims, and castings off the rear of the tractor and replaced them with larger castings with a double bevel, 14-in. rim and 15.5x38 tires," says Klahn. "Double bevel rims are more readily available, and the larger tires handle heavier loads."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry Klahn, P.O. Box 236, Hooper, Neb. 68031 (ph 402-720-1032; redswelding@gmail.com).



**Gates held in place by steel cable anchored to top bar of gate and steel pipe.**

## "Flood" Gates Hold Up In High Water

Joe Brewer doesn't worry about gates over farm streams, knowing they will hold when high water comes. The floodgates are held in place by steel cable anchored with steel well stem pushed 10 ft. into the ground.

"We've had water 3 to 4 ft. over the cables, and they hold the gates in place," says Brewer. "We've used the same system for 15 years and not lost a gate to flooding. They rust out, but they don't wash out."

The cable is wrapped around the top bar of steel gates. Wire ties at either end attach it to posts, but when high water comes, they

snap, and the gate floats up with the rising water. When the water goes down, the gates do too, retaining cattle until the gates can again be tied up.

"We use 5/8-in. steel cable and 15 to 16-ft., 2 7/8-in. steel pipe," says Brewer. "We use a mini-excavator to push them into the ground until only 5 to 6 ft. are sticking out."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brewer Family Farms, 19284 S Ave., Dallas Center, Iowa 50063 (ph 515-669-5437; brewerfamilyfarmsllc@gmail.com; www.brewerbeef.com).

## Skid Steer Camera Attaches With Magnets

When a friend mentioned they'd installed an RV camera on their skid-steer, it got Floyd Miller of Miller Power LLC thinking about why they weren't standard on these machines.

"Skid steers are one of the most dangerous pieces of equipment on the farm," says Miller. "It's so difficult to see behind you as you're backing up, plus you're reversing a lot. The camera isn't a totally new idea, but no one I'd heard of was promoting it. There were some geared for the automotive market, but they seemed to have a lot of extra wires."

Miller built on his idea with an importer who helped him find a manufacturer overseas. He made sure to secure something simple so that if only a 12-volt system was available, it could be hooked up by just using the red positive and black negative wires.

After some investigation, he decided to go with a corded rather than cordless unit as a dealer suggested the constant jarring motion of the equipment would likely result in a poor picture or lost signals, plus he would need a second power source.

The "See Hawk" comes equipped with 8 ft. of cord, plus he carries 3, 6, 16, 33 or 50-ft. extensions if needed. Miller explains older models may not require an extension cord as they typically don't have a fully enclosed back top of the cab where the camera would be mounted.

"It all depends on how the cab is positioned," he says. "The cords may have to go back and drop down underneath if the cab flips from the bottom up."

Four heavy-duty magnets are included in the packing, two to hold the camera and two to secure the monitor.

"This allows you to install both without drilling any holes, which is a nice feature. The magnets are extra strong and will hold in place. Plus, you can stick the camera and monitor where you think you want them and then they can be easily moved if they're not positioned well."

Miller sells complete units for \$249 plus the cost of an extension cord if required. S&H



**"See Hawk" camera system allows for easy installation without drilling.**



comes to roughly \$19. Packages contain a camera and monitor with 1 ft. of cord each. A 6-ft. section of cord to go between the two is standard.

"The two power wires come in on the 6-ft. cord. You may need to extend them to fit some applications, but it's very simple."

Miller started testing the cameras last winter and received his first order in June 2022. Sales have mostly been to individual farmers wanting to install them themselves. He has a dealer in Michigan and another in Pennsylvania for distribution but welcomes more.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Floyd Miller, Miller Power LLC, 6735 W. 100 St., Topeka, Ind. 46571 (ph 260-768-7002; millerpower2007@mailbug.com).

## Poly Crates For Moving Poultry

When poultry farmers need to move their birds from one location to another, Premier 1 Supplies has poly crates that make moving birds safe for both handlers and birds.

The largest crates measure 23 by 38 in. and are 16 1/2 in. in height and can hold approximately three to four turkeys depending on their size and weight.

Joe Putnam, marketing coordinator, explains all crates ship flat to customers but are simple to assemble. "Put the sides on the base, line them up and help them into place with a mallet," he says. "They latch together firmly and won't come apart."

Each rectangular crate has two doors, one that slides open and closed on the top and another that's hinged on the side. The twin doors allow farmers to load the birds into the crates from either the top or side.

Premier 1 Supplies also has crates for game birds like quail with smooth bottoms to keep smaller feet from slipping through. All sizes of crates are stackable, taking less space in storage.

Crates are produced and manufactured overseas and are available throughout North



**Poly crates stack and allow for top or side loading of birds.**

America.

The large turkey crates sell for \$92 each. S&H is free with orders over \$100.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joe Putnam, Premier 1 Supplies, 2031 300 St. Washington, Iowa 52353 (ph 800-282-6631; info@premier1supplies.com; www.premier1supplies.com).