



Self-Propelled Sprayer Built From Case 4-WD Tractor

You won't find a better self-propelled sprayer than this one owned by Ryan Gieseke, Marengo, Ill. He converted a Case 2470 4-WD tractor into a self-propelled rig that's equipped with a 1,600-gal. tank and 80-ft. boom.

"It's built with the strength and capacity of a Terra Gator but has narrower tires that'll fit between 30-in. rows with no problems," says Gieseke. "Works great for both preemergence and postemergence herbicide application."

Gieseke paid \$8,000 for the used tractor. He cut the frame off behind the cab, then used angle iron and flat plate steel to lengthen the frame 12 ft. He also lengthened the driveshaft and steering cables, and reinforced the frame by mounting steel I-beams on each side. The tank, which he bought from a local fertilizer company, was originally designed to mount on a Terra Gator. It mounts on the same spring-loaded "V-block" mounting system used on the Terra Gator, which keeps the tank from shifting too much on hills and turns. He "squared off" the back side of the cab to allow the tank to mount as far forward as possible on the frame.

He used 2-in. sq. steel tubing to build the 3-section boom and mounted it behind the tank. The tractor's remote hydraulic outlets are used to hydraulically raise or lower the boom and to fold it against the sides of the tank. He made brackets for the tractor's remote hydraulic outlets and moved them alongside the frame. The sprayer pump mounts under the tank and is powered by a driveshaft that's belt-driven off the tractor engine.

"It's built tough. We can even use it to spray on chisel plowed ground," says Gieseke. "We built it because we wanted more capacity and because we were concerned about exposure to chemicals. However, we didn't want to spend the money for a commercial self-propelled rig. We farm 3,800 acres and have to cover fields fast. We had been using saddle tanks and a soil conditioner to incorporate preemergence herbicide. However, my dad usually ran the soil conditioner and I didn't like him having to breathe chemicals all the time. Now he can spray without worrying about chemicals and without having to stop every 40 acres to refill the saddle tanks. We use two soil conditioners to incorporate preemergence herbicide behind the



sprayer.

"Going 8 to 9 mph we can cover up to 300 acres per day, and at an application rate of 10 gal. per acre we can spray 160 acres without having to refill.

"My uncle George Freise did most of the work and my brother Brett and father Jerry helped. They sandblasted the tractor and painted it red. We spent less than \$15,000 to build it. Many commercial sprayers with comparable capacity sell for \$70,000 to \$80,000 and aren't built as heavy. The tank's weight on back of the tractor provides a lot of traction. We no-till on hilly ground, but even in soft fields we've never been stuck. We've been in mud up to the front axle without getting stuck.

"We replaced the original tractor seat with an air ride seat out of a semi truck so it rides nice. It also has a Hiniker sprayer monitor.

"We chose the Case tractor because it has a solid frame and didn't have articulated steering. As a result we didn't have to worry about building a hinge heavy enough to carry the tank's weight. Also, this tractor has four-wheel steering which allows us to turn sharp at the end of the field. We can set the steering so that both axles turn or just the front axle."

Gieseke used an old Surge water tank and an air compressor to build his own foam marker system for the sprayer. He made brackets to hold the tank which mounts on the boom frame. The air compressor mounts in front of the tractor and is belt-driven off the engine while the air tank mounts on the side of the frame. There's a one-way check valve at the bottom of the tank and an air pressure gauge in the cab. A switch in the cab that runs off an electric clutch is used to start the air compressor.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ryan Gieseke, 2306 Deerpass Rd., Marengo, Ill. 60152 (ph 815 568-6340).

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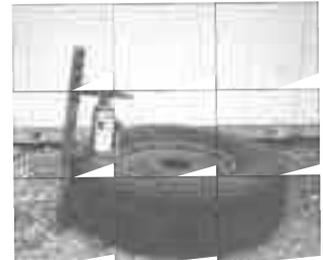
Mark Newhall, Editor

Simple, Low-Cost Bead Breaker

"It's easy to use and cost almost nothing to build," says Joe Lewis, Edina, Mo., about his bead breaker that he made from 2-in. scrap steel.

He welded together two 8-in. long steel prongs to a 24-in. vertical shaft made of heavy steel. To use the bead breaker he simply lays a tire on the bottom prong, then sets a hydraulic bottle jack on top of the tire as close to the bead as possible. When he pumps the jack up against the top prong the jack pushes down on the bead.

"It's never failed to break the bead loose from the tire," says Lewis. "I've used it on everything from 13-in. car tires to 10.00 by 20 truck tires."



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Quick-Built Post Pounder

When Harvey Mueller started putting up a chain link fence last summer, he discovered his regular post pounder wasn't big enough to drive the 2-in. corner posts.

So the Neosho, Wis., farmer quickly made a bigger one out of odds and ends he had around. It works on anything from 5/8-in. steel rod for electric fence up to 2-in. dia. steel posts.

He used a 26-in. length of 3 by 3-in. angle iron 1/4-in. thick. He welded a 3/4-in. thick chunk of 4-in. dia. steel - cut off a solid shaft - to one end. He welded two handles made of steel rod to the sides of the pounder.

More pounding power could be gained by using a 3 or 4-in. thick section of steel on the ram end, he says.

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