

Old Backhoe Makes Nifty Manure Loader

"I bought this used Liebherr industrial backhoe to dig rocks out of fields. Once I had it, I got the idea of using it to load manure out of my pit," says Lloyd Burkholder, Shippensburg, Penn.

"The bucket holds 300 gal. of manure (photo shows it fitted with a smaller bucket) and you can reach out 30 ft. with the loader arm and go down as far as 20 ft. The machine, which is powered by a 7 hp. diesel, cost about \$6,000. That's about what you would pay for a good manure pump. I was able to buy it cheap because

of its age (1973) and because it had a bad hydraulic pump, which weighs around 400 lbs. A rebuilt pump would have cost about \$10,000 but I found a place in Rossville, Tenn. - Krueger Hydraulic Repair - that was able to repair the original pump for \$2,400.

"One big advantage is that we don't have to agitate the manure. Also, we can use the machine for other work."

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Easy-To-Use 3-Pt. Log Carrier

"It's an easy and safe way to haul logs behind my tractor," says Marinus Muilwyk, Lyons, N. Y. about the 3-pt. log carrier he built.

Muilwyk used 3 in. wide channel iron to build the frame and welded a 1/2-in. thick steel rib on top that has three slots. To pick up and drag a log he simply slips the chain into the slots, then raises the 3-

pt. "It's easy to use and eliminates the need to use hooks. The frame keeps the log from hitting the tractor and breaking the pto shaft. It has lots of bracing so it can really take a hit. It can also be used to haul other objects around the farm."

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"Telephone Pole" Bale Trailer

J.J. Granstrom, Holstein, Neb., used the running gear from an old live bottom silage wagon to build a "telephone pole" round bale trailer.

Granstrom unbolted the wagon axles and used a 15-ft. long double strength "reach" to lengthen the wagon. He then bolted two 35-ft. telephone poles to the inside of the box uprights. The trailer will hold six round bales.

"It's a very simple, cheap way to haul bales and it took only a half day to build," says Granstrom. "We stack bales end to end and can load them two at a time with our front-end loader which really works fast. We can pull a loaded trailer at 35 to 40 mph and an empty trailer at 55 mph. Normally we push straw bales off by

hand, but to unload alfalfa bales we usually need a tractor. The poles are about 30 in. apart. It's somewhat clumsy to pull, but it's light enough that if necessary we can lift the trailer by hand or with a front-end loader in order to turn in tight places. Used telephone poles are widely available from power companies for 30 to 40 cents per foot.

"There are 8 or 10 of these types of trailers built by other farmers in our area. One neighbor mounted telephone poles on an old anhydrous ammonia running gear equipped with coil springs. It probably works even better than our trailer because it's spring-loaded and equipped with flotation tires."

Granstrom drilled holes through each



Rope-Controlled Chutes For Vaccinating Sows Outside

"My rope-controlled chutes work great for vaccinating sows and gilts that are kept outside," says Carl Haese, Hastings, Minn., who built five chutes in a row along the end of a farrowing barn.

Sows and gilts are moved from an adjacent outdoor holding pen into the chutes about 10 days before they're due to farrow. The chutes are positioned on a raised concrete runway with a steel fence along the open side made out of 1-in. dia. pipe and channel iron. Each chute has a plywood gate that rides inside an angle iron frame. The gate is opened or closed by a rope that runs through a pulley at the top

of the frame. All of the ropes are secured at one central location so Haese can open or close more than one gate at a time.

"It works much better than trying to vaccinate sows in a holding pen because it keeps the sows still," says Haese. "It also doesn't stress them as much because it eliminates crowding and keeps sows from jumping on top of each other which can cause abortion or injury. After the sows are vaccinated they go into farrowing crates inside the barn."

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Push Sprayer Great For Lawn, Garden Work

"I've used my push sprayer since 1982 on my own place and to do commercial work on industrial sites, golf courses, and private lawns. Works great for both big and small jobs," says Gene Cafourck, Stewartville, Minn., about his push-type walk behind sprayer with a 6 1/2 ft. boom.

"It's great for getting into tight areas that would be hard to reach with a trailing sprayer behind a garden tractor or ATV. When working around shrubs, trees, gardens or flower beds, being able to push the sprayer helps control spray drift.

"Power is provided by a deep cycle battery that drives a demand pump, which has a much more even spray pattern than a squeeze pump. It uses motorcycle wheels for ease of pushing and boom height is adjustable. A toggle switch turns in on and off, it has a 15-gal. poly tank, adjustable pressure, and a hand gun."

Cafourek also built a pull-type sprayer to pull behind a garden tractor with some unique features including a speed monitor that makes correct application of fertilizer easy, breakaway booms, and a hand gun with 80-ft, of hose.



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pole and used redi bolts to fasten them to the uprights. He used a length of channel iron to lengthen the wagon tongue.

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