Wheel Rim Seed Box Filler

Old dual tractor wheel rims work great for making seed box fillers, says Leon Hopp, Lafayette, Minn., who modified a 20.8 by 38-in. dia. wheel rim and mounted it on his front-end loader in order to fill the seed boxes on his IH Cyclo planter.

The wheel rim holds about 8 bu. of beans. Hopp fills it by lowering it under the chute on his gravity wagon and empties it out through a slide gate mounted on the underside of the wheel.

"It makes it much easier to load soybean seed into our planter's two 11-bu. hoppers," says Hopp, who along with brother Gary plants about 350 acres of soybeans each year.

At first Hopp tried pouring beans out through the wheel rim's existing axle hole, but found it was so big that seed dropped through too fast. To solve the problem he welded a 12-in. dia. flat disc over the hole on the bottom side of the wheel rim so that seed flows through the disc's small spindle hole. He then mounted a 6 by 12-in. slide gate on the disc to control seed flow. On the top side of the wheel, he inserted a sheet metal cone inside the rim that funnels seed into the hole.

The wheel rim swings freely on a 1-in. dia. shaft mounted on an angle iron frame that attaches to the front-end loader. "We simply rock the wheel rim back and forth



Hopp welded a disc blade to the bottom of wheel and fitted it with a slide gate.



Rim swings freely on rod across end of loader arms. Inverted metal cone (hog feeder cover) goes inside rim.

to empty it out," says Hopp.

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Wheeled Boom Lifts Hefty Loads

Richard Hinds, Springfield, Ill., gets more lift power by mounting his tractor boom on a wheeled axle. It's also a lot safer when lifting a heavy load.

Much of the time, when lifting a moderate size load, he doesn't even use the wheels - just the 3-pt. to which the lift boom attaches. However, when lifting bigger loads, the wheels provide extra support to prevent rear overloads. Still, the front of the tractor will still come off the ground when carrying a particularly big load.

The axle was salvaged from the front end of an old GMC truck. It's rigged for hydraulic steering which is controlled by tractor hydraulics. The boom telescopes for added reach. It had enough length to setroof trusses on a building Hind erected recently.

One advantage of putting the boom on wheels is that it can be towed down the road like a trailer so it can be hauled from farm to farm by a pickup. If a pickup was outfitted with hydraulics, it could be used to operate the boom.

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Pressure Washer

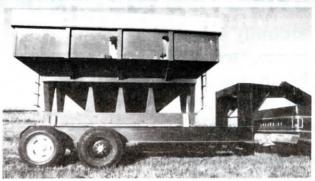
Roger Fisher, Spirit Lake, Iowa, made this pressure washer from an old rollertype sprayer pump that's belt-driven by a 5 hp Briggs & Stratton engine.

"It works great for all types of washing jobs around the farm," says Fisher, who notes that the pump develops about 250 lbs. of pressure.

The pump mounts on an angle iron frame attached to a small rolling platform fitted with two lawn mower wheels. The engine slides back and forth to tighten the belt. A hose on one side of the pump draws water from a spray tank or pond



while a garden hose on the output side of the pump is equipped with a pressure wand. The end of the pressure wand is fitted with a grease zerk with the ball removed.



Gooseneck Grain Hauler

Zearing, Iowa, farmer Jerry Britten built a gooseneck trailer to pull behind his pickup that has an interchangeable gravity box and flatbed trailer bed.

The gooseneck, which he built out of heavy I-beam, channel iron and heavy-walled steel tubing, lets him haul grain home fast from distant fields using his pickup. The tandem axle easily handles the 350 bu, gravity box.

He lifts the box onto the trailer frame with a large end-loader tractor. Four channel-iron brackets secure the box to the trailer frame. When harvest is over, he removes the wagon and installs a flatbed for hauling hog equipment and machinery.

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Hydraulic Lift For Baler Pickup

"In soft ground it lets me raise the pickup enough to keep teeth from digging in and it's also handy along roadsides to keep the pickup up out of the gravel," says Louis Dahlheimer, Dayton, Minn., who mounted a hydraulic lift cylinder on his New Holland 273 baler's pickup.

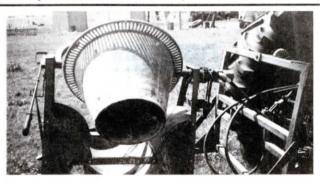
The 2 by 8-in. cylinder installs at one end of the baler, attached to an angle iron bracket that's bolted to the side of the baler housing. The lower end of the cylinder attaches to the lift bracket on the pickup that would normally be adjusted manually.

"Now the only time I have to get off the tractor is to dump the hay basket that I pull behind the baler," says Dahlheimer, who's used the idea for the past year. "In normal operation, I run it with the hydraulic valve in the float position. But whenever needed,



I can quickly raise the pickup up out of the ground."

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3-Pt. Hydraulic Cement Mixer

"I bought a cement mixer at a farm sale for \$65. As I expected, the 1/2 hp. electric motor was burnt out so I decided to find a new way to power it since the tub and frame were in good shape," says Gary Raschke, Chillicothe, Texas.

"The big drive pulley on the pinion shaft was bent so I took it off and used a pair of sprockets along with a double roller chain to build a coupler so that I could use a hydraulic motor to drive it.

"I took the motor off the auger on my grain cart and I can now use it on either the cart or the mixer. I made a bracket to hold the motor in place - the double roller chain ties the two shafts together.

"The mixer is carried by a 3-pt. round bale carrier which I found at another sale for \$25. The mixer dumps to the side of the tractor. I made a chute out of a 30-gal. barrel cut in half which lets me run concrete out past the side of the tractor. This lets me pour concrete into a row of postholes without using a wheelbarrow.

"I particularly like the fact that there's no pto shaft involved. Makes it less noisy and safer."

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