



“Car Tire” ATV Tow Hitch

One day last winter Larry Ulsaker, Medora, N. Dak., needed a quick way to tow his ATV behind his tractor so he rigged up a “car tire” tow hitch for temporary use until he could make something better. However, his “temporary” ATV tow hitch worked so well he’s still using it.

Ulsaker punched two small holes about 13 in. apart on each side of the 15-in. radial and ran wire through each hole to attach the tire to the front of the ATV. He punched a bigger hole all the way through the opposite side of the tire to accept the tractor’s drawbar pin, and he also made slits in the tread on the front side of the tire to allow it to slide forward onto the drawbar. When he’s not using the tow hitch he lifts the tire up at an angle and uses a rubber cord to hold it in place.

“Our land is rough and hilly so the tire provides a cushion to prevent danger to the ATV,” says Ulsaker. “The only problem is that at night when the tire isn’t being used it interferes with the ATV’s headlights. I



spaced the holes for the wires about 13 in. apart, but 16 to 24 in. might work better to get more leverage.”

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Remote Switches Make It Easy To Test Spray Nozzles

After years of running back and forth between his tractor and spray boom to test spray nozzles, Denis Netzley, St. Louis, Mich., decided to install remote toggle switches that let him activate the spray nozzles right from the boom.

“The idea reduces waste and exposure of chemicals to the environment,” says Netzley. “It worked so well I also installed remote switches on my planter for spray band nozzles and on my row crop cultivator.”

He wired a positive wire from the tractor battery to the toggle switch and another wire from the switch back to the positive terminal on the solenoid valve at the nozzle. He also installed a plug-in connector be-

tween the tractor and planter for hooking up the wire.

“I needed only one switch for my 8-row planter. A 12-row planter would probably need two switches,” says Netzley. “I mounted the switch under a planter seed box so that it can’t be bumped accidentally. I mounted three remote switches on my sprayer boom, one for each section. I used a 4-prong snowmobile trailer connector on the sprayer. The planter required only two wires so I was able to use a 2-prong plug on it.”

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Gravel Road “De-Rusts” Metal Rods

By Alice & Robert Tupper

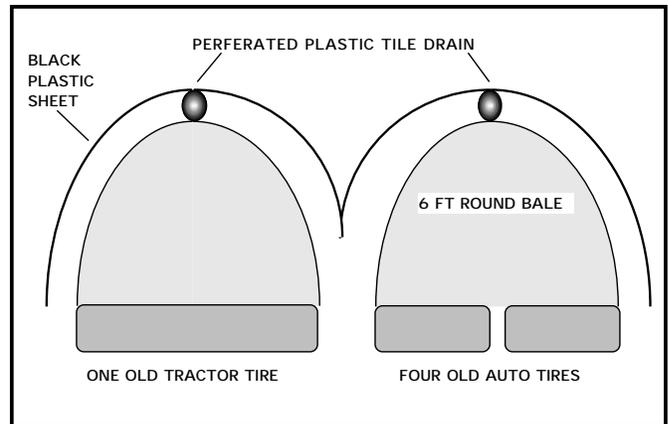
While cruising a rural South Dakota road we spotted a farmer who had discovered a nifty way to scrub rust off a batch of sucker rod from oil well pumps.

Used sucker rod is handy for many jobs around the farm and it can be bought cheap in many areas. The problem is that it’s usually badly rusted.

Members of the Bon Homme Colony near Tabor, S. Dak., discovered a simple way to get rid of the rust - they drag the rods behind a tractor on gravel roads.

The rods are attached to a length of angle iron that fastens onto the lower lift arms of the tractor’s 3-pt. hitch. The angle iron has 2-in. deep notches cut into its top side for the rods to fit into. The angle iron is lowered to within a few inches of the road. It takes about two miles of travel to rub off all the rust. Then the rods are reversed to clean the other half.

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New Way To Protect Round Bales

“I’ve discovered a way to protect round bales stored outside that works much better than any other method I’ve seen,” says Dwight Michener, Waynesville, Ohio.

“I set the bales on rows of tractor, truck or car tires lying flat on the ground. Then I cover the bales with sheets of black plastic. I then use a length of perforated drainage tile on top of the bales. When you cover bales with plastic, moisture is drawn up under the plastic. The drain tile removes it.

“I tie the plastic covers down with old baling wire. This works much better than the commercial tie-downs sold with commercial bale covers.

“The quality of hay stored this way is much higher. There’s almost no spoilage.”

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