Made It Myself

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Giant 1,600-Gal. Sprayer Rides On Combine Wheels

"It has more capacity than any conventional farm sprayer on the market and is equipped with a rear 3-pt, hitch and drawbar that lets me mount a spray boom for crop spraying or pull a disk to incorporate herbicides," says Robert Fetherston, Atkinson, Neb., about his 1,600-gal. sprayer equipped with 30.5 by 32 rear combine tires and a 40-ft. boom.

Fetherson used 3 by 7 in. rectangular tubing to build the frame and tongue. The front of the sprayer is equipped with a spring-loaded drive wheel that can be hydraulically raised on-the-go, and the rear is equipped with a 16-in, hydraulic lift cylinder for the 3-pt. mounted spray boom. To incorporate chemicals, Fetherston removes the boom and sprays through nozzles mounted on a disk.

"I used it last year on 5,000 acres with no problems," says Fetherson. "I built it because I wanted more capacity than commercial farm sprayers offered. The biggest sprayer I could find had only a 750 gal. tank. Spraying at 20 gpa I can cover 80 acres without refilling and even more if the tractor has saddle tanks. I've covered 130 acres in 2 1/2 hours. I use the disk to incorporate Atrazine early in the spring. I use a 165 hp Deere 4650 tractor equipped with mechanical front wheel

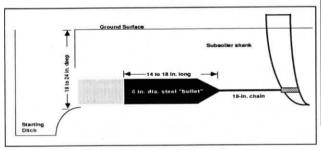
drive to pull the spray tank and a 24-ft. disk, or I use a 270 hp Deere 8650 4-WD tractor equipped with 1,000-gal, saddle tanks to pull the spray tank and a 32-ft. disk. I quick couple the disk's hydraulic hoses to the boom lift cylinder. Boom can be hydraulically raised and lowered 20 to 36 in. off the ground for accurate spraying on uneven terrain, and each of the 14-ft. wings can be raised independently.

"The combine tires provide good flotation and reduced soil compaction. By replacing them with smaller 20.8 by 38 tires I can use the sprayer in 30-in. rows.

"I can hydraulically raise the drive wheel off the ground when I turn at the end of the field to keep the wheel from dragging. When I lower the drive wheel back to the ground a single-acting cylinder under the frame, equipped with a big spring, provides down pressure."

Fetherston used a length of H-beam to make the cart's axle, welding 2-ft. long stub spindles made by a local machine shop onto either end. The ground-driven pump, boom, tank, and drive wheel are all made by Demco. The sprayer folds hydraulically to a 12-ft. transport width.

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Drainage "Bullet" Eliminates Tiling

"We've used this idea for years. Works great, especially in heavy, marshy soil," says Larry Tendler about his idea of using drainage "bullets" pulled behind subsoil shanks to create underground tunnels to carry away subsoil moisture.

Tendler, of Wauwatosa, Wis., is a retired farmer who worked for years on an experimental farm owned by Allis Chalmers. The use of steel drainage bullets was one of the more interesting ideas they developed.

The bullet is a solid 6-in. dia. chunk steel with a hook inbedded in it's pointed nose cone. The bullets, which are generally 14 to 18 in. long, connect by chain to the bottom of a subsoil shank.

"You pull them at 2 to 4-ft. intervals

Wind-Proof Chimney Cap For 34-Ft. High Stack

When the wind blows, smoke doesn't pour back down into Vince Koebensky's wood stove the way it used to before he came up with a "wind proof" chimney cap to fit his 34-ft. high stack.

This building has a 34-ft, high roof peak. A conventional chimney just won't work that high up. I can't relocate the stove elsewhere so I had to come up with a solution," says Koebensky, who runs a fabricating and machine shop called "Hot Iron" near Buffalo, Minn.

He used a heavy 14-ga, 8-in, dia, steel pipe for the stack with 10 ft. sticking up above the roof. "I used heavy tubing because lighter weight chimney pipes wouldn't last as long and would have required guide wires while this tubing stands on its own."

An 8-in. to 6-in. reducer goes on top of the pipe. A 6-in. cross pipe is fitted with two short 6-in. vertical pipes that are open on either end. The vertical pipes are tilted slightly inward toward each other to create a great than 90° bend, making it more difficult for wind to find its way down the stack. A 6-in, to 4-in, reducer mounts on top each short pipe, topped by 4-in. chim-

"It's truly strange to see smoke coming out the bottom of the "T's" but it works.



No more smoke in the shop," says Koe-

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Road Grader Converted For On-Farm Use

When Arkansas farmer Dennis Dixon has grading to do around the farm, he doesn't just put a little blade on the back of his tractor. He pulls out his converted road grader and does the job in a big-time way.

'We use it to build or maintain farm roads, airstrips and ditches. It'll do an amazing amount of work, depending on what size tractor you use to pull it," says Dixon, who got the idea for building the king-size grader from a neighbor who built a similar rig several years ago.

"It was originally an Arkansas Highway Department road grader. I bought it for \$600 from a salvage equipment dealer. The engine was beyond repair so I stripped

the machine of the engine, front steering wheels, axle, cab, hydraulic controls and all other excess weight. All junked parts were sold as scrap for \$150 to recover a portion of our initial cost.

"I then put a hitch on the front of the grader frame and ran hydraulic hoses from the original lift cylinders and the hydraulic motor on the turntable to three outlets on my tractor. That lets me control the lift and angle of the blade from the tractor seat. Works great."

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through the field, depending on how much drainage is needed, at a depth of 18 to 24 in. The tunnels will hold up for 3 to 5 years, depending on the soil," says Tendler, noting that he's tried the idea in a variety of soils. "It works well even in loose, sandy soils."

To get the bullet started, you either dig a ditch or start on a bank of some kind, following the soil contour so water will drain. "We used the idea for years on wet, marshy soil and it did a wonderful job. We thought it did the job of drainage tile for just a fraction of the cost," says Tendler. They tried different types of bullets,

including heavy wall pipe, but found that no matter how heavy, pipe would collapse and that the heavy weight of the solid steel bullet was needed to keep it down in the ground.

Tendler says it generally takes 30 to 40 hp per shank to pull the drainage bullets.

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