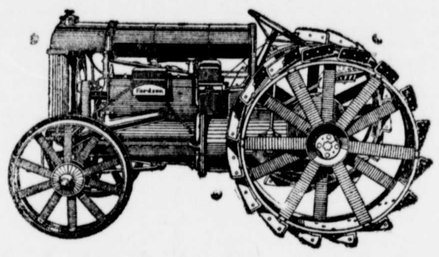
FORDSON TRACTOR

Startling and Interesting Facts Showing How the Fordson Tractor MORE THAN PAID FOR ITSELF IN ONE SEASON.



"FORDSON TRACTOR PAYS FOR ITSELF"

BY W. S. HOOVER, FAIRLEE, MD.

Reprint from "Pennsylvania Farmer," August 7th, 1920.

I own a farm of 210 acres in Kent County, Md., which is level and free from stone. In the summer of 1918 I found myself using twelve head of mules in the operation of this farm. I had never owned or operated a tractor before, and on or about September 1st I purchased a Fordson with plows, paying $1025. I seeded 100 acres of wheat the same fall, doing all the work with the Fordson tractor.

I had no expense at all for repairs in 1918. I used $24 worth of oil and kerosene on the above work (not the price of one ton of hay).

I also sold mules enough that fall to pay for the tractor and I only keep four mules on the farm, also dispensing with two teamsters that cost me $6 a day (and lots of worry). Where I had been in the habit of keeping 500 bushels of corn to feed the above-mentioned mules I sold down to 100 bushels, which I found to be sufficient, as I do not keep cows but grow grain for market. I also sold $200 worth of hay that the mules would have eaten.

The tractor was idle during the winter months except sawing wood for farm use and was housed away and required no attention all winter, but had eight less mules to attend to twice a day all winter.

In the spring my neighbors were out early with their mules plowing their ground for corn, while it was wet and cold. I let my tractor alone until May 1st (neighbors' corn was planted and up). The second week in May took my Fordson and plowed my 30-acre field for corn in five days, worked the ground ready for the planter, using two mules to planter. The soil was warm and in fine condition; all came up, no replanting, and went ahead of any corn in the neighborhood and cribbed 70 bushels to the acre. I also want to point to the fact that it is impossible to plow land with horses like you can plow it with a Fordson.

How did I harvest? I took my seven-foot cut binder, sawed the tongue off, had the blacksmith make me a hitch and hooked up to the tractor. My wife put on a pair of overalls and rode the binder and I drove the Fordson and we cut 35 acres a day and could have cut more if I had had shockers enough. Where were my four mules while I was cutting wheat? In the corn field cultivating corn. The weather never gets too hot for the tractor to pull the binder, which is often the case with the horses,

My total expense for repairs for 1919 was $4.40 and I have sold enough hay this fall to keep my tractor in kerosene and oil for several years to come (which otherwise would have been consumed by the mules). My tractor today shows no wear and has as much power and "pep" as the first day I used it, and I think I am safe in saying that I have saved $1000 a year in labor hire, $500 or more in increased production (on account of better tillage) and feed sold that would have been consumed $600 or more. I admit my farm is ideal for tractor work, as the fields are square and level, with no obstructions in them. How long will the tractor last? I can't see why it should not last eight or ten years, or longer. It does not owe me anything now, as I would be ahead of the game if I had to buy one every year.

The proof of the pudding is the eating thereof. Mr. Hoover has shown what can be done by using the Fordson. Why not be progressive? Investigate for yourself. We will prove these facts to your satisfaction. Let us demonstrate.

C. A. GOODWIN

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