

GASOLINE TRACTION ENGINES

A DEPARTMENT FOR THE USER

We want every owner of a gas tractor in Western Canada to give us his experience. The owners of gas tractors to-day are in a sense pioneers. They are working out the data and compiling a record of work done that both manufacturer and farmer alike the world over are watching with intense interest. Don't keep what you know under your hat, but let us have a story of your gas tractor work. We will reward every such story with a copy of "Plain Gas Engine Sense," one of the best handbooks we know of on the gasoline engine. Don't neglect this matter but let us have your experience at once.—(Editor.)

Averaged 12 Acres per Day.

You request us to give you our experience with a traction plowing outfit. Our experience along that line has been very limited, so what we can say will probably be of not much value to you.

We purchased a 22 horse power Hart-Parr gasoline engine last spring to break with on our land at Warner, Alta. We were late in getting our engine, so the best of the season was over before we got started. However, we broke 600 acres, a considerable part of it after everyone else had quit on account of dry weather.

We didn't put in any long days, but averaged 12 acres a day, and pulled a packer behind the plows. We pulled six 14-inch plows and broke from three to four inches deep.

It cost us about 95c. an acre for gasoline, also oil, including lubricating oil. We burned oil mostly. We paid 20¢ a gallon for gasoline, and 21¢ a gallon for kerosene. I think we used about 1½ bbls. of water per day with the engine.

We think it cost a trifle less than \$2.00 per acre to do our breaking. This included the engineer and plowman and the wear and tear and sharpening of the lays. In fact everything, except the wear and tear to the engine.

We used the Cockshutt plow, and found it all right, though our ground was quite stony.

We only threshed a few days, but found our engine would do the business all right. In fact we ran a 44-64 separator part of the time. This, of course, was too large for the engine.

We have purchased a 36-56 Red River Special, which we think will be the proper thing for our engine, and we expect to do some business next fall, as we will have upwards of 1500 acres of wheat of our own.

We haven't used our engine for discing and drilling yet, but expect to this season. Our engine is rated at 22 horse power, but we consider that it will do the work of 28 horses.

The team work in connection with plowing with the engine didn't require an hour a day, as we were handy to town and to water.

Trusting that this is the information that you wish, we remain,

Yours truly,
Johnson Bros.,
Warner, Alta.

Did a Large Amount of Work.

We have a Flour City 30 horse power gasoline tractor and a 6 bottom Cockshutt plow. It takes two men to handle the engine and plows, and a team occasionally to haul a tank of water and gasoline. The engine requires about 2 barrels per day for cooling, and from 2 to 2½ gallons of gasoline per acre for breaking.

We pulled five 14-inch bottoms and an eight foot roller all season, having done about 500 acres of breaking. The estimated cost for fuel and lubrication, breakage, etc., was about \$1.00 per acre.

bar, made by splicing two 16 foot 2 x 8 with an 18 foot piece, placing one disc on each end and one in centre, then running a bar back from the draw bar far enough to clear the other two. In making a hitch in this way we can turn as short as the engine can and not get them tangled up.

We disced over 1800 acres last fall. After filling up the oil and water it was only necessary to have one man on the outfit. Considering the year, which was very dry, am well satisfied with the amount and quality of work we did.

Yours respectfully,
B. H. Steele,
Langdon, Alta.

Power Farming the Only Way.

I cannot say much about plowing, as I just got my engine last

Two Men Run the Outfit.

I have a Hart-Parr traction engine, which the company guarantees to be a 22 horse power machine at traction work and 45 in the belt.

I began using it about July 15 last season, and for the next 20 days I broke on an average of 15 acres of rough scrub land using a John Deere eight furrow gang, with only six plows attached.

Two of us were all that were required to run the outfit, one man to steer the engine, the other to handle the levers on the plow. No horses required.

We had no trouble excepting in some soft places in the field where the engine had poor footing. Where the ground was solid enough to be suitable for plowing we always went along pretty steady, and never lacked power.

In the fall plowing we averaged 25 acres per day, using the eight 14-inch bottoms and a big lever harrow to follow the plows. Our fuel cost us about \$8.50 to \$9.00 per ten hour day.

I may say that in the breaking operations, where we used six plows we developed an average of 24 horse power. At least we always have to use four horses on a 14-inch breaker in this district, and as above stated, we always

pulled the six 14-inch breaking plows in the scrub land.

The fuel used was mostly the 11c. kerosene, which cost us about 15c. laid down here. A gallon or two of gasoline is used every day in starting the engine and running until it is warm enough to work satisfactory on kerosene.

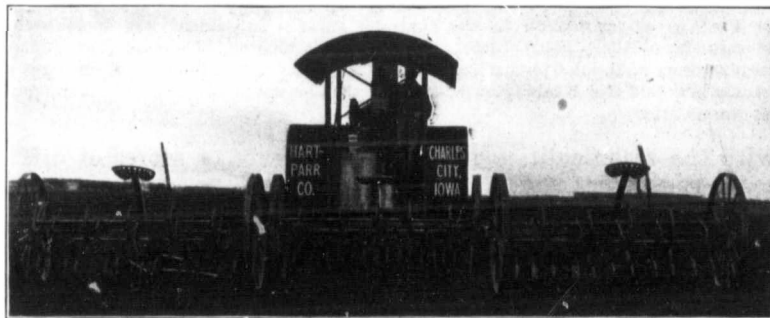
In threshing, we used a 32-56 Nichols and Shepard separator, and the first 16 days of threshing we ran out over 48,000 bushels of oats. Our largest run was 4650 bushels of oats in one day.

Yours sincerely,
R. E. Drennan,
Canora, Sask.

A Lot to Learn.

Last spring I purchased an International gasoline tractor, 20 horse power, and a set of six John Deere engine gang plows.

On May 19th we commenced work. We used four of these plows to break, the plows being 14-inch. We aimed to make 20



A Hart-Parr 15-30, Doing a Tillage stunt near Portage la Prairie.

Of course this does not include help and cost of getting gasoline and water to field.

We seeded 1000 acres to grain in the spring, using three twenty-disc drills. In hitching these drills we used a 20 foot draw bar, bolted to rear of engine and anchored from each end to head end of engine the two outside drills. We made steel tongues, bolting a two by eight across, making an even, and hitching them on each end of draw bar.

The centre drill. We made a single tongue for it in centre of drill, and hitched it back about 14 feet from draw bar, allowing it to lap the proper distance over the other two drills. So there were no skips in the drilling. I also put a marker out to mark the next round. Drills hitched in this manner will turn very well without interfering with each other.

In discing we used 5-16-16 discs with tongue trucks. These we hitched on a 32 foot draw

fall. After threshing I did some plowing with it.

The experience I have had is certainly not much, but I can say that I do believe the only way to farm is by using steam or gasoline power.

I have a Universal gas engine, and pull nine disc plows, plowing from six to eight inches deep. I plowed from 12 to 15 acres per day at a cost of 33c. for gasoline. I did not have any help whatever, but did most of the work myself. My plows are the P. and O. make.

Plowing is harder on the engine than threshing. I have not kept a record of the cost per acre.

I have not had any experience with hitches, but in the spring am going to try a long axel with a wheel on each end, and a short tongue to couple to engine wheels to be about three feet high.

Yours truly,
J. S. Ulfers,
Beach, N. D.