

Antique equipment a popular attraction

By **GEOFF PARKS**
For the Capital Press

The annual Antique Farm Equipment Display is feeling the squeeze of success at the Willamette Valley Ag Expo.

As the Expo continues to grow, space for the antique display is at a premium.

Expo Manager Scott Ingalls was forced to reconfigure the antique show this year.

“The front (of the Cascade Livestock Pavilion) is completely full, sold out to the rafters,” he said.

He said this year the farm equipment display will occupy the middle of the building and extend to the south.

The display typically offers nearly 100 pieces of equipment.

This year’s display harkens back to earlier shows, in which the diversity of the collections is allowed to shine.

Some of the machines this year represent a part of Jack Muirhede’s collection of Farmall equipment.

This year, he said, he is bringing a 1954 Super W



Geoff Parks/For the Capital Press

Jack Muirhede poses with his restored 1954 Farmall Super W 6 tractor at his home near Jefferson, Ore. It will be one of about 100 antique pieces of equipment displayed at this year’s Willamette Valley Ag Expo.

6 Farmall tractor that he has owned for about eight years and into which he has

put about 800 hours of restoration work. He said he also will bring a Farmall A

and two Farmall H tractors to the Expo.

To illustrate just how

much time, energy and creativity members of the Antique Farm Equip-

ment Display put into the restoration efforts necessary to bring the vehicles back to life, Muirhede describes the metamorphosis of his Farmall Super W 6 tractor.

“My son (Jack Muirhede III) found it in an apple orchard with a tree growing up through it and full of bullet holes,” Muirhede said. He patched the holes with body filler, then “welded and pounded on them” to make them disappear. He left one open and painted over it just to show the tractor’s history.

He “freed up” the frozen engine, overhauled it in the frame, and reconditioned the exterior, repainting it in Farmall red in his custom-built home paint shop, making it show-ready.

He will join nearly 100 other such renaissance men and women all three days of the Antique Farm Equipment Display at the Expo — Nov. 17, 18 and 19 — in the Cascade Livestock Pavilion at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center in Albany.

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