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AUTOMOBILE TRACTORIZATION HIGHLIGHTS

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An important part of the Eastern and Southern European workforce is employed in the agricultural sector [1].

	% of Population	Tractors / 1000 ha		
Country	2000-2009	1995	2000	2005
Bosnia-Herzegovina	19.9%	34.1	*	*
Bulgaria	6.7%	9.6	9.8	11.4
Croatia	14.7%	31.5	27.3	*
Hungary	4.8%	19.2	24.6	26.2
Moldova	27.1%	28.2	22.9	21.4
Poland	12.7%	92.8	93.4	118.4
Romania	29.2%	17.5	17.1	19.3
Serbia	21.5%	*	*	20.6
Turkey	23.8%	31.5	39.5	*
Ukraine	17.0%	14.1	9.8	10.9
European Union	5.2%	76.3	77.3	70.8

But farm machinery is insufficient.









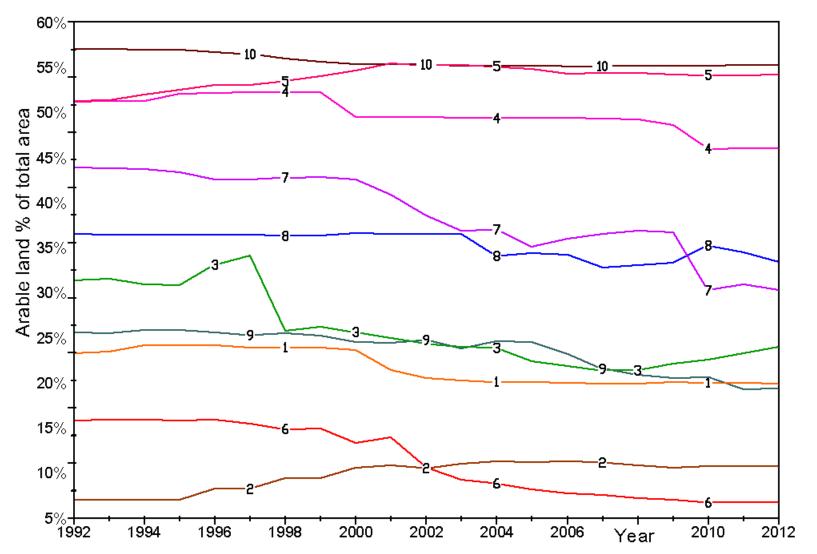








and the use of arable land is in decline.



(1) Belarus, (2) Bosnia-Herzegovina, (3) Bulgaria, (4) Hungary, (5) Moldova, (6) Macedonia, (7) Poland,

(8) Romania, (9) Turkey and (10) Ukraine.

while road accidents involving animal drawn carts is on the rise.













Countries in Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa are experiencing even more stringent problems [2][3].



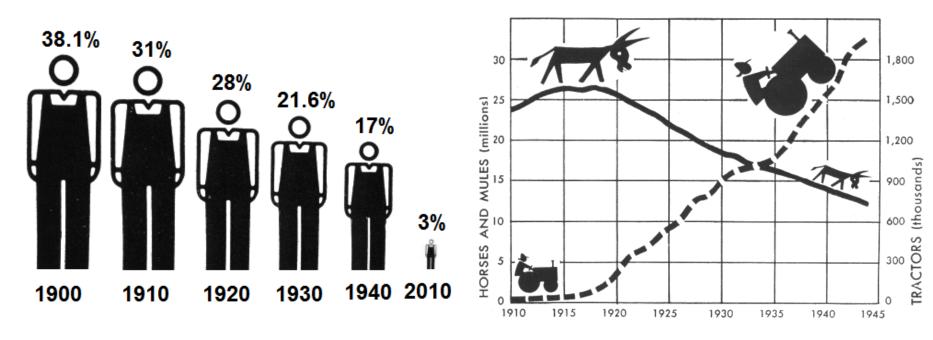








USA faced their own challenges in its past.



US agricultural labor force as percent of total labor force over the years

Horses and mules and tractors on US farms

Between 1910 and 1950, part of the farm mechanization has been done in the USA with tractorized automobiles [4], [5], [6], [7].

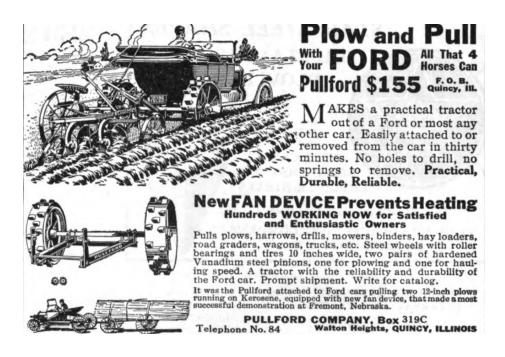


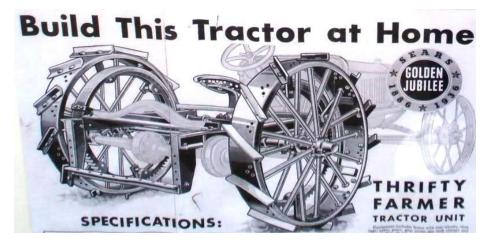






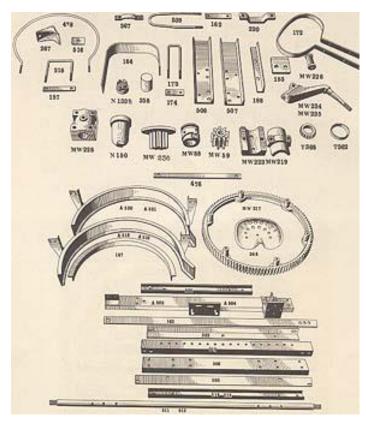
Tractorization could be done using conversion kits







sold by companies like Sears, Mongomery Ward, Shaw Mfg. or Pulford



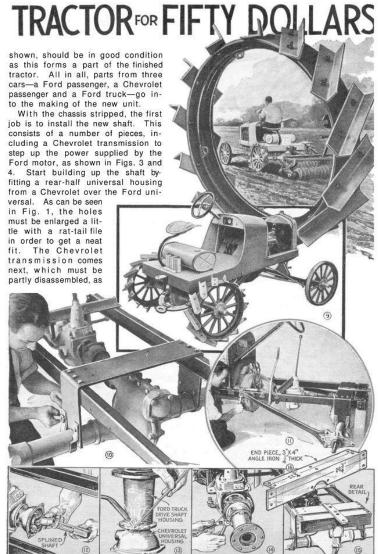






or following printed instructions in almanacs and magazines.

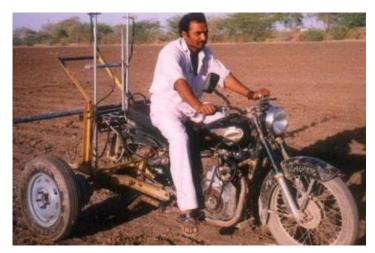




Nowadays one can occasionally see tractorized motorcycles [8], [9].









and tractorized automobiles















Some better looking than others.





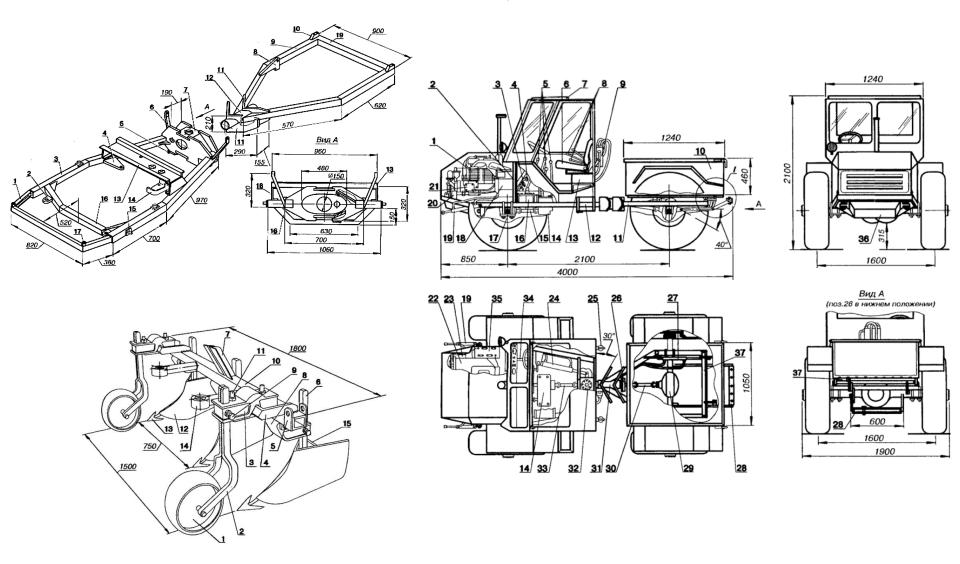


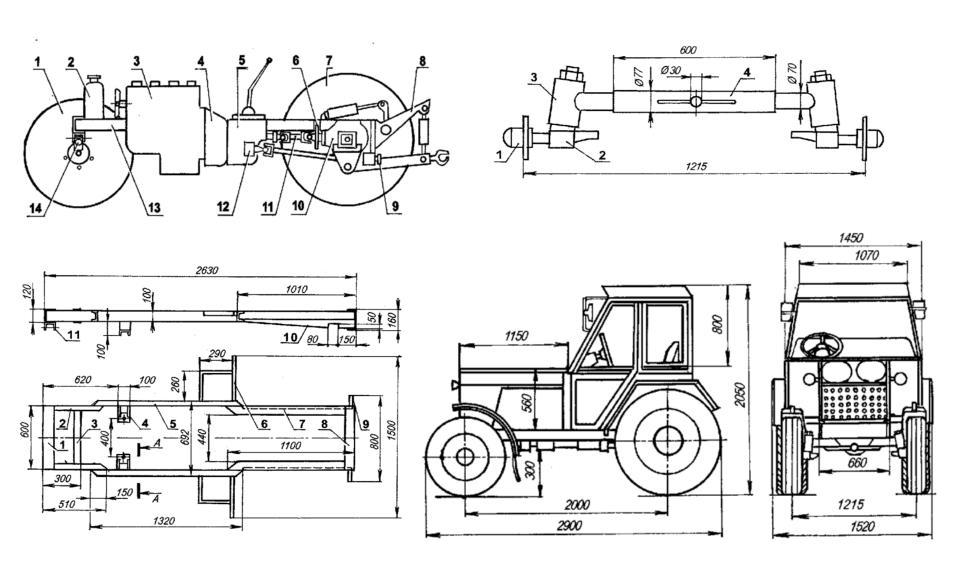


Resources exist



As well as solutions, but they need to be publicized [9].





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- [1] The World Bank http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/
- [2] Crossley, P., Chamen, T. and Kienzle, J. "Rural transport and traction enterprises for improved livelihoods", FAO Diversification Booklet nr. 10, Rural Infrastructure and Agro-Industries Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome 2009.
- [3] Donovan, G., Bingswanger, G. and Pingali, P. "Farm Mechanization Issues and Policies", Proc. of the International Conference on Small Farm Equipment for Developing Countries: Past Experiences and Future Priorities, 2-6 Sept., 1986, Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines.
- [4] Paterson, W. and M.H Paterson, "Automobile Tractor", US Patent 1269113, Filed Aug. 15, 1917.
- [5] Suddaby, H. "How to build your own farm or garden tractor" Popular Mechanics, Vol. 8, 1939.
- [6] Carlson, F. "Garden Tractor" Popular Mechanics, March 1946, p. 222-226.
- [7] Moris, W. W. "This tractor costs only \$50" Popular Science, May 1950, p. 209-212.
- [8] Google searches for: "doodlebug tractor", "DIY tractor", "EPA tractor", "homemade tractor", "samodelni traktor", "traktor domaci vyroby", "caruţa cu motor", "házi traktor"
- [9] P. A. Simionescu, Lumkes, J. H. Jr. and Austin, W. "Automobile Tractorization, American Concept Applicable to Eastern European Agriculture" International Symposium ISB-INMATEH Agricultural and Mechanical Engineering, Bucharest Romania, 29 -31 Oct. 2015, p. 389-394.

Questions?

