

# SPEEDS PLOWING

## ON MONTANA RANCH

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Up to a year ago summer operations on the 2500-acre ranch of Thomas Meech near Ferdig, Montana, meant practically a continuous round of plowing. Thanks to a 6V-71 GM Diesel engine this is no longer the case.

Mr. Meech plants only half of his land each year and while the remaining acres "rest" they are made ready for the next year's seeding. This means that around 1300 acres must be plowed four to five times during the summer months. A final plowing takes place prior to seeding in the spring and both operations must be completed as soon as possible after winter's snow and ice has melted. A Wagner TRD 9 four-wheel tractor pulling a 26-foot cultivator is used in the operation.

Last spring the final plowing and seeding operations seemed to drag over too long a period and Mr. Meech decided he needed more power under the hood of his 9,000 lb. tractor. Holeman GM Diesel, Inc., of Billings took care of the situation by repowering the unit with the 6V-71.

The 6V-71, of course, delivers considerably more power than the original engine, but it fits neatly in the same space occupied by the former four-cylinder, four cycle Diesel. After a full season's operation, Mr. Meech says he is convinced that the 6V-71 is the ideal power plant for this unit.

Today the tractor moves along smoothly at a six to eight MPH clip without downshifting or stalling on the grades. Any of Mr. Meech's ranch hands can now plow up to four more acres per hour than was formerly possible. And the spring plowing and planting operations are now completed at one pass. Moving along at approximately five MPH with both the 26-foot cultivator and a 21-foot seed drill in tow, the Wagner now completes these spring operations in less than half the time formerly required.

