

# ***N Scale Vehicle Association***

***"For the modeler and collector of 1:160 scale vehicles and equipment"***

Easy 'N' Inexpensive  
ways to enhance the  
Athearn John Deere tractors

## Steps for enhancing Athearn John Deere Models G, 50, 60, 7820 and 9620 tractors

Paint GPS dome yellow (7820 and 9620 only)

Spray whole tractor with flat finish (optional)

Thinned flat finish adds an even more faded look (optional)

Highlight other details with markers, paint pen or paint

Selective weathering with powdered Tempera paint

### Rear axles (optional)

Most John Deere tractors have a sliding hub on the rear axle

Replace rear axle with 0.025 inch diameter steel music wire using 1/16 inch aluminum tubing for new “axle housing” on 7820 and 9620 and 0.020 steel piano wire on the Models G, 50, and 60 tractors

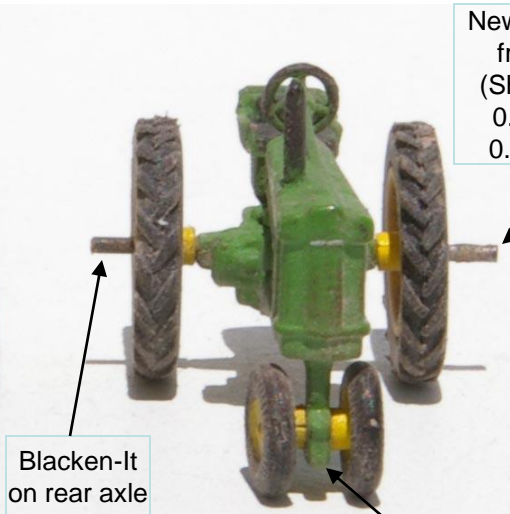
Use Blacken It on the ends of the steel axles

Dual up the 7820 with wheels from the 9620

# Athearn John Deere Model 50



Before



Blacken-It on rear axle

After

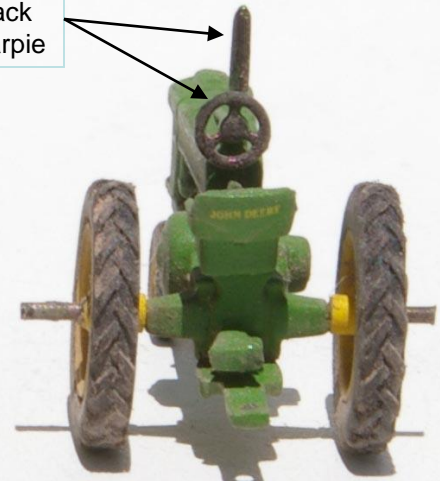
Front axle shortened

New longer rear axle from music wire (Should have used 0.020 instead of 0.025 piano wire)



Before

Black Sharpie



After

Powdered Tempera for the "dirty" appearance



Before

Dull Cote for the weathered look



After



# Athearn John Deere 9620

Yellow paint  
for GPS dome

Black  
Sharpie



Before



After



Before

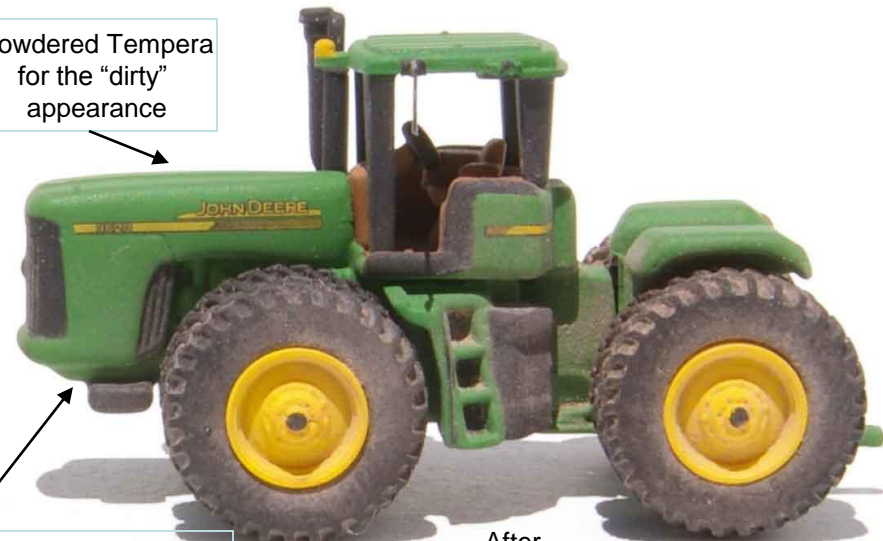


After

Powdered Tempera  
for the "dirty"  
appearance



Before



After

Dull Cote for the weathered look  
Maybe a little too much for a tractor this new

# Athearn John Deere 7820

Yellow paint for GPS dome

New longer rear axle from musci wire



Before



After



Before



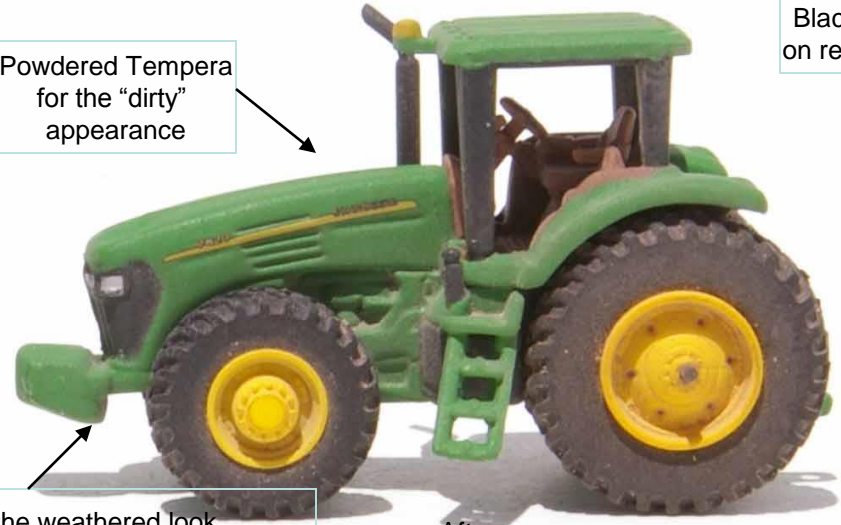
After

Blacken-It on rear axle



Before

Powdered Tempera for the "dirty" appearance



After

Dull Cote for the weathered look  
Maybe a little too much for a tractor this new



# Athearn John Deere 7820 with Duals

Yellow paint  
for GPS dome



Before



After

Dual rear tires  
from 9620



Before

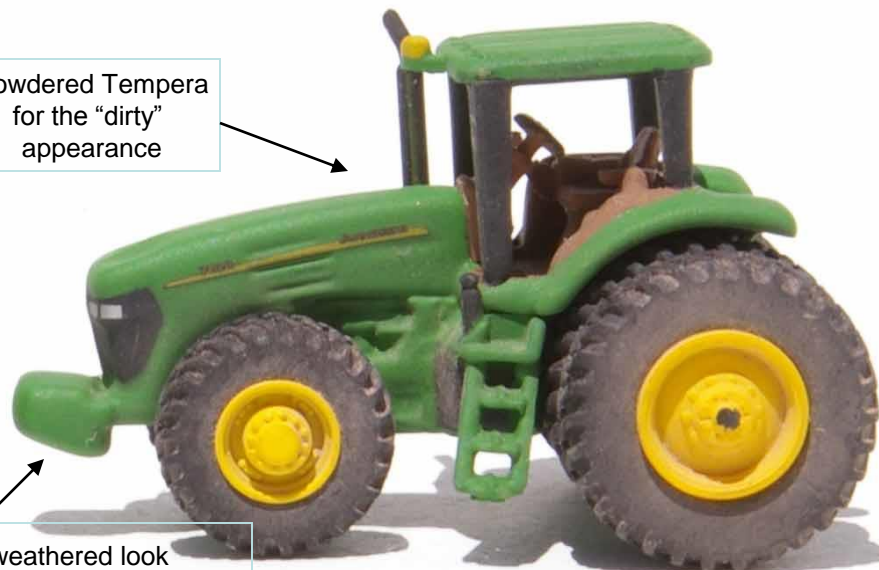


After

Powdered Tempera  
for the "dirty"  
appearance



Before



After

Dull Cote for the weathered look  
Maybe a little too much for a tractor this new

# Challenges

The etched metal mirrors on the JD 9620 can come loose and are easily lost. If you do lose any, that tractor can become a flatcar load because John Deere generally does not ship tractors by flatcar with the mirrors installed.

Some of the small parts on the Models G, 50 and 60 tractors may also come off while working on the enhancements.

While shortening the front axle is helpful, the front wheels of the prototype are angled to form a V shape when viewed from the front.

Do not apply Dull Cote after detailing with a Sharpie. The solvent in the Dull Cote readily dissolves the pigment in the Sharpie.