

The golovan cart

—a lightweight animal drawn cart for use on farms and in rural communities—



Why do you need a golovan?

It is ideal for use in rural communities as well as on farms to transport household goods, compost, harvest, building and fencing material, fertiliser or even up to 18 bales of lucerne!

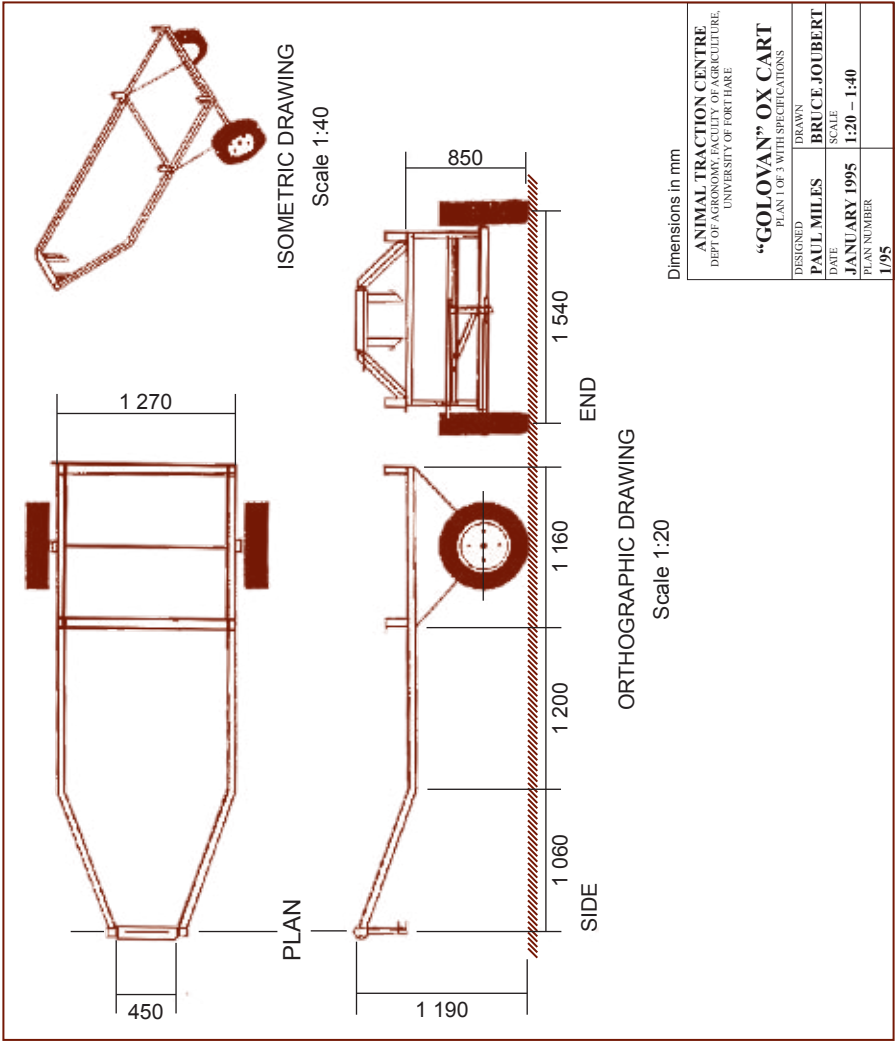
The cart can also carry two empty 210 ℓ drums side by side in the back for food or water.

When filled with water, the drums can be transported to the home and unloaded through the rear door, which opens over the top of the drums, leaving them standing upright on the ground.



agriculture

Department:
Agriculture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



A complete set of plans and specifications for the construction of the Golovan ox cart and for a smaller version using two donkeys are available.

The cart is also effective for transporting gravel for use in the maintenance of rural roads.

At present (2008), the costs of constructing the cart, workmanship and material, including VAT, are about R6 000.

Special features of the cart

- ◆ It is an all-purpose two-wheeled cart which can be pulled by oxen, horses or mules, singly between shafts or in pairs on a pole.
- ◆ The mass of the cart is about 320 kg and the payload is more than 500 kg.
- ◆ The yoke-pins are fastened to a pipe which forms the yoke. This turns on an axle between the two shafts. The swivel yoke prevents injury to the shoulders of animals and ensures that the yoke settles into the “skof” properly and that the action of the yoke on the neck is gentle.
- ◆ The cart is designed in such a way that when loaded, the mass of the load placed in the cart is directly over the axle at the back. This means that there is no excessive downward or upward force, through the shaft, to the neck of the animal(s).
- ◆ The rear door hinges at the top and opens at the bottom of the cart to the rear, allowing unloading through the base of the back without using the hands.
- ◆ Each corner of the cart has a slot where a seat can be fitted to accommodate two passengers sitting over the rear axle and above the load.
- ◆ Upright supports can also be fitted in the slots to enable the transporting of low-density loads such as lucerne bales.
- ◆ No brakes are built in. Braking is by means of breeching while control is by a halter and reins.
- ◆ Animals can be trained to be guided by one person using voice and reins, thereby doing away with the need for a leader.

A set of working drawings with a list of materials as well as specifications for the construction of the Golovan ox cart can be obtained from:

Animal Traction Centre, Faculty of Science and Agriculture
University of Fort Hare, Private Bag X1314, Alice 5700.

Tel: 040 602 2125 • Fax: 040 602 2488

Adapted from "The Golovan one-ox cart", in *Land*, June 1997

2008 Revised
1997 First print

Compiled by
Directorate Agricultural Information Services
Department of Agriculture

Printed and published by
Department of Agriculture

Obtainable from
Resource Centre
Directorate Agricultural Information Services
Private Bag X144, Pretoria, 0001 South Africa

and on the web: www.nda.agric.za/publications