

# Vo-Ag Tractor Rehab

Jay Craven's Small Engine Repair class has finished the rehab of an old 1950s Ford tractor, as evidenced by the before and after shots of the tractor. An uncle of Tyler Johnson (BSSHS 2011 graduate) donated the tractor and Tyler headed up the project. The transformation of the tractor began in the winter of 2011, but was put on the back burner when students in Craven's class qualified for the State Agriculture Mechanics Career Development Event. Total work hours for the students equaled three solid months of class shop time at 1-2 hours a day. This 1950s tractor had a unique transmission called a "Select-O Speed." The cable-driven transmission would be similar to pairing an automatic with a hydrostatic transmission and the electrical wiring was a combination of 6-volt and 12-volt systems. The hybrid wiring system had no diagrams available, so Tyler's grandpa, Al Fogle, was called in to consult and help the students sort out the system. The tractor was a conglomeration of parts and paint schemes from Ford tractors dating between 1953 and 1957. Students worked for a week to raise the hand-stamped serial number to enable them to track down what the original tractor would have looked like off the assembly line. The final paint job reflects that. Tyler remained involved throughout the rehab, even after graduation, and is now pursuing a career as a shop/mechanics teacher at UCM. The tractor has returned to its home, newly transformed, and is currently doing light farm work.