



Clockwise, from left Eder makes last-minute checks before firing the engines. /// Barney Palmer has been on Eder's crew since the beginning. /// A new MF8727 climbs a pile of Eder's mulch, a "top-secret" formula produced on the farm with bark from a sawmill his parents once owned. /// Little Joe makes an appearance.



Mike Bookmiller (left) and Eder

throttled, but the sled was too light. "I could feel the tractor coming out of the dirt. The driver on the sled, he has brakes, and I'm starting to lift off the throttle—we have to work together to land this thing," he says, to avoid a disaster like a runaway sled.

After a long break in the action while a new sled was put into action, Eder hitched again and pulled it more than 241 feet—enough to qualify for the finals on Saturday night.

BACK ON THE FARM in North Collins, not long after Louisville, the GEICO 75th is back in the shop. Climbing into a new Massey Ferguson® 8727 to push bark into a custom mulch-processing facility—much of which he designed and built himself—Eder is already looking forward to the pulling season.

"I love going out in front of 10,000 people and when everything's right—making a great pass, standing up and saluting the crowd," he says, adding that he's grateful for the sponsors and fans that make the whole thing possible.

"We got a third place at Louisville—very happy," he says, but he already has designs on selling GEICO 75th. "As competitive as this tractor is right now, I don't want to run against it. I'll sell it overseas."

He'll build a new chassis, bring in his engine expert, Glen Veney—"he's the guy that's always on top" of the latest technology, Eder says. "We got ideas for a new one already. You can't sit still."

Run what you brung, as they say. Hope you brung enough. **FL**

Visit myFarmLife.com/fullpull for much more, including video of Eder's pull in Louisville, a tour of his shop, and an interview with pull announcer and veteran AGCO Parts Manager Dave Bennett.

FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, Joe Eder has run Massey Ferguson tractors in his North Collins, N.Y., farm businesses. "It started out with the Bookmiller family at Java Farm Supply" in North Java, N.Y., Eder says. "It's a family-run business, and you call them on a Sunday afternoon, they're there for you," he says.

"We've had the 8650 the past couple of years, and we didn't think they could get any better," he says. But Eder has just taken delivery on two brand-new Massey Ferguson 8727s. He says he and Karla appreciate the speed and comfort. "It does 32 mph on the road—very quiet ... just really nice to ride in."

In the mulch business, the MF8727 pushes material, and he and Karla use it for mowing, merging and fieldwork in the custom harvesting business. "Going up the steep slopes of this mulch [mound] requires an immense amount of traction and power to ground," Eder says. "And other 'colors' that don't have this transmission, they're not putting the horsepower to the ground, meaning there's slippage."

"The CVT transmission and the horsepower in these big-frame tractors is the ultimate combination," says Eder, who knows something about horsepower and chassis design. "It's the same idea as 12,000 HP in the chassis design we produce" with Eder Motorsports, he says, which has built 92 pulling tractors for teams around the world. "I don't care if one is 225 horse and another is 12,000 horse; you have to get it to the ground," Eder says. "That's where this transmission and motor combination is paying off."