

style gate hinge in the middle of the concrete. I use the hinge to hang the weight from the angle adjustment piece on the blade. I simply back up under the hinge and then raise the blade to pick up the weight. I set it on blocks against the barn when not in use.

I mounted my shop vise on top of a



large wooden fence post sunk in the floor of my shop so I can move all the way around it to get the best angle for whatever job I'm doing. I set the post securely in the floor, then bolted the vise to it.

I also use pieces of black plastic 1-in. dia. water line for electric fence insula-



tors. I simply nail each end of a piece to a post and run the wire through the loop that's formed. I use an 18-in. long piece for corner insulators and a 6 to 8-in. piece for line insulators. I've never had a short using them, which is a big improvement in performance over the conventional porcelain insulators I used before. **(Mary Ann White, Frazeytsburg, Ohio)**

I converted an old semi trailer into an 800-bu. stationary grain hopper that stands at the edge of the field.

I bought a used 38-ft. long Hawkeye hopper bottom semi trailer and mounted



a pair of 8-in. dia. unloading augers side by side at the back. The augers unload the trailer's rear hopper and are chain-



driven at the top of a driveshaft that runs along the side of the trailer to a pto shaft that hooks up to a tractor pto. A single 8-in. dia. auger mounts inside the trailer



and is used to move grain from the front hopper to the rear hopper. The auger is operated by a driveshaft that's driven off a chain at the top of the unloading augers.

I dump grain into the trailer with my combine. Then a truck from the local elevator comes out to unload while I go back to the field. It takes about 15 minutes to unload the trailer. I added a home-built dolly onto the front of the trailer so I can use a tractor to pull the trailer on the highway from one farm to the next.

I farm by myself so this setup really saves time. The elevator charges only 5 to 6 cents per bu. to haul grain to town which is less than I'd have to spend to operate my own trucks. **(Steve Soldner, Waterloo, Wis.)**

Thanks for the story on my stretch-through fence insulator (Vol. 23, No. 4). Two corrections need to be made. First, the article states "What's nice about this system is that you can put up the posts and then stretch the wire." Actually, you tighten the fence wire after attaching posts with fasteners. Second, the article states that I'm looking for a manufacturer. In reality I'm looking for someone to market the unit. **(Tom Gerhart, 6265 U.S. Hwy. 89, Belt, Mont. 59412 ph 406 738-4436)**

My thanks to FARM SHOW and its readers for the response I've received about pitted sleeves in the turbocharged diesel engine in my 1974 Oliver 1855 tractor (Vol. 23, No. 4). Pinholes in the sleeves allowed water and antifreeze to leak into the crankcase. I received many calls and letters from eleven different states explaining why this happened. Most of those who responded say the problem is due to electrolysis caused by the coolant or carrier. Others say it's caused by heat transfer through the sleeves which causes bubbles to accumulate on the outside and explode, taking small bits of metal with them. In my opinion, the metal has also been changed, which no one has admitted or denied. To correct the pitting, a coolant conditioner can be added or a filter tapped into the cooling system.

Unfortunately, my mechanic found a crack in the block where the crankshaft bearing bolts on. I'll either have to repair the block or replace the entire engine with a remanufactured one. **(Leo Chick, 2603 Hull Rd., Leslie, Mich. 49251 ph 517 589-9268)**

I'm a volunteer for our local fire department and read with interest your reports on silo fires (Vol. 23, No. 2 and 3). I had my own experience with a silo fire in the first part of August. It involved a neighbor's 60-ft. high, 25-ft. dia. concrete stave silo that was filled with 2-year-old



Anyone with livestock on pasture should take a look at our new B-33 Mole renovator attachment for running ahead of our MultiFlex heavy-duty 3-pt. pasture harrows. The mole renovator loosens compacted soil to a depth of 4 to 6 in., allowing water and air to soak into the soil upon contact. It reduces runoff. The harrow behind mixes residue with surface soil. The mole knife does not disturb the surface, so you can broadcast seed before running the harrow equipped with the mole knives.

The B-33 Mole knives attach to the existing MultiFlex harrow frame by attaching a 3 by 3-in. bar to the front of the harrow. Knives can be removed when not needed by removing taking off two bolts per knife. When you're not renovating pasture, you can use the harrow along on a regular basis to break up



manure, especially important for intensive grazing.

The mole knife is fitted with a 1 1/2-in. wide horizontal "foot" at the bottom that lifts soil and also breaks it up over a 4 to 5-in. area. **(Wingfield Distributors, 4712 North Cunningham Ave., Urbana, Ill. 61801 ph 800 637-6712; Web site: www.wingfields.com)**

haylage. There was nothing in the silo to ignite a fire, but somehow one got started. We dropped a lot of water on it, but there was so much smoke and steam coming off the haylage that we couldn't be sure we had put the fire out for good. However, three days later there was no sign of a fire so apparently we got lucky and got enough water in the right spots. **(Tom Flory, 9455 214th Rd., Nortonville, Kan. 66060 ph 913 886-3821)**

I just wanted to update your readers on our do-it-yourself mortarless brick that can give your house the beauty and durability of brick at about half the cost of the real thing (Vol. 21, No. 5). "Novabrik" is made of molded concrete. Each block is 8 in. long and 3 in. high. The interlocking bricks fit snugly to each other like landscaping blocks and are anchored to the wall with special screws inserted into

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I made a swath turner out of an old New Holland baler, copying New Holland's swath turner design. I stripped the baler down to the pickup and wheels and built my own hydraulic-operated, 36-in. wide, reversible belt conveyor which can direct hay to either side. The conveyor is powered by a motor that operates off the tractor hydraulics while the pickup is ground-driven. I mounted the baler's flywheel on back in order to balance the machine. I paid \$100 for the baler and spent a total of only about \$1,200. Works as good as commercial swath turners that sell for up to \$4,000.

I converted an old Westside liquid manure spreader into a drill-fill wagon.

The spreader was originally designed to load from the back end after you backed into a lagoon. A pto-driven 12-in. dia. auger, mounted along the bottom of the tank extending 1 1/2 ft. beyond the end of it, was used to load manure. I shortened the auger and mounted a steel cone over the full length of the auger. I also installed an 8-in. dia. cross auger on front of the tank that operates off the tractor hydraulics. By changing the position of two bolts I can raise or lower the cone in order to regulate grain flow to the auger. **(R.E. Mitchell, 7725 Chilliwack River Rd., RR 1, Chilliwack, B.C., Canada V2R 4L8 ph 604 795-7556)**