



Rusty McCombs built this 10-ft. tall, covered 2-bale feeder as a better way to provide feed for his cattle. Feeder is open at both ends where bales are loaded in.

Round Bale Feeder Trailer

After a wet winter left a muddy mess around his round bale ring feeder, Rusty McCombs of Hueytown, Alabama, decided to come up with a better way to provide hay for his small herd of Belted Galloway cattle.

Out of the farm's boneyard, McCombs and his friend, Scott Johnson, collected all the materials necessary to cobble together a 10-ft. tall, 2-bale feeder trailer. He uses a small tractor to pull the trailer to different locations in his pasture.

"It's easy to move, cost almost nothing to build, and is covered so the hay never gets wet. Also, cattle eat from narrow access slots that prevent them from grabbing too much hay with each mouthful and wasting it on the ground," says McCombs.

He started with an old 4 by 10-ft. steel mason's mortar mixing pan. He welded the

front axle and wheels off an old Ford F-700 dump truck onto one end and an old pintle hitch ring to the other. He then used roughcut pine boards from his sawmill to build the 10-ft. tall feeder, adding a gabled top enclosure that's covered by reclaimed metal roofing. The feeder is open at both ends where bales are loaded in.

"I had been using a round bale ring to feed my cattle, but I found that it's a messy way to feed hay and requires a lot of work to move around. My home-built feeder is highly mobile, which makes it easy to move frequently to prevent 'slop holes' from developing," notes McCombs.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rusty McCombs, 3712 Virginia Dr., Hueytown, Ala. 35023 (ph 205 497-0994; rusty.mccombs@gmail.com).



Loop is made from high tensile wire covered with a polymer blend, so no insulators are needed.

"End Loops" Make Horse Fencing Easier

Fencing for horses is easier for do-it-yourselfers with the new end loop system from RAMM Fence Systems.

"It's a giant noose that loops around the end posts and easily connects to tensioners," explains Christy Schulthess, COO of the Ohio family-owned equine fencing and stall company. "The high tensile wire is covered with a proprietary polymer blend for electrified or non-electrified fences, so no insulators are needed."

The noose runs around the corner fence post and the other end is inserted into the tensioner.

"The tensioner has a catch in it like a Chinese finger trap, so you can't pull it back out," Schulthess adds.

Other than a tool to strip off some of the coating to slip the wire into the tensioner, no tools such as crimpers are needed. For electrifying the coated wire, black caps slip off prepped wires to attach to the incoming electrical wire on the post.

The 6-ft. long end loops sell for \$3.98 and come in white, brown and black to match the



End loop system forms a giant noose that loops around end posts. The other end connects to tensioners.

fence color.

Customers include everyone from residential horse owners to boarding facilities to professional equine facilities.

"Our fencing contractors have been thrilled with the end loops because they make installations faster," Schulthess says.

More information, including a video, is available on the Ramm Fence website.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Christy Schulthess, Ramm Fence, 13150 Airport Hwy., Swanton, Ohio 43558 (ph 419 825-2422; www.rammfence.com; christy@rammfence.com).

Asphalt Tape Protects Wood Posts

Before you drop a wooden post in the ground, wrap it with WiseWrap™ LedgerTape™, says Roderick Kabel, marketing director for DeckWise. The 12-in. wide asphalt-base adhesive protects wood from water and rotting.

"It's an inexpensive way to protect deck or fenceposts compared to other products," Kabel says. "It sticks extremely tight. It's a water barrier, and it self-seals around nails, screws, bolts and staples."

With 3 to 4 in. above ground, most of the wrap is below ground to protect the wood about 6 in. down where rot typically occurs.

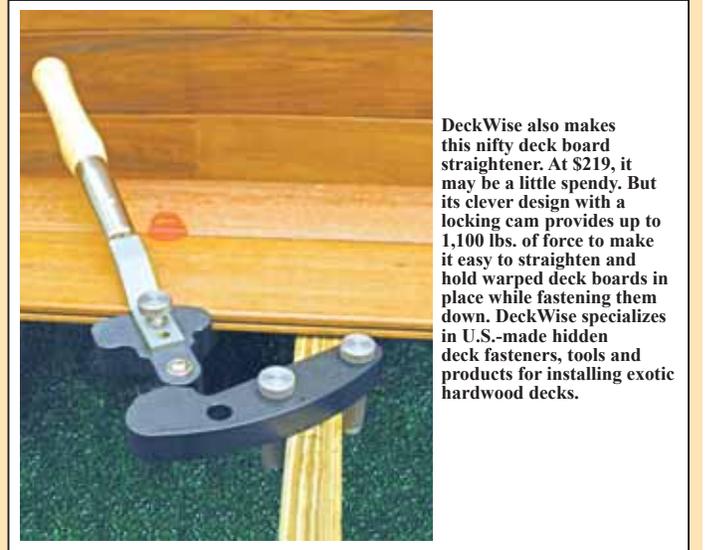
One \$38 roll is enough to cover 20 4 by 4 wooden posts with a 1-in. overlap. It's easy to apply: remove the paper backing and press in place.

Dealers for DeckWise® products can be found on the business's website, and the company's deck products can also be found through online stores.



WiseWrap Ledger Tape sticks tightly to deck or fenceposts to form a water barrier. It self-seals around nails, screws, bolts and staples.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, DeckWise®, 2111 58th Ave. E., Bradenton, Fla. 34203 (ph 866 427-2547; www.deckwise.com).



DeckWise also makes this nifty deck board straightener. At \$219, it may be a little spendy. But its clever design with a locking cam provides up to 1,100 lbs. of force to make it easy to straighten and hold warped deck boards in place while fastening them down. DeckWise specializes in U.S.-made hidden deck fasteners, tools and products for installing exotic hardwood decks.

Silage Wagon Hauls, Stores Wood

"An old silage wagon that my dad used to have on his farm works great as a portable wood shed at my place," says Larry Fulfs, who lives on a 3-acre parcel in northern Illinois. "I fill it up with about 2 cords of wood, park it next to the house and pull it away in the spring when we're done burning wood."

Fulfs came up with the idea for a portable woodshed because he didn't want a permanent structure next to his house and he didn't want to store firewood in the basement. The 60-year-old self-unloading forage box was just the ticket.

"My brother and I removed the unloading

mechanism from the front of the 14 ft. box, then removed the apron chain and slats. The floor and walls were in good shape, as was the running gear," says Fulfs. "The roof was leaking, so I replaced that with corrugated metal to keep the inside and the wood dry."

Fulfs says he can pull the portable wood shed to his woodpile to load it up or haul wood to the wagon when it's parked by his house. He put 2 doors on the front to keep raccoons from making a nest in his wood wagon.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry Fulfs, 7202 W. Winslow Rd., Winslow, Ill. 60189 (ph 815 367-2817).



A gutted-out, roofed silage wagon serves as a portable firewood shed for Larry Fulfs. "I park it next to our house and pull it away in spring when we're done burning wood," he says.