PRINTS RIGHT ONTO CLOTH SO IT'LL NEVER COME OFF

New Process Lets You Put Photo On A Shirt

You can put your favorite cow, tractor, a family portrait, your farm or any other photo or drawing on a T-shirt or sweatshirt with a new process developed in Japan.

All you do is send in any color photo or drawing, along with your order specifying the type of shirt you'd like (T-shirt, sweat shirt, golf shirt, etc.) and the size you would like the photo to be on the shirt. The company can "blow up" the photo or shrink it, as needed.

Bev Wilkins, who imported the new photo imaging machine, says that because the image is printed directly onto the fabric of the clothing, it can't rub off or come loose the way iron-on patches can, and the clothes may be washed normally without washing out color. The company can also customize any shirt with lettering in many different styles.

Prices range from \$8.99 for T-shirts to 19.99 for sweatshirts and up to \$45 for a zippered sweatshirt. The company has a special mail order form that makes it easy to



Photos can be transferred to shirts in full color, reduced or enlarged as needed.

customize the design on whatever type of shirt selected.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Special T's, P.O. Box 984, 948 Dundas Street East, Woodstock, Ontario N4S 8A4 Canada (ph 519 539-0456).



Thomas fills the tires with alternating layers of dirt and compost and mulches between the tires with straw.

TIRE BEDS WORK BETTER THAN WOOD

Old Tractor Tires Work Great For Gardening

By Debbie Henry

Jim Thomas, New Bethelehem, Penn., has developed a unique method of organic gardening over the last five years. He uses no sprays or chemical fertilizers and needs no expensive equipment. In fact, his only tools are a knife, a wheelbarrow, and a shovel. Last year he cleared over \$4,000 marketing crops harvested from a small 45 by 30-ft. plot.

Key to his success is that he uses old tractor tires as raised garden beds, cutting off the top sidewall and filling them with dirt and organic material. They're surprisingly attractive, according to Thomas. "The tires work better than traditional wood-sided beds since they expand with the frost and return without shifting. They also work as an insulator against unexpected late frosts."

Thomas cuts the sidewalls out with a sharp knife. "It's easiest on a hot day when the rubber is more plyable. I use a metal wedge to separate the rubber edges as I cut and apply a generous coating of used motor oil to the cutting surface."

He fills each tire with alternating layers of dirt and compost. The rich, loose organic soil produces amazing amounts of crops for the space. Four potato plants per tire will yield up to 100 lbs. of potatoes and one tomato plant will yield a bushel of crop. One tractor tire, planted with onions in circular rows 2 in. apart, produced a net profit of \$50.

Car and truck tires can be used as smaller plant beds for limited plantings as well as to make use of wasted space between tractor tires. Heavy-duty wire cages (he used concrete reinforcing wire) support bush crops such as peas. He covers the top of each plant bed with a layer of mulch to prevent weed growth and to conserve mois-

Thomas says the main ingredient in the success of his tire garden is in the organic soil he fills the tires with. "It yields the best food humanly possible in a limited space with little expense and upkeep. It speeds up and concentrates mother nature," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, James Thomas, Rt. 3, Box 134, New Bethlehem, Penn. 16242 (ph 814 764-3790).





The flower tree holds 27 potted plants in its branches. When filled, the tree looks like a solid, Christmas tree-shaped mound of flowers.

A BEAUTIFUL ATTENTION GETTER

Do-It-Yourself Flower Pot Tree

If you've been looking for a unique and beautiful attraction for your farm yard, you'll like this do-it-yourself flower pot tree developed by the staff of Farm & Ranch Living Magazine, Milwaukee, Wis.

Publisher Roy Reiman unveiled the "tree" in a column last year and challenged his readers to build their own flower tree and send him a photo of it. The result? For months he received photo after photo of beautiful trees built by readers.

The flower tree holds 27 individually potted flowers in a Christmas tree shape. When the flowers are in full bloom, the pots are practically hidden from view.

The base of the tree is a 2 3/8-in, pipe set in concrete. The trunk of the tree is a 2 1/2-in, pipe that slips over the base pipe. That way the tree can be taken down in winter. The 27 "branches" of the tree were fashioned out of 1-in. sq. steel bars welded to the trunk pipe. Angle iron braces run from the end of the branches to the trunk. A 9-in. dia. metal band is welded to the end of each branch to hold the pots.

There are four separate rows of plants. The bottom row has 12 pots and the branches are 24 in, long. The branches on the second row are 16 in, long and there are 9 pots on that level. Branches on the third row are are 8 in, long and there are 5 pots on that level. And there's a single pot at the top.

Reiman's readers tried a variety of plants in the tree, ranging from flowering mums to viny plants that hang down to the ground. The tree can be changed during the growing season by simply switching plants and if any of the plants does poorly, it can be easily replaced.

One reader, Charles Fritz of Billings, Mont., solved the problem of watering the plants on his tree by installing an automatic watering system. He ran a garden hose up the middle of the tree, then drilled holes in the metal "trunk" so he could run a 1/8-in. hose out to each pot.

If you build a flower tree, Roy Reiman would like to see a photo of it (he might even run it in his magazine). To contact him, and for more information about Farm & Ranch Living Magazine, contact: Roy Reiman, Farm & Ranch Living, P.O. Box 572, Milwaukee, Wis. 53201.