Dunn's guidance system replaces the stationary wheels on conventional front tine tillers.

"Easy Steer" System For Garden Tiller

Steering a garden tiller is easy with this new guidance system, says inventor John C. Dunn who installed the system on all three of his garden tillers.

Adaptable to any size or brand tiller, the guidance system replaces the stationary wheels on conventional front tined tillers. It consists of a main frame that bolts to the rear and a pair of 8-in. wheels joined together so they turn in unison.

A shoulder bolt locks the wheels in a stationary position for tilling in a straight line. It unlocks the wheels, which pivot in tandem on a length of 1/2-in. dia. pipe turning inside a length of 5/8-in. dia. pipe. Makes it easy to turn the tines close to the plants or to turn in a tight circle.

"It makes gardening easier," Dunn says, adding the device could be built for under $40.

Dunn has been granted a patent on his invention and is looking for someone to buy the rights to manufacture it.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John C. Dunn, 11981 Hwy. 1247, Waynesburg, Ky. 40489 (ph 606 365-9585).

Portable Windbreaks Protect Livestock

Portable windbreaks work great to protect cattle in winter, says Canadian dairy producer Joel Waldner, who uses oilfield pipe and wood boards to make the 14-ft. long, 10-ft. high windbreaks.

The windbreak's rectangular frame is made of 2 1/2-in. dia. oilfield pipe and is supported at each end by a triangle-shaped base. One pipe is welded on horizontally about 3 ft. below the top of the frame and another pipe is welded on about 1 ft. above the ground. A series of 2 by 8-in. wooden boards spaced about 1 1/2 in. apart bolt vertically onto the frame.

"We place them next to bunk feeders whenever we have problems with snow drifting and also inside corrals," says Waldner. "A windbreak that's 20 percent porous like ours will break the wind for about 100 ft. downwind. The open space at the top of the windbreak allows you to grab it with a front-end loader or forklift, and the open space at the bottom allows for manure buildup. We also build L-shaped or circular-shaped windbreaks that offer more protection for small calves. They come in handy whenever we clean corrals - we put them aside and then put them back, in minutes. We use 2-in. thick boards because they won't warp and because their weight helps keep the windbreak stationary."

The 14-ft. long by 10-ft. high windbreaks are built from oilfield pipe and 2 by 8's.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joel J. Waldner, Box 240, Warner, Alberta, Canada T0K 2L0 (ph 403 642-2111).

Do-It-Yourself Driveway Alarm

"I put together a driveway warning system that works well for us to tell when anyone comes up the driveway," says Norman Kittleson, Sherburn, Minn.

"I took a pressure switch from a water pump system and reversed the action so that when pressure is applied on a water line, the electricity turns on instead of off. I attached 12 ft. of rubber hose, filled it with anti-freeze, and laid it across my driveway.

"When a vehicle drives over the hose, the pressure turns on the switch, activating a bell in the house.

"We've had the alarm in place for nearly 3 years and it works great. We run a bed and breakfast in southern Minnesota and the warning notice has been helpful. It's something we just wouldn't be without now.

"When there's a lot of driveway use going on - such as hauling corn or beans - we simply take the hose off the driveway."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Norman Kittleson, Rt. 2, Box 75, Sherburn, Minn. 56173 (ph 507 764-8861).

Built from a 12-ft. commercial grader blade, Ray's scraper is fitted with a turntable that allows it to swivel from side to side.

Heavy Duty Scraper Grades Driveways, Digs Ponds

There's almost no blading job this heavy-built scraper can't handle, says David Ray of Winfield, Kan., who started with a 12-ft. long blade off a commercial road grader.

He welded two lengths of 6-in. angle iron together to make square tubing that was used to build a frame that supports the blade. A turntable allows it to swivel from side to side. A hydraulic motor on top of the frame belt-drives a pto shaft that drives a gearbox on the turntable. The gearbox, turntable, and blade came off the road grader. The back end of the scraper is supported by a pair of 12.50 by 15 tires. Ray used heavy steel pipe to make an axle and then welded spindles onto it.

A hydraulic cylinder raises and lowers the back of the frame which pivots up or down on a horizontal section of pipe. Another cylinder next to the frame is used to tilt the blade end to end.

"We use it to grade our driveway, shape terraces, and to make ponds, dams and ditches," says Ray, who says that he gives credit to the Lord for his abilities. "It's built so strong that it can take out trees up to 6 in. in diameter. At first we used wheels with 6-bolt hubs but we had problems with overloading the spindles so we replaced them with 8-bolt hubs. Also, the original hydraulic motor had a pressure rating that was too low for our hydraulic system which caused seals to blow out. We replaced it with a bigger one."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Ray, RR 2, Box 236A, Winfield, Kan. 67156 (ph 316 221-3541).

A hydraulic cylinder raises and lowers the back of the frame which pivots up or down on a horizontal section of pipe.

Some of the best new ideas we hear about are "made it myself" inventions born in farmers' workshops. If you've got a new idea or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors? Send to FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or call toll-free 800 834-9665.

Mark Newhall, Editor

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