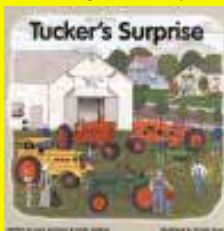


Reader Letters



About two years ago, FARM SHOW featured my flag train that I take to local parades (Vol. 22, No. 4). I just wanted to let you know what has happened since your report. At that time our flag train – made up of a Deere Gator pulling wood wagons - was 100 ft. long with 612 flags. It is now 160 ft. long and consists of 1,250 flags. Last year we were in 30 parades. People love it. **(Frank Fradett, Fradette Rd 18781, Eastman, Wis. 54626 ph 608 734-3173)**

If you're into tractor collecting and you have little kids or grandkids, you'll like this



new book for children written by two rural women whose families are both into tractor collecting.

"Tucker's Surprise" is a full-color book about a 10-year old boy who wants to find the perfect gift for his grandpa. Along the way, the family's favorite hobby – tractor collecting - is the central theme in the book.

The authors, Jane Aumann, Nokomis, Ill., and Cindy Ladage, Virden, Ill., also write about all tractor collecting for the Belt Pulley, a national tractor collecting magazine. Their new book was illustrated by Christy Craig, Ramsey, Ill.

The book sells for \$8 plus \$1.50 for shipping. **(Roots & Wings Publishing, 200114 Ill. Rt. 16, Nokomis, Ill. 62075)**

We recently completed a project that may be of interest to your readers. We built a liquid manure tank using a 1960 Metro Military 5-ton "bridge" truck with a 6-cyl. gas engine. We put a 5,000 gal. tank on



it with a high-volume pump. The pump puts out 1,200 to 1,500 gpm through a 6-in. discharge to the spread nozzle and sprays a 180-degree pattern that is 30 to 40 ft. wide.

We power the pump off the truck's pto. It runs between 540 and 1,000 rpm's depending on the engine rpm's and gear selection. The pump also swings open

for easy cleaning.

We put the truck, tank and pump together at our shop in Little Falls, Minn. We'd be happy to consider similar projects for others. **(Ray VanAHercke Jr., Ray's Body Shop, Inc., 405 15th St. S.W., Little Falls, MN 56345 ph 320 632-9271)**

I make small tree protectors for newly planted trees. I just take 4-in. long sections of 4-in. dia. pvc pipe and cut a slot in one side so you can break it off later when the tree is bigger. You just slide the ring over the tree down to the ground. Protects against damage from mowers and weed eaters. If you forget to take it off when the tree gets bigger, it'll just break off by itself. Works very well. **(David Gammel, 91 Johnson Rd., Scott, Ariz. 72142 ph 480-961-9374)**

I ran out of space in my woodshed this year and needed more room. I didn't want to put up another shed so I came up with



this idea. I got six metal crates from a local motorcycle shop for free. The crates are used to ship motorcycles. They give them away for free. I put some tin on top of the crates using self-tapping screws. I made a double layer of crates. It works great and keeps the wood real dry. **(Glen Ray Goodson, 2205 Fairview Rd., Galax, Va. 24333 ph 540 236-3369)**



This is a simple way to keep hats in shape. Just hang some old pots on the wall and put your hats over them. It's simple and cheap. **(Roger Foster, Tower Hill, Ill.)**



I attached a garage door pulley to each end of a 55-gal. drum to wind up electric fence wire. The drum mounts on a couple "arms" made out of angle iron that attach to a 3-pt. mounted forklift. I can

wind up wire as fast as I can drive my tractor in the pasture. I made the angle iron arms extra long to keep the wire from going off the ends of the barrel. This works well. **(Bill McSherry, 4569 SW Hwy. 166, Columbus, Kan. 66725 ph 316 674-3332)**

I made a cradle for the back of my pickup to keep oxygen and acetylene tanks from rolling around. I made it out of a pair of 2



by 4's about 5 ft. long. The ends and bottom are short pieces of 1 by 4. I use a couple wedges made out of chunks of 6 by 6 cut at a 45° angle to hold them tight. The wedges are held to the cradle by light pieces of chain. **(William F. Plant, Marshall, Sask. S0M 1R0 Canada)**

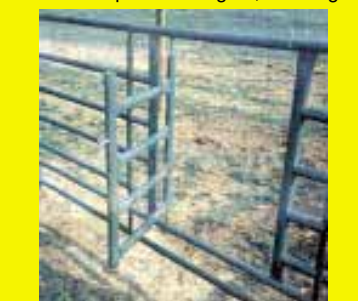
After FARM SHOW reported on our "worst buy" experience with Red Wing boots, we heard from an official at Red Wing. They sent us a certificate good for one free pair of Red Wing shoes at any Red Wing store. Thanks for your help and encouragement in solving this problem. **(Richard & Mary Jacobs, Beaver Dam, Wis.)**

This gate-within-a-gate lets an individual pass through large gates without having to swing the entire gate open. Keeps livestock in without crowding up against it. It also makes it easier for kids, wives



and anyone who's physically challenged to pass through a gate. The latching mechanism is as easy to unlatch as a toolbox and the gate itself weighs only 5 lbs.

The horizontal bars were first cut out of the main part of the gate, creating a



36-in. wide opening. The top and bottom bars were not cut out. Two vertical braces were cut out of 2-in. dia. lightweight conduit. The hinges are made out of two 8-in. long pieces of 3/8-in. round stock set into 3/8-in. collars. The latch was also made using a piece of 3/8-in. round stock with a couple collars and a spring.

The gate cost only \$7.40 to put together. **(Jeff Debevoise, 7051 Licking Trail Rd. S.E., Newark, Ohio 43055 ph 740 323-0477)**

There are a lot of tire waterers around but the way this one is set up is new. You can install it where you have an existing waterer and it complies with dairy regu-



lations because it's a non-siphoning design. Anyone with basic carpentry and welding skills can make one. And it's freeze-resistant so it's great anywhere cold weather is a factor. It needs no electrical heat, saving \$15 to \$45 a month in electricity.

It has a hinged wood lid. The bottom of the tire is closed by screwing a 1/4-in. steel plate to the bead with lag screws and sealed with silicone caulk. A riser pipe is made from 12-in. dia. pipe with a 1/4-in. or heavier thickness. A 3/4-in. pipe coupling is set onto the riser pipe and welded into place. The incoming water line comes up inside the riser pipe and plumbs into the 3/4-in. pipe coupling. I also drill a 2-in. cleanout drain hole on the bottom of the tire and place a drain plug into it for a stopper.

The riser pipe and valve assembly is enclosed in a box made of tongue and groove treated lumber. The box is lined with 2 in. of blue insulation board on the sides and 4 in. under the lid. The box extends below the waterline to almost the bottom in order to contain the heat from incoming water around the riser pipe and valve assembly.

The water stays open throughout the day with animals drinking from it. In the morning, I have to break the thin layer of ice with my foot. **(Timothy Louwagie, 2956 Co Rd 22, Cottonwood, MN 56229 ph 507 423-6674)**

This auger support is a simple way to keep a big grain auger from upending and either falling on someone or injuring



someone standing by the lower end. It folds up when not needed and can be used when the auger is not in use to keep the wind from knocking it around. It consists of a small steel pipe fastened to the upper end of the auger. It pivots downward as needed. **(Glen Forrest, 7916 E. 3400 N. Rd., Potomac, Ill. 61865 ph 217 987-6497)**

I saw this unusual sight recently at a Taylorville, Ill., truck farm. It appears Bob Ridings Truck Farms will go to great