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Lightweight Fiberglass Gates, Pens, Feeding Panels, Stalls

Two years ago FARM SHOW featured new lightweight fiberglass gates from Poly Pride, Inc., Lancaster, Ohio (Vol. 21, No. 6). Now the company has expanded its product line to include pens, corrals, round bale feeders, feeding panels, stalls, hog gates, and riding/roping arenas.

All the products use 3-in. wide fiberglass rails with an exterior coating that protects against damaging ultra-violet rays. The feeder panels are available with custom-sized openings. Standard feeder panels are 4 ft. tall with five rails but can be custom made up to 16 ft. long. The round bale feeders are 6 ft. long and 4 ft. tall but can be built to any size. The feeder comes with a gate on one side. To load a bale into the feeder, you just pull a pin and swing the gate open - there's no need to use a front-end loader. Corrals can be assembled to any size.

The gates come with a pair of heavy-duty steel strap hinges that can be mounted to any wooden post.

"The fiberglass material is tough, won't rust and will never need painting," says the company. "It looks great and needs no maintenance. The fiberglass has a 20,000-psi tensile strength so it's very strong. You can't dent it and if it gets bent, it just straightens back up. In addition, the material won't conduct electricity, so running a hot wire across it is very simple."

An 8-ft. sq. pen sells for \$275.80 plus S&H; a 12-ft. sq. pen; \$359.80 plus S&H. A 6-ft. sq. bale feeder sells for \$219.80. The feeding panels sell for \$49.95 and up.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Poly Pride, Inc., 724-C South Columbus St., Lancaster, Ohio 43130 (ph 740 681-1114; fax 1006).



Balzer's 4,800-gal. Low-Pro tank is 15 in. lower than conventional round tanks, which allows you to see the tank's fill port from the tractor cab. That makes the tank easier to load and also lowers the center of gravity for better stability.

"Low Profile" Liquid Manure Tank

Visitors at the recent Ohio Farm Science Review often did a double take when they spotted this new 4,800-gal. liquid manure tank equipped with a low-profile "T"-shaped tank, wheels set close together, and heavy duty injection shanks on back.

Balzer Mfg.'s new 4800 Magnum "Low-Pro" tank is 15 in. lower than conventional round tanks and has a tread width that's 2 ft. narrower than other similar size spreaders. With 23L by 26 tires the wheels measure only 113 in. from outside to outside.

"The low profile tank allows you to see the tank's fill port from the tractor cab which makes the tank easier to load. It also lowers the center of gravity for better stability," says Kevin Schroeder. "The close-set wheels make it ideal for highway transport, which is important because farmers are hauling liquid manure farther and farther away from their buildings."

Schroeder says the tank is mounted on a subframe that's separate from the rig's heavy duty undercarriage. All the injection equipment is pulled directly off the undercarriage. "We offer several different styles of injectors that allow you to inject manure into hay ground, highly erodible no-till ground, conventional tillage, etc.," says Schroeder. "The independent undercarriage allows us to build heavy duty injectors that seal in the nutrients without disturbing the soil on top."

The company offers tanks that range from 800 to 15,000 gal. in capacity. The Low-Pro tank is available in 4,200, 4,800, and 6,300-gal. sizes. The 4800 model sells for \$22,500 without injectors.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kevin Schroeder, Balzer Mfg., County Rd. 27, Box 458, Mountain Lake, Minn. 56159 (ph 800 795-8551 or 507 427-3133; fax 507 427-2364).

Great Grain Haulers Built From Trucks

By C.F. Marley

Old dump trucks, dumping semi trailers, and trucks fitted with dump boxes can be converted into low-cost grain haulers once their useful "over the road" life has ended. Here are two farmers who created self-dumping, heavy-duty grain haulers on a budget.

500-Bu. Grain Rig

Albert Stier, Petersburg, Ill., used the running gear from a tandem axle truck to create this 500-bu. dumping grain hauler.

The aluminum box was originally used to haul concrete chunks and dirt during construction at a local airport. It's raised up by a large dump cylinder that was salvaged out of another state truck. Both were mounted on the running gear off a tandem truck. The front end was cut off the truck and the frame formed to a hitchpoint. Stier used an old

moldboard plow beam to form a hitch.

Stier pulls the trailer behind a tractor, powering it with tractor hydraulics. He uses it to haul grain in from the field, and also to haul to the local elevator. He installed a grain chute on back of the trailer for dumping into augers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Albert Stier, Rt. 2, Box 37, Petersburg, Ill. 62675 (ph 217 632-2339).

Cab & Engine Removed From Grain-Hauling Truck

George Becker, Petersburg, Ill., simply removed the front end - including the cab and worn-out engine - from a 3-ton grain truck.

He reworked the front end of the frame to form a hitch and rigged up a pto input shaft to hook up to the tractor. The pto drives the

truck's hoist pump, just like the truck engine did before the conversion.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, George Becker, RR4, Box 170, Petersburg, Ill. 62675 (ph 217 632-7251).



Stier used the running gear from a tandem axle truck to make this 500-bu. dumping grain hauler.



Becker removed the cab and engine from a 3-ton grain truck to build this grain wagon.