

“Safety Railing” Added To No-Till Drill

“It reduces the danger of falling onto the harrow and getting hurt,” says Ralph Brinkman, who made a “safety railing” for his Great Plains no-till drill to make filling seed hoppers safer.

The Ottoville, Ohio, farmer has a pull-type 15-ft. drill and pulls a commercial two-bar tine tooth harrow behind it to incorporate seed and redistribute residue. The safety railing on back of the drill is 32 in. high and runs the full width of the drill. He used 1-in. sq. tubing to build the railing as well as the brackets that support it. The brackets are bolted to angle irons under the catwalk. Steps on one side of the catwalk fold up out of the

way for transport.

“The catwalk on my drill is quite narrow so I feel a lot safer with the railing there. I spent less than \$100 to build the railing,” says Brinkman. “The drill is an early 1990’s model. The catwalk on the company’s new drills is wider but still isn’t equipped with a safety rail.”

Brinkman says he’s willing to build the safety railings if there’s enough interest.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ralph Brinkman, 24262 County Road P, Fort Jennings, Ohio 45844 (ph 419 453-3172).



Ralph Brinkman made this 32-in. high “safety railing” for his Great Plains no-till drill to make filling seed hoppers safer.

3-Pt. Subsoiler Built From Moldboard Plow Beams

When he couldn’t find a subsoiler small enough to fit his tractor, Donald Moore, Melrose, Iowa, decided to build his own out of scrap steel and a pair of old Deere moldboard breakaway plow beams. The beams are spaced 5 ft. apart.

“I pull it behind my Deere 2510 2-WD, 50 hp tractor. It lets me straddle my 30-in. corn and bean rows and break hardpan up to 28 inches deep. My total cost to build it was less than \$100,” says Moore.

He bought the breakaway plow beams at a salvage yard for about \$50. He welded a 3-in. wide subsoiler point to the bottom of each beam and bolted the beams to a steel frame made from 2 by 4 heavy duty tubing, using

the original 3/4-in. bolts that came with the beams. He used 3/4-in. flat steel for the lower lift arms and 2 by 4 tubing to make a bracket that attaches to the top link.

“I use it on perfectly flat ground that has never been subsoiled. Water used to pond up on it frequently. Now the water soaks into the ground much faster and the fields work up much easier,” says Moore. “The only thing I’d do differently is to mount coulters in front of beams so they’d pull easier.”

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Subsoiler is made from a pair of old Deere moldboard breakaway plow beams spaced 5 ft. apart. Moore pulls rig behind his Deere 2-WD, 50 hp tractor.

Removable Dump Box Turns Argo Into Farm Workhorse

“My new removable dump box makes the Argo amphibious vehicle a lot more useful for farm chores as well as recreation,” says Larry Cox, Cadillac, Mich.

Cox is a dealer for the Argo, a 6 or 8-wheeled, go-anywhere, all-wheel-drive recreational vehicle that can carry 4 to 6 people depending on the model. He designed and built the dump box on his own and displayed it at the recent Michigan Ag Expo in Lansing. His custom accessorized Argo is being marketed under the name “Duck Truck”.

The lightweight aluminum box measures 3 ft. long by 4 ft. wide and has 11-in. high sides. It has a removable tailgate and also has stake holes on each corner for side racks. You can quickly remove the box and equip the unit with an outboard motor to travel

much faster across lakes and ponds.

“It makes the Argo, which is a great sportsman’s vehicle, a lot more useful for farmers,” says Cox. “You can use the box to haul hay, dirt, firewood, dirt, manure, etc., and the rack that the box sits on to mount a fertilizer spreader, spray tank and boom, etc. It takes less than two minutes to switch attachments.” Cox also makes two other box sizes. One is 30 in. wide by 4 ft. long and the other 44 in. long by 4 ft. wide. Both have 11-in. high sides.

The Argo sells for about \$7,200 and up without the cargo box.

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Removable dump box mounts on back of any 6 or 8-wheeled Argo and manually tilts back for dumping. With box removed you can equip the Argo with an outboard motor to travel across lakes and ponds (top). Other rear-mount accessories are available.

Low-Cost Poultry Feeder Made From 5-Gal. Plastic Bucket

Old 5-gal. plastic buckets can be converted into low-cost poultry feeders, says Joel Waldner, Lethbridge, Alberta.

The bottom of the bucket is cut out, allowing feed to flow freely onto a plywood tray with a 3-in. high tin wall around the outside. The bucket is supported by a vertical steel pipe that has a pair of short steel rods welded onto it on opposite sides. The rods bolt to the sides of the pail. The pipe has a series of holes in it. A short length of steel rod, also with holes in it, fits into the pipe. The pail can be adjusted up or down by changing the position of a pin that goes

through both the pipe and rod.

“It’s a simple idea but it works good,” says Waldner. “We’ve made eight of these feeders for our Hutterite colony farm. We use them to feed young ducks, geese, or turkeys that we keep inside pens. There’s enough feed in each pail to last about two days. Commercial models are more complicated and more expensive. The tin sides are only 1/32-in. thick which helps make the whole unit very light.”

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Bucket is supported by vertical steel pipe that has a pair of steel rods welded onto it on opposite sides. Rods bolt to sides of pail.



Bottom of bucket is cut out, allowing feed to flow freely onto a plywood tray with a 3-in. high tin wall around the outside.