

Reader Letters



had to plug holes in the dish to make it waterproof when raining. Works great. (Walter Blalack, Rt. 2, Box 336, Linden, Tenn.)

My Dad grew up in Long Prairie, Minn. In 1902, he went up north and got a homestead near Moose Jaw, Sask. He rode a bicycle up there to locate land and then rode back again to Minnesota. Come next year, my family will have farmed the land 100 years.

We owe so much to our pioneer ancestors who developed the country with hard work and many sacrifices. (Jack Grosnick, 3769 Duke Rd., Victoria, B.C. V9C 4B5 Canada)

The cemetery near our small town of Kirk, Colo., has more permanent residents



than there are taxpayers in town. We recently completed three projects which really dressed up the cemetery.

We created what we call the Avenue of Flags, installing 50 3 by 5-ft. U.S. flags on 1-in. steel poles 11 ft. long. They're placed 30 ft. apart on each side of the entrance road. This makes a very impressive display.

We also created a display of Veteran Service Crosses for all the veterans. The crosses are 1 ft. tall by 9 in. across with a spike on the end. They are made of pine, and painted white with three poppies attached to each one. There's a cross for each veteran who's layed to rest at the cemetery. They are set up like a military grave yard.

We plan to set up the Avenue of Flags on Memorial Day, Armistice Day, and Veterans Day each year. The crosses will be set up only on Memorial Day.

A special trailer was built to store and deliver the flags and crosses to the cemetery. (Joe Kuntz, 5924 Co. Rd. G, Joes, Colo. 80822 ph 970 358-4581)

I wanted to thank you for the article on our Equi-Tee fence system (Vol. 25, No. 3). The number of telephone calls we have received has been astonishing. We've sent out more than \$1,000 worth of free samples and the requests keep coming in for more. Our website (www.fencingsolutions.com) has never had so much traffic. I'm sure the leads that your magazine has provided will generate sales. (Joseph Berto, Equi-Tee Farm & Fence, 6539 Rogue River Dr., Shady cove, Ore. 97539 ph 541 878-4112)

Here are photos of a large needle we have used for 30 years to push bale



twine through Hesston hay stacks to tie them down so wind won't blow them apart. Once the twine is through the

stack, we weigh down the ends with weights made out of solid bar stock that we clip to the ends of the twine. The needle has a large handle for pushing it through. It has always worked great for us. (John C. Haldemann, HCR 70, Box 20, Chinook, Mont. 59523)



Here's a handy way to keep your FARM SHOW at the ready. We hang them in our "reading" room by wire coat hangers. They keep the papers neat and you can use them to mark the page. (Melbourne D. Florence, Cynthia, Ky.)

This year I had to haul a lot of water from my dugout farm pond to our garden. Instead of putting the hose into the tank each time, I built a hose support so all I have to do is back the truck under



the spout and fill the tank. I just ran the hose over wood supports and put a metal pipe on the end of the hose to act as a nozzle. Saves a lot of time. (Pete Peters, Osler, Sask.)

I'm sending a photo of our turn-around forage harvester which we have been building on a limited basis for a number of years. FARM SHOW featured it several years ago in Vol. 4, No. 1.

The harvester is a conventional Deere



pull-type that we modified to be mounted on and powered by a bi-directional tractor. The harvester can be mounted or dismantled in a few minutes, basically from the tractor seat, so you can use it for other work.

We can also convert an International chopper with a 2 or 3-row head or a wind-row pickup.

The harvesters have proven to be very practical self-propelled units that have held up over time. (Charles C. Thor, Custom Made Equipment, 16378 State Hwy. 15, Hutchinson, Minn. 55350 ph 320 587-2380)

About 10 years ago I invented a kit to tighten up shaky door knobs on older doors. What happens is that you eventually run out of places to screw on the knob plates. All you have to do is glue a shim to each side of the door and then reinstall the knob. The shims can be

painted or stained as needed.

I have over 2,000 of these door kits in my garage because a catalog company backed out of an order. If readers send me \$1 and a self-addressed stamped envelope, I'll send them a kit. (George H. Devine, 306 Albany Ave., Kingston, N.Y. 12401 ph 845-338-7621; E-mail: georgedevine@webtv.net)



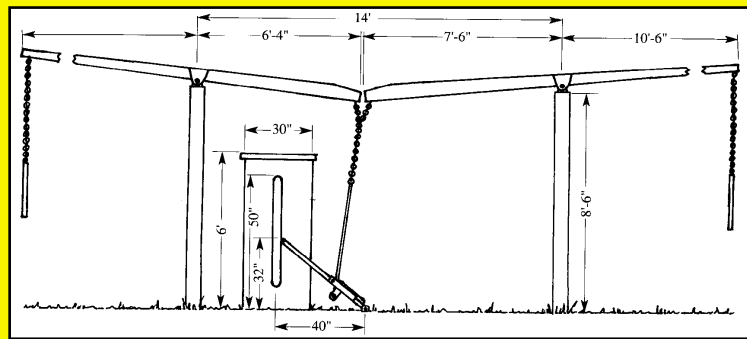
My wife and I needed a calf shelter but we didn't want to spend a lot of money. My brother Randy was throwing out a 14-ft. dia. trampoline frame so I cut it in



half and used it for either end of the building, creating a 7-ft. high arch. The ends are secured in concrete. The frames are connected by braces that run the length of the building and fasten to the original legs on the tramp frames. We then bent and screwed 1-in. pvc water pipe to each trampoline half frame and then bent two more for the middle building support. Finally, we covered the frame with 10-ft. long sheets of tin that we screwed to the bent pvc pipes. (Terry & Debbie Benoit, 1077 Bobcat Circle, Orange, Tex. 77632)



I was looking at a discarded satellite dish and got an idea. I created a UFO by putting the 12-ft. dish on top of another 10-ft. dish and mounting them on legs. I cut holes out of the top dish and put a blinking light on top and a white light in-



I was interested in the "No Power Automatic Gate" in your last issue (Vol. 25, No. 4). I want to build one. The drawings you posted were good but I wondered if you have exact specifications for the gate. (Alden Sharp, Kansas City, Mo.)

Editor's Note: Here are the same drawings with exact specs added. Hope they help.

side that shines through the holes.

It looks very eerie at night and people drive by slowly or stop to get a better look. Of course, I get a lot of ribbing from friends.

I live south of Dakota City, Neb., just off Hwy 77 on 190th St. It's a busy road so it gets seen by a lot of people. (Vincent Krampfer, 498 190th St., Dakota City, Neb. 68731)

Did you know that using red plastic mulch on tomatoes can increase production from 13 to 20 percent, according to recent government research? You can buy red plastic in rolls from Ken-Bar Products, 25 Walkers Brook Dr., Reading, Mass. 01867 (ph 800 336-6662). The plastic can be saved and reused for many years.

Another reported in your last issue that he makes tomato cages from fence panels. You can also make them out of concrete reinforcing wire. We make ours 18 in. in dia. and attach three cages together in a triangular fashion so no staking is required. Many more tomatoes can be grown in less space and they're easy to pick. (Alton Eliason, 206 Parsonage Hill, Northford, Conn. 06472 ph 203 484-0277)

I built this trailer from a 1998 Chevy pickup box. It has a 1-ton axle, 16-in. wheels, and a 4,000-lb. dump hoist with two cylinders. It's fitted with hydraulic brakes, a 2-in. surge coupler, a 6,000 lb.



capacity ball hitch, and a trailer connector. A 12-volt powered hydraulic pump mounts in a metal box on front of the trailer to protect it from the weather. There's also a swivel pipe jack on the hitch.

This trailer can handle just about anything and tows great down the highway. I'll sell it for \$2,500, or make me an offer. I'd be willing to build more if there's an interest. (David Finnefrock, Inc., 18630 Keedysville Rd., Keedysville, Md. 21756 ph 301 432-2050; Email: dnmcc22@aol.com)

