



Portable "form" creates a 10-in. thick free-standing wall.

## Bunk Silo Form Pours Walls In Place

Cousins Edward Martin, Belgrade, Minnesota, and Robin Martin, Snover, Michigan, are both in the concrete business. Thanks to a moveable form Robin developed over the past couple of years, they both specialize in pouring bunker silos.

"With this form, we can pour two or more 30-ft. sections of bunker wall a day," Edward says.

Robin has been using his form for a couple of years now and business has been growing steadily. Last spring, he made a form for Edward, who put up his first bunkers in time for silage making this fall.

The bunker wall forms work in much the same way slip-forms for concrete silos work. That is, when the concrete is solid enough to support its own weight, the form is slipped off and moved to make the next section. In this case, though, the form moves horizontally rather than up.

To pour a bunker, the form is set up over a 3-ft. deep by 10-in. wide trench. Concrete is poured through the form and into the trench so that concrete in the trench becomes the footing for the wall. The wall itself is 12 in. thick at the base, tapering to 6 in. at the top. Reinforcing rods are inserted as the concrete



The Martins can pour two or more 30-ft. sections of bunker wall a day. is poured.

"If you already have a pad and would like permanent walls around it, we can pour them right up against the pad," Edward says.

The price for poured-in-place bunker walls is right at \$55 per lineal foot, which is very competitive with precast bunkers.

In addition to pouring walls for bunkers, the Martins will also consider selling forms to other contractors.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Edward Martin, Martin's Concrete, 42922 310th Street, Belgrade, Minn. 56312 (ph 320 254-1606 or 320 293-4273); or Robin Martin, 1050 North Arnold Road, Snover Mich. 48472 (ph 810 672-9361).

## Heavy-Duty "Grapple Bucket"

"It's built tough and makes your skid loader work like a small bulldozer. Works great for digging up stumps and rocks and hauling them away, as well as tearing out concrete slabs and walls," says Corey Krantz, Sabre Tooth Industries, about the company's new heavy-duty grapple bucket for skid loaders.

The "Stump Plucker" combines bottom digger teeth spaced 7 in. apart with a 3 or 5-tooth grapple on top. The center two digger teeth are bolted in while the outside teeth are held in with a quick pin. The unit quick-taches to any skid loader equipped with universal mounting brackets. Larger "Wide Body" models equipped with two 3-tooth grapples are available up to 6 1/2 ft. wide, and all of them can handle objects up to 30 in. in diameter.

"It works better than a conventional loader bucket because you can dig the ripper teeth into the ground and drive forward without coming up with a bucket full of dirt," says Krantz. "It works great for tearing tree roots loose and then pushing the tree over and hauling it away."

"Stump Plucker" models range in price from \$2,760 to \$3,475 depending on the number of digger teeth and the size of the grapple. The Wide Body models sell for



"Stump Plucker" combines bottom digger teeth with a 3 or 5-tooth grapple on top.



Heavy-built grapple can handle objects up to 30 in. in diameter, including big rocks. \$4,200 to \$4,500.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sabre Tooth Industries, 809 4th St. Industrial Park, Ironton, Minn. 56455 (ph 877 792-7004; fax 218 546-6693).



"Bale-Barrow" consists of two movable arms that attach to a single wheel. Arms are fitted with forks that grab onto bale.



## "Bale-Barrow" Hay Handler

The "Bale-Barrow" is an easy way to move bales around the farm, says A.G. Products, Inc., Alamo, Nevada.

It's about 6 ft. long and weighs 27 lbs. It consists of two movable arms that attach to a single wheel on front. The arms have forks on them, and there's also a pair of forks mounted just behind the wheel.

To pick up a bale, you back the wheel into the bale until the forks behind the wheel dig in. Then you lower the arms and push them in so the forks dig into the hay, allowing the bale to be lifted. Pulling the arms apart

releases the bale.

"The center of gravity is low so you don't get the tipping that you can get from a wheelbarrow," says Jace Agee.

Sells for \$229 plus S&H. A flatbed attachment is available that lowers to the ground for hauling partial bales, mineral or salt blocks, firewood, feed sacks, etc. Sells for \$80 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, A.G. Products, Inc., HCR 61, Box 52, Alamo, Nevada 89001 (ph 866 226-0463; fax 775 729-2621; Website: www.hayhandler.com).



Pivoting bracket mounts on top rail of gate. Garage door opener "carriage" attaches to bracket.

## Easy Way To Power Any Gate

"I've seen other gate openers made from garage door openers in FARM SHOW, but I think mine is the simplest and easiest to make," says Edwin Egli, New Salem, N. Dak., who was tired of opening and closing gates while tending cattle.

The first step in adding power to a gate is making sure the gate itself is in good shape and swings easily and freely.

To attach an opener to a gate, Egli mounts the motor and track on a pivoting bracket on a post set in the ground about 2 ft. away from the fence and 2 ft. behind the post holding the gate. "This post must be positioned so when the gate opens it swings toward it," he explains.

On the top rail of the gate, he adds a pivoting bracket and then attaches the carriage that pulls the door open to that. "The rail extends over the top of the gate a little, but since both the opener and the rail pivot as the gate opens, the opener rail is nearly parallel with the gate when it's wide open," he notes.

Egli says the newer garage door openers come with electric eyes as a safety feature. Since these have to be mounted properly for the opener to work, he takes the cover off the opener and mounts them inside the motor compartment.

He buries the electric lines to the posts that hold the openers.

To protect each opener from the weather,



Egli mounts the motor and track on a post 2 ft. from fence and 2 ft. behind the post holding gate.

Egli mounts half of a 30-gal. plastic barrel over the top, with a slit cut in the side for the opener rail to fit through.

"The gate doesn't open or close quickly, but I've not had any problems with the cattle running through," he continues. "When I need to sort cattle or just move an animal from one pen to another, I can get behind the cow and move her toward the gate. When the cow is close enough, I open the gate a little, the animal goes through, and I close it again. I can sort cattle quicker and easier alone than I used to with a helper on the gate," he says. "Cattle are more likely to try to get away when a person is standing by the gate."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Edwin Egli, 4825 County Road 139, New Salem, N. Dak. 58563 (ph 701 843-7380; E-mail: egli@westriv.com).