

Reader Letters

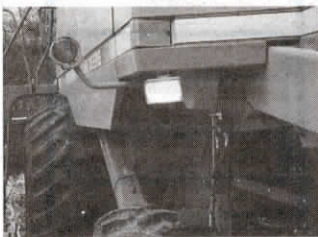


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cleanly through trash and stubble. Tunnel depth can be easily adjusted. The point and entire leading edge of the shear is made from a cast chrome alloy for long life. Fits Cat. I or II hitches. Sells for \$2,995. (Greenway Seed Co., 1111 Andy Lane, Caldwell, Idaho 83605 ph 800 622-6837)



Anyone with down corn problems in the fall will want to keep in mind our tried and proven Roll-A-Cone dividers which have been on the market for 20 years. The cones mount on each snout and can be hydraulically or mechanically driven (a sprocket mounted on the end of the header's cross auger chain-drives the cones). The outside cones divide the outer rows and gently roll down corn up the dividers while all the other cones lift the crop up and into the cross auger. The cones fit the latest model combines. They're simple and lightweight and won't interfere with normal operation. They sell for \$400 per row. (Billie Byrd, Roll-A-Cone, Rt. 2, Box 25, Tulia, Texas 79088 ph 806 668-4722)



Our new rear work light kit for Deere combines is designed to add more light for night field operations. It contains two 4 by 6-in. Halogen flood lamps equipped with swivel mounting brackets. Rear lights help when checking on the chaff spreader or belts or when backing up. The lights are powered by the combine's lighting system. They come on when you place the light switch in the cab in the last field light setting and go off when you switch to the road light setting.

All wire terminals are compatible with Deere connections. The lights fit the 9400, 9500, 9600, and 6620, 7720, and 8820 models. The kit sells for \$99.95.

We also offer a magnetic flashing warning lamp with a 7-in. double amber lens powered by two 6-volt batteries. The lamp comes with two 90-lb. pull, 3 1/4-in. dia. magnets and a mounting spade to fit a Slow Moving Vehicle bracket. The lamp mounts on a heavy-duty grey plastic case equipped with an on-off switch and a photo-cell. If the switch is left on during the day, the photo-cell shuts off the flashing light to help save the batteries. The entire lamp is 7 in. long, 5 in. wide, and 12 in. high. It's completely assembled and can be shipped by UPS. Sells for \$59.95. (K & R Distributing, Inc., 1404 W. Church St., Marshalltown, Iowa 50158 ph 800 383-3908).

You recently published a story about a sliding dog leash for pickup beds. Seems like the price was pretty steep. You can do the same thing by running a cable (or clothes line) between two balls in the bed. We've used this idea in our back yard. We clipped a short length of chain to our dog's collar that was free to slide along a wire running from the back of the house out to a pole in the yard. She had more room to run and we didn't have to go out in inclement weather. (Jack W. Griffith, CPA, 1001 W. Mitchell, Suite 202, Arlington, Texas 76013 ph 817 261-6331).

Kids really enjoy this push-pull 3-wheel cart that I built. With their feet resting on the front wheel supports, and their hands on



the "T" handle which connects to the rear axle, they can push or pull on the T-bar to propel the cart. One rear wheel is fastened solid to the crank handle, which rides around the wheel as the T handle is pumped. Plans are available for the push-pull cart. (John W. Hass, 104 Crestview Dr., Rock Rapids, Iowa 51246 (ph 712 472-2928)

We came up with a handy way to build a saddle rack that holds our family's six saddles in a small amount of space. We built it in our porch entryway behind the door because we didn't have anywhere outside that was mouseproof. It could be put anywhere there's about 30 in. of unused space.

Before we built this rack, the saddles were always underfoot in the hallway and it was hard on the leather for the saddles to be stacked on each other. To make the rack, we used a 5-in. wide strip of 3/8-in. dia. steel that was cut to fit the exact height of the wall. We welded a 1-ft. long piece to the bottom of it on the floor and another piece at the top to bolt to the ceiling. The whole rack is bolted solidly in place with lag bolts.

Before bolting it in place, we welded six "arms" to it to hold the saddles. Four of the arms are made of 3 1/2-in. angle iron with a rounded corner. The other two are made of 2 1/2-in. dia. round pipe because we ran out of the angle iron. The arms stick out about 22 in. from the upright, long enough to hold the largest saddle. We cover the arms with old wool socks for padding.

We like having the saddles handy, stored in a way that is easy on them. (Heather Smith Thomas, Box 215, Salmon, Idaho 83467 ph 208 756-2841)

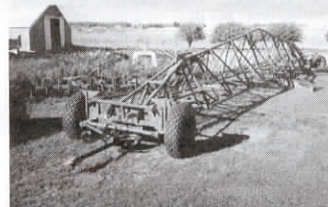
I've been a subscriber for a little over a year and I believe FARM SHOW is the best publication I've ever read. I have alerted my friends at work about your magazine.

I'm a professional agricultural engineer.

I work for New York City Water Supply, Sources Division, at the Ashokan Reservoir in the Catskill Mountains. The water is transferred over 120 miles by gravity to the city through a concrete aqueduct. The aqueduct converts to a pressure tunnel "inverted siphon" when it passes through a valley. The aqueduct is over 1,115 ft. deep in the bedrock when it passes under the Hudson River. It's a little-known engineering wonder built in 1907 and still in perfect operation today, transporting over 580 million gallons a day.

I enjoy fishing in my free time in the reservoir and I invented a fishing lure for small-mouth bass and trolling for trout. It has also worked on pickerel, pike, walleye, perch, and even salmon. The body of the lure is helical in shape. There are two holes drilled in line in the narrow dimension of the body - one in the head and one in the tail. The body spins around a wire leader axis. There's a loop at one end of the wire axis to tie your line on, the other loop holds a buck tail treble hook. The spinning action resembles an injured bait fish. I used to slob bait fish around and watch them swim in this twirling motion. Since the body spins around its own axis, it doesn't twist the line, so it's good for trolling. The lure worked so good I drew it up and had it patented myself. I still make them by hand in my workshop. I sell them mostly by word-of-mouth. They're quite laborious to make and it's close work. I cut a blank from 1/8-in. lexan plastic, heat the blank template in a kiln, then form the body around an auger mandrel. The head and tail are reheated and centered. The holes are drilled by hand by eye-balling the centerline with a #59 wire gauge drill bit. A treble hook is tied with bucktail hair.

I'm interested in selling the rights to a manufacturer but I would produce a few for readers if interested. They sell for \$8.00. (Jeff Helmuth, P.E., P.O. Box 388, Shokan, N.Y. 12481)



We bought this big land leveler in 1991 and are wondering if anyone knows who built it and where. The distance from front axle to rear axle is 80 ft. The rear axle steers opposite of the front. It has three angled blades. The front two are 18 ft. wide and the back blade is 26 ft. wide. The model number "J-555" is welded onto a plate on the machine. (Murawski Farms, 7276 N. Van Dyke Rd., Pt. Austin, Mich. 48467)



I knew when I bought an early 1960's New Holland 1495 self-propelled haybine that I didn't like the way the hand controls operated the front drive and steering.

So along with the haybine, which I bought for \$4,000 last summer, I also bought an old Deere 4400 combine for \$3,600. It had a transmission with a ring and pinion gear and hydraulically controlled steering. Last winter, I installed the transmission and hydraulic steering unit from the combine onto the haybine, making it into a front-drive,

rear-steer machine. To do so, I first cut 30 in. off the main frame of the haybine so the transmission would fit. Then I had the variable speed shaft from the haybine welded onto the transmission's driveshaft, which goes into the bell housing. Next, I cut apart the axle frame the dolly wheels mount on, fitted the assembly with tie rods, remounted the wheels vertically instead of at an angle, and welded the axle back together. I then mounted the hydraulic steering cylinder from the combine onto the axle. I mounted the Deere 4400's cab, complete with steering column and hydraulic brakes, on front of the haybine and ran hydraulic lines from the rear wheels to the cab.

The conversion allows me to steer the haybine with a steering wheel and stop it with brakes instead of hand levers. I use the 12-ft. header it came equipped with originally, and the only problem I had was a bent U-joint, which had nothing at all to do with the modification. It's better maneuvered on hills and turning corners now than it was the day it came off the assembly line. (Harold Nolt, R.R. 1, Box 24, Millmont, Pa. 17845).



We had inquiries from all over the U.S. and Canada after your report on our "easy access" step for Deere 20 Series tractors. We wanted to let your readers know that we've decided to put them on the market at a cost of \$75 for steps on both sides of tractor, plus shipping. We just need to know what model you've got and what size tires, since we calculate the distance from the frame to the ground. The steps are built very heavy out of quality materials. They fit 4020's, 3020's, 3010's, 2510's and some other models. (Pat Michels, Rt. 2, Box 323, Chippewa Falls, Wis. 54729 ph 715 288-6465)



I made this simple 2-bale hauler to fit the back of my tractor. It'll haul two smaller round bales. There's one large spear on either end of a 4-in. sq. steel beam that runs across the back of the tractor, with a smaller



spear mounted right inside of them. The spears slip easily in and out of "receiver" hitches so you can take them off when not needed. At center is a bale hitch for pulling trailers. Lets you drop the ball down under a trailer hitch, and lift up under it with the 3-pt.

One thing I always take to the field with me are plastic 2-liter pop bottles frozen solid with ice inside. They'll last 6 to 8 hrs. in the tractor toolbox so I have cold ice water all day long. As the ice melts in the bottles, I drink it. (W.F. Dove, Bunker Hill, W.Va.)