



You can use all kinds of steel pipe to put up building frames with new clamps designed by Mills Tourtellotte, Rosenberg, Texas.

Clamps Make It Easy To Build With Pipe

You can use steel pipe to put up a building frame without any drilling, thread-cutting or even welding by using new clamps designed by Mills Tourtellotte, Rosenberg, Texas.

"Steel pipe is stronger, much more fire resistant than wood, and it's termite-proof. In some places, used pipe is as readily available as wood and priced comparably," Tourtellotte says.

He set out a few years ago to put up a building with a steel pipe frame. Trouble was, after trying all the clamps he could find, he wasn't satisfied.

So Tourtellotte designed his own clamps that worked so well he decided to patent them. He now manufactures many different

sizes of clamps. The smallest connects 1/4-in. pipe to 3/8-in. pipe. The largest connects 4-in. to 8-in. pipe.

"Our clamps are more economical and work better than anything on the market," he insists. "In fact, most of the clamp sizes we make aren't available from any other source."

Fabricators, Inc., Tourtellotte's steel fabricating company, makes and sells the clamps.

All you need to build with these clamps is a plan, pipe, a measuring tape, a pipe cutter and a wrench. "They can be put in place quickly and they can be loosened to adjust the pipes or to disassemble the joint, if needed. "That's something our main competitors can't do," he says.



Many different sizes of clamps are available. The smallest connects 1/4-in. pipe to 3/8-in. pipe, and the largest connects 4-in. to 8-in. pipe.

Prices range from \$2.10 for the smallest clamp to \$41.70 for the largest. If you're interested in building with pipe, Tourtellotte will send a free sample of a clamp holding two sections of 1/2-in. pipe, along with a complete listing of sizes available and prices.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mills Tourtellotte, FABRICATORS, INC., 418 Avenue H, Box 242, Rosenberg, Texas 77471 (ph 281 232-6547).

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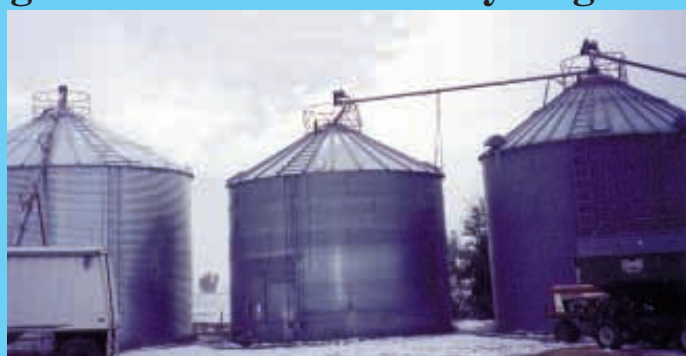
Bale Feeder Rings Make Low-Cost Safety Cages

Old round bale feeder rings make great "safety cages" when you're working on top of grain bins, says Lowell Nelson, St. Edward, Neb.

He buys new light duty, 7 or 8-ft. dia., economy-priced bale feeders and clamps homemade brackets around the bottom of the rings to bolt them to the top of bins.

"The ring lets me work on cross auger motors or grain spreaders without worrying about falling off," says Nelson. "I installed rings on three of my bins, all of them either 30 or 36 ft. in diameter. Grain bin manufacturers offer similar safety cages, but they sell for \$400 or more.

"The cross auger that we use to fill two of our bins is 3 ft. higher than the bin roofs. It's almost impossible to stand on the roof and work safely on the auger at the same time. I use a portable saw to cut out a chunk of the ring where the auger goes through it."



Nelson bolts 8-ft. dia. bale feeders to the top of his grain bins. "The rings let me work on cross auger motors or grain spreaders without worrying about falling off," he says.

Nelson used a crane to lift the rings onto existing bins. On new bins, he puts the ring on the roof before the bin goes up.

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"Roof On Wheels" Keeps Calves In The Shade

"It keeps calves out of the hot sun and also protects them from rain and snow," says Gabriel Verleun, Prince Edward Island, about the 25-ft. wide, 30-ft. long rolling shelter he made for his beef calves.

The open-sided shelter is basically a roof on wheels. It consists of wood trusses and metal roofing mounted on a pair of wheels and axles off an old wagon. A 6-ft. high steel support structure welds to both axes. A tub containing minerals and salt is fastened to the rear axle. To move the barn, Gabriel simply raises the arms on his skid loader and pushes against the frame at one end of the shelter.

"It provides shelter for a lot of calves at one time," says Gabriel. "During the winter I park forage wagons against one end of the shelter to serve as a windbreak. The mineral and salt tub is connected to the shelter's rear axle by a rope and drags along on the ground



Open-sided shelter keeps calves out of the hot sun and also protects them from rain and snow, says Gabriel Verleun.

when I move the shelter."

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