Reader Letters

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into a portable 400-gal. fuel transfer tank. A 2-in. Honda pump mounts ahead of the tank and makes short work of filling the huge fuel tanks found on today's farm equipment. We use our pickup to pull the unit. It rides and trails very well, even at normal road speeds, and the tandem axles provide great flotation.

The tank holds enough fuel to fill two Deere 9600 combines. When the refueling job is done I simply unhook the tank, freeing the pickup to do other jobs. I don't have to worry about fuel spills on my pickup like I would with a pickup bed-mounted fuel transfer tank. ***(Benny Friesen, Rt. 1, Box 16, Morris, Manitoba, Canada R0G 1K0 ph 204 746-8436)***

We use this homemade sled behind our ATV to move small bales of hay, calves, rocks, and tree branches. The sled measures 3 ft. wide by 12 ft. long and has a rubber floor surrounded by wooden boards on front and back. ***(Dwight Ruhlen, 2591 Halcyondale Rd., Sylvania, Ga. 30467 ph 912 863-4398)***

My homemade barbecue cooks a lot of meat without requiring a lot of heat. It's made from 1/8-in. thick sheet metal and measures only 3 ft. wide by 2 ft. deep

and 3 ft. high. It has a hinged lid that's held open by a scissor-type bracket. Meat is cooked on an expanded metal rack located 1 ft. below the lid. There's a 24-in. long slide-out drawer with an expanded metal bottom on each side of the barbecue that's used to store charcoal.

The barbecue will cook four 20-lb. roasts at a time so I can use it to cook for quite a big crowd. It weighs only about 30 lbs. and has handles on both sides which makes it easy to move around. ***(Neil Ohler, Box 127, Stavely, Alberta, Canada T0L 1Z0 ph 403 549-2480)***

A few years ago you published a story about my add-on 12-volt conversion starter systems for all Deere 2-cyl. diesel tractors except the model R (Vol. 23, No. 4). I wanted your readers to know that we're still going strong.

Complete units include starter, alternator and brackets to replace the Deere pony engine or the 12-volt factory units. The brackets are made of 1/2-in. A36 steel. They won't break or warp and

are guaranteed for life. Throttle bracket and water plugs are included. No drilling is required. All you need to supply are a battery and cables. Sells for $875 plus $50 S&H. We also carry taperlock flywheels. ***(Clyde E. Wilson, 4023 Crandall Rd., Wakeman, Ohio 44889 ph 419 668-4595)***

This homemade slide makes it easy to load wood into my wood stove. It consists of a pair of 2-in. dia., 24-in. lengths of steel tubing spaced a few inches apart

and held together by a pair of 5/16-in. dia., 4-in. long threaded rods. I drilled four matching holes in the tubes and then ran the rods through them, using nuts and lock washers to keep them in place. The rods are bent a little for more clearance. I open the stove door and lay one end of the tubes on the stove floor, then load the chunk of wood on the tubes and slide it in. ***(Anonymous)***

For years I've used this unique squeeze chute with removable 2 by 8 wooden panels on my cow-calf operation. The panels are latched at one end and simply snap into place. By removing the top panel I can more easily reach small calves for doing vaccination work. By

removing the bottom panel I can see the animal's feet and work on any foot problems. A few years ago the wooden panels started rotting out so I replaced them. I also installed a new floor and headgate.

I got the chute free after it had been laying in someone's grove. It's made by a company called Ranger, and I don't know if the company is still in business. ***(Doug Phillips, 13438 710th Ave., Zearing, Iowa 50278 ph 641 487-7436)***

Anyone who collects "hit and miss" engines will be interested in my wooden engine carts. They're lightweight, easy to pull, reasonably priced and make it easy to haul an engine anywhere. Each cart measures 10 in. wide by 36 in. long and has a wheelbase of 23 in. The cart's wooden wheels don't bounce as much as rubber wheels, reducing the potential for engine damage. Sells for $100 plus S&H. A battery box can be provided at

an extra charge. ***(Norman Ives, 428 County Hwy. 39, Worcester, N.Y. 12197 ph 607 397-9388)***

I never seem to be able to find a flashlight when I need it. To solve the problem, I made my own flashlight holder out of a short length of 2-in. dia. PVC tubing. The holder mounts on the wall next to the entry way in our home and is designed for a long aluminum flashlight.

I drilled a "clearance hole" on one side of the PVC tubing large enough for a screwdriver to go through, and then drilled a smaller hole on the other side so the tubing could be screwed to the wall. ***(Steve Spiering, 48594 Hwy. 158, Milbank, S. Dak. 57252 ph 320 568-2246)***

My nieces and nephews have a lot of fun riding in this 3-wheeled 'dump cart' that I made out of bicycle parts and scrap metal. The cart has bicycle handlebars with a single wheel on front and a pair of bicycle wheels on back. The frame supports a wooden box that's open on front and has a slide-up tailgate on back.

To dump the box I simply slide the tailgate up and lift the front end of the box. A hitch on front allows me to pull the cart behind a 4-wheeler or go-cart.

With the large bicycle wheels the cart pulls very easily. Or, kids can sit inside the box and ride the cart downhill by themselves. To slow down, the driver operates a brake lever on one side of the box. Both wheels brake at the same time which makes the rig safe to drive downhill. The bicycle handlebars and front wheel are clamped onto the frame and can be quickly removed or replaced. ***(Neil Ohler, Box 127, Stavely, Alberta, Canada T0L 1Z0 ph 403 549-2480)***

I think my one-pass, 2-row 'chopper-harvester' has the potential to make sugar cane harvest much more efficient than it has ever been.

The machine, which is still in the experimental stage, cuts the cane into 8-in. long pieces and loads the material into a truck via a long pivoting conveyor that mounts on back. It was developed in Australia and tested by ag engineers at Louisiana State University before we got it. We modified the frame to provide more clearance and keep mud from causing problems.

The machine is more efficient than conventional models because it harvests everything at once. Commercial cane cutters cut off the top and bottom parts of the plant and then lay the plants on the ground across the rows. A harvester machine makes a separate pass to pick up the material. By the time it gets in the field dirt and mud can cause problems. ***(Robert Judice, 5317 Daspit Road, New Iberia, La. 70563 ph 337 229-6375 or 337 229-8180)***

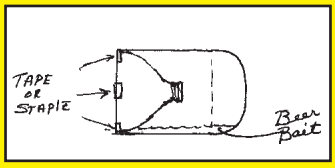
Thanks for the story on my portable solar-powered waterer that can be used anywhere there's a pond or river (Vol. 26,

No. 4). It delivers a much cleaner supply of water than when animals wade into the water themselves. The two-wheeled, 28-ft. long unit can be pulled behind any pickup. It comes with a 900-gal. plastic reservoir on back, a 500-gal. tank for cows in front, and a 100-gal. tank for calves located under the reservoir. Both tanks are now made of plastic instead of steel, making the unit lighter in weight and corrosion-free. ***(DQ Holdings, Inc., 130 Girgulis Crescent, Saskatoon, Sask. S7K 6N9 Canada ph 306 242-7365)***

I'd like to share with FARM SHOW readers a way to take the slack out of a log chain.

Several years ago, I was trying to tie up some chain that was too long for the job, and not having much luck. I came up with the idea of fastening two hooks together on a single chain link to hook into the chain to take up the slack. It works great, and you can hook it with just one hand. ***(Charlie W. Prickett, 1461 Wellington Rd., Wellington, AL 36279 ph 256 892-3752)***

If I could only afford one magazine, FARM SHOW would win over the rest hands down. I don't know what I'd do without it. I keep all the issues. I always open the magazine at the center and sew a seam down the center on the sewing machine. This keeps all the pages together so I don't lose any. ***(Martin Byrd, Box 123, Norris, S.C. 29667)***



I came up with a simple trap to get rid of slugs in my garden. I cut the neck off a 2 or 3-liter plastic bottle and invert it into the base section of the bottle. Then I tape or staple the two edges together, pour in a small amount of beer, and set it in my garden. Slugs enter through the bottle neck's opening and can't get out. ***(Bill Reeks, Cromwell, Ky.)***