

Gate is equipped with a system of weight transfer tanks that mount on a triangular steel base which serves as a pivot point.

NO POWER NEEDED

New "Gravity Gate" Opens By Itself

A new farm gate that opens itself without any electronics or hydraulics drew a lot of attention at the recent 4-State Farm Show near Pittsburg, Kan.

The gate is equipped with a system of weight transfer tanks that mount on a triangular steel base which serves as a pivot point. A system of enclosed rotating shafts extend out to either side of the gate to steel "lift pads". Once you drive a vehicle onto a lift pad, it takes about 5 seconds for the gate to lift up. Fluid flows from a storage tank to a holding tank that holds the gate in the open position. Once you pass through, fluid flows to an auxiliary tank which allows the gate to slowly drop back down. Fluid from the auxiliary tank then flows back into the storage tank, the weight of which drops the gate back into a catch bracket.

"It costs less than more complicated powered gates and works fast," says Dave Renner. "From the time you drive onto the lift pad it takes only about 15 seconds for the gate to open and about 25 to 30 seconds for it to close. However, you can adjust a flow control valve to keep the gate open longer to accommodate semi trucks, tractors and wagons, vehicles pulling trailers, etc. And you can lock the gate in the open position when you need to. The lift pads can be set far enough back that you can haul round bales on a front-end loader without having to get off the tractor. It mounts on a poured concrete base for permanent installations, or you can set it up temporarily on treated lumber boards that keep the driveline joints out of the dirt.

"The gate comes down so lightly you can

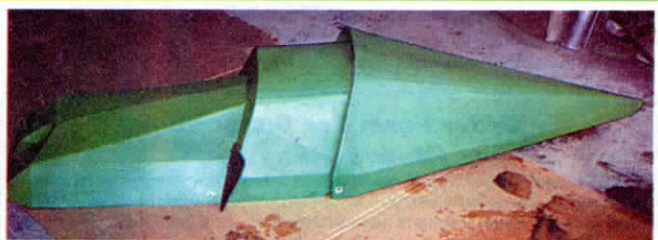


Gate opens up after you drive vehicle onto steel "lift pad".

hold it up with your little finger, so if your vehicle stalls and the gate comes down on it, it won't cause damage. The tanks are filled with a water and anti-freeze solution. "You can ride horseback through the gate in only about 4 seconds without using the lift pad. Simply grab the gate with one hand and pull it up into the air so you can ride under it, then grab the gate again and bring it back down."

Available to fit 12 or 14-ft. openings. The 12-ft. model sells for \$1,375; the 14-ft. model for \$1,385.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Renner Construction, HCR 1, Box 11, Wallace, Kan.67761 (ph 913 891-3743).



Poly Replacement Snouts For Cornheads

"Our new poly replacement shields for Deere and Case-IH cornheads are lighter in weight and less expensive than replacement metal gathering shields, and they have a more slippery surface that allows the crop to slide into the corn head without sticking or bunching. They're built as close as possible to original specs and come in matching colors," says Carl Vande Weerd, Vande Weerd Combine,

Inc., Rock Valley, Iowa.

The plastic bolt-on shields are designed for Deere and Case-IH cornheads and are available in 30-in. wide models (22 and 36-in. models coming soon). They're hinged on back and pivot forward for easy service access to chains and strippers.

"Our 'Polytin' is more flexible than steel so it flexes rather than bending or denting," says Vande Weerd. "It also reduces the



Feeders have wood planks held in place by channel iron and internal cross braces.

GIVES YOU THE CONVENIENCE OF BUNK FEEDING OUT ON PASTURE

Portable Feed Bunk

"We think we have the most convenient and waste-free portable bunk that's ever been built for feeding chopped roughage, mixed rations, or small square bales to cattle on pasture," says Lee Gibbs, inventor and manufacturer of "Porta Bunk" feeders that ride on metal skids and can be ganged together in lengths of up to 200 ft. long.

Gibbs built his first portable bunk feeders 18 years ago. FARM SHOW featured an early version that rode on 15-in. wheels and could be towed down the road at highway speeds. He's improved the design since that time and is currently feeding his cattle on the new skid-mounted portable bunks.

The "bottomless" feeders are built in 16-ft., 8-in. long sections. They have sides made from wood planks held in place by channel iron and internal cross braces. The feeders ride on metal skids. There's a tow bar fitted with a universal joint on one end of each section of bunk so they can be ganged together. Gibbs has ganged as many as six of them together in the pasture for a total length of 100 ft.

"It gives you the convenience of bunk feeding out on the range, or wherever you want it. They're easy to fill by a feed truck driving along side. If the ground gets muddy around the feeder, or rotten feed builds up in the bottom of the feeder, you just pull it to a new spot," says Gibbs.

Three 2 by 8-in. boards make up each side of the feeder, held in place by 2-in. channel iron uprights. Two 2 by 6 boards run down the center of the feeder on an angle iron frame that's braced by pieces of metal "sucker rod" installed all along the length of the feeder. Evenly-spaced 3-in. channel iron cross braces run from one side of the feeder to the other at the bottom.

The divider boards down the center provide extra strength and also keep cattle out of the feeders.

The top edges of the wood sides are



Tow bar fitted with a universal joint mounts on one end of each section of bunk so sections can be ganged together.

capped with 1/8-in. metal to reduce wear and keep cattle from chewing on them. Skids under the bunks are made from thick-walled metal tubing. Gibbs says the bunks slide so easily they can be towed over most any surface. "You'd be surprised how well they pull on a gravel road," he says.

One of the unique things about the feeders is that when towed, each feeder follows exactly in the tracks of the feeder ahead of it no matter how many feeders you've got in a row.

"They're built heavy to last. We use them every day in our own operation so we know what's required," says Gibbs. "They save so much time and are so convenient, we don't know how we got along without them."

Plans are available.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gibbs Cattle Equipment, Inc., 736 Rd. 130, Fallon, Mont. 59326 (ph 406 486-5630).

weight of the corn head making it easier to lift. The color goes all the way through the shield so they'll continue to look good as they wear. Our snout design is so similar to the originals that if you lay them side by side you can hardly tell the difference. If you damage a tin snout, you can replace it with our poly snout without having to change the rest of the unit. Deere's 'ear saver' design is incorporated into the cen-

ter snout to catch cobs that pop out of the feederhouse."

Complete end row units sell for \$525 (fender and snout). Center snouts and fenders for 30-in. rows sell for \$495. Kits come complete with mounting hardware.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vande Weerd Combine, Inc., 2553 320th, Rock Valley, Iowa 51247 (ph 800 831-4814).