

Reader Letters



Thanks for including our product in your 2003 Best of FARM SHOW issue. Our Bale Skis™ bale liner greatly improves performance of small square balers.

I wanted to let your readers know that the toll-free number in the article was wrong. The correct number is 866 889-3846. (Leland Driggs, L.D. Ag Machinery, LLC, 2547 Burma Rd., Eureka, Mont. 59917 ph 406 889-3846)

We make SANI-TRED "liquid rubber", which was featured in the 2003 Best of FARM SHOW issue. We wanted to point out that our area code has changed. The new number is 574 784-3308. You can also call us toll-free at 866 784-3308. (Bill Emerick, Ideal Products, 15605 W. 3rd Rd., Plymouth, Ind. 46563; www.sanitred.com)

I've read several methods in FARM SHOW about how to get rid of gophers and ground squirrels. There's another way to do it that I like.

I use a 25-lb. propane tank, running a rubber hose between the tank and a 2 to 3 ft. long piece of 1/4-in. dia. pipe. I find the gopher run and put the pipe down into it. Then I turn the tank upside down to force the liquid propane down into the run. A cupfull will do the job since one cupful expands 250 times when it turns to gas.

Here's another idea that works. You can use sulfur to get rid of moles. When you fertilize your yard or fields, just use 20 lbs. of prilled sulfur per acre. It will, in time, get rid of all the bugs and worms that moles live on and the moles will go elsewhere. This idea works but you won't find it in a college book. (C.K. Christensen, Norway, Kan.)

Here's a clever way to catch mice. Put fresh ground corn in the bottom of a 5-gal. plastic bucket. Lay a board against the pail. Mice will crawl up and fall in the bucket. They won't be able to get out.

This will catch many more mice than Lemon Joy will catch mosquitoes (the "experimental" idea you printed last summer that does not work). (Orville Rach, 49446 U.S. 71, Verndale, Minn. 56481)



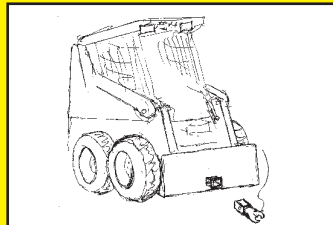
I use short pieces of no. 50 or no. 60 roller chain to fasten corral panels to posts. I simply wrap the chain over the panel and staple it to the post. Works well and it's cheap. I've used the idea for three years with no problems. (Vernon F. Polensky, 2188 121st Ave SW, Belfield, N. Dak. 58622 ph 701 677-5857)

I was interested in the story in your last issue about putting a T-shirt on a dog to quiet it during a storm or some other upsetting event. For some dogs, that might just be when company comes to visit. I read a similar idea in a dog magazine except that they simply wrapped the dog with an Ace-type elastic bandage. That way you don't have to worry about find-

ing the right size shirt and it's easier to get on and off the dog. (Tom Gagnon, California)

Regarding the story in your last issue about putting a dog in a T-shirt to calm him down, the story said no one knew where the idea originated. I'd like to tell you that the idea of using a "body wrap" is part of the Tellington Touch Method developed by Linda Tellington-Jones, a well-known animal expert, speaker and author.

It is a gentle approach to animals that addresses both behavioral and health issues, and is based on cooperation and respect rather than dominance and submission. You can find out more by visiting Linda's Website www.tellingtontouch.com. (Kathy Cascade, Certified TTouch Practitioner; E-mail: kathy@spiritdog.com; Website: www.spiritdog.com)



I welded a 2-in. stub receiver hitch into the universal quick-tach plate on my skid loader. This allows me to use any of several hitches to move different wagons or implements easily. The handiest one is an "alligator hitch" which I can open from the cab with a short rope. (Don Klassy, W6708 Klassy Rd., New Glarus, Wis. 53574)

I mounted a 3-pt. blade under the belly of my Farmall tractor. I first cut the top link off and removed the 3-pt. pins. I cut two pieces of 3/4-in. all-thread rod, 7 in. long and screwed them from the lift arms



into the axle housing, which was already threaded. I used three nuts on each side of each lift arm to center the blade and ran a chain from the touch control arm to the blade so I can raise hydraulically.

I like having the blade directly under the tractor. Makes a nice step to get up onto the platform, and I can see what I'm doing by looking straight down rather than behind me. The only drawback is that I can't pile snow with it, like with a front-mount blade. (Brent Norton, 8289 Congress Rd., Lodi, Ohio 44254 ph 330 948-3307)

Our new Rebounder for 2003 is even easier to use than our earlier versions. (For anyone who doesn't know, the Rebounder is a plastic strip that attaches

to the seed tube and keeps seed from bouncing or bunching up in the furrow.) The new model has two metal expansion inserts that take the place of tie straps that were



My dad Sam is a retired dairy farmer and has received your magazine for as long as I can remember (I'm 30). He has always marveled at the stories in there and from time to time, has built some things that we thought might be worthy of your magazine. Recently, Dad purchased a used 1970-something Deere 8430 articulated tractor. He bought it for the sole purpose of pushing snow for the state of Virginia. He purchased a "V" blade a few years back, and he has just completed converting it into a highway department-style snowplow frame that mounts on front of the tractor. (Bryan Welsh, Leesburg, Virginia)



previously used so the Y-Not can be fastened with two screws and a metal hold-down. The new style allows installation of the Y-Not Split-It in half the time of our previous rebounder.

This means you can switch application methods in the field without having to remove the Rebounder from the planter. You can easily change in minutes from putting fertilizer on the sidewall of the furrow to placing it directly off the end of The Rebounder with insecticide or inoculant. (Paul Schaffert Manufacturing Co. Inc., RR1, Box 157, Indianola, Neb. 69034; ph 800-382-2607; E-mail: info@schaffert.com; Website: www.schaffert.com)

We turned a 40-year-old Chevy truck into



a 16-ft. dump trailer that can carry a load of 15 tons. The tandem axle trailer dumps hydraulically, powered by tractor hydraulics. The front of the truck frame was formed into a drawbar hitch. To handle the heavy trailer, we built a special drawbar hitch for the tractor that links to the top link of the 3-pt. The top link runs down to the hitch to provide extra support.

The trailer was built for a land excavating company. (Lyle Bruns, RR2, Box A1, Tower Hill, Ill. ph 217 567-3674)

The blade on this home-built pickup plow is raised and lowered by raising or lowering the rear dump bed (also home-



built). A cable runs from the front of the Chevy pickup, through a couple pulleys and up to the front of the dump box. When the box is raised, the blade is lowered.

When the box is set back down, the blade is lifted back up. The blade mounts on a pusher frame made from steel pipe which hinges under the truck frame. (Marshall Litchfield, 15340 N. 700th Rd, Macomb, Ill. 61455 ph 209 254-3481)

I have a friend who I didn't think was real bright until he showed me a cheap way to kill barn mice. First cut a 1/2-in. to 3/4-in. hole in each end of an egg carton, half way the side. Fill the bottom of each egg compartment with a mixture of 50 percent powdered sugar and 50 percent plaster of paris. They'll find the carton, eat the powder, and get all plugged up inside and die. Works great. (K.L. Morgan, 18189 Northside Rd., Nampa, Idaho 83687)

Here's an easy way to make an empty seed or feed bag "spindle". Just weld a 1/2 in. dia. rod to a disk blade and stick the bags on it. (Greg Rosno, Genoa, Neb.)



I mounted a mailbox in my garden after hearing about the idea from someone else. It's great for holding garden tools like pruners, clippers, gloves, etc. (Mark Clipsham, Ames, Iowa)

Your readers might be interested in the way some Midwest farmers are now using the Soil Doctor, which is an electronic soil sampling system that first came on the market several years ago. It detects the need for nitrogen on-the-go. Sensors run across the soil surface.

Now Mike Pinkerton, Rochester, Ind., has found a way to use the Soil Doctor on his combine so he can do full color

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