

Simple, Trouble-Free Gate Latch

"Our new self-latching winch-type gate closer mounts on top of any post, safely away from livestock. It works better than anything else on the market," says Dale Anderson, E-Z Irrigation, Wray, Colo.

The Gate Tite consists of steel plumber's tape straps that are welded to a winching device and wrap around the main post, where they're nailed in place. A loop of cable that's attached to winch pipe is dropped over the gate post. Turning the handle on the winch pipe wraps the cable onto the winch pipe and tightens the gate at the same time. High gate tension can be applied with very little effort. An over-centering ratchet locks the cable in place. The device can also be padlocked to discourage trespassing.

"The plumber's tape has multiple holes in it so you can choose whatever holes you want to nail through, depending on the post size," says Anderson. "The Gate Tite can be used on either side of the main post, which is useful in case there are braces on the back side of the main post. Another benefit of the top mounting is that you can easily open the gate



Winch-type gate closer mounts on top of any post.

from either side of the fence."

Sells for \$30 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, E-Z Irrigation, 30400 Hwy. 34, Wray, Colo. 80758 (ph 970 332-4114).

Body-Mounted "Gun Rest"

"It holds your rifle or shotgun nice and steady in the shouldered position for long periods of time, greatly reducing fatigue. It might also make you a better shot," says Larry Fargo, Toolite Inc., Ashtabula, Ohio, about his company's new body-mounted gun rest which can also be used with hand guns.

The "Steady Aim" fastens to your belt and comes with a shoulder strap that supports the butt of the gun to keep it from sliding down. A telescoping metal rod connects to the buckle plate which is attached to your belt. The rod has a soft neoprene-coated yoke that supports your gun's stock. You put the shoulder strap over your head and under your arm pit, then snap the shoulder strap onto a hook on the rod. By adjusting a thumb screw, you can adjust the length of the rod in 1/2-in. increments to set the gun's height. The yoke is wide enough to accommodate the stocks of most guns.

"It provides tripod-like stability, yet gives you full mobility at the same time," says Fargo. "A big advantage is that it minimizes movement so you don't scare away game.

"Turkey hunters like it because they often have to sit very still for long periods of time. Turkeys have keen eyesight and the least little movement will cause them to take off. With the Steady Aim you can sit there with the gun up in position ready to fire when a turkey comes into view. It even allows you to hold a box call and work it at the same time with very little movement. When the turkey comes into view, you just slide your hand back over the trigger and squeeze it.

"We don't tell people to take their hands off the gun. However, the gun is held by the



Body-mounted "gun rest" fastens to your belt and comes with a shoulder strap that supports the butt of the gun to keep it from sliding down.

yoke out in front and the strap in back so it's not going anywhere," says Fargo.

He says the gun rest was invented by a young man who lost an arm in a motorcycle accident. He wanted to continue hunting, but with one arm it was very difficult so he and his dad came up with the idea of a body-mounted gun rest. "He used the gun rest for years, and every year he got a deer," says Fargo. "One day he shot a deer at a tremendous distance, and his friends started asking him to make them for him."

Sells for \$58 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Toolite Inc., 998 Stevenson Road, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004 (ph 800 833-2495; email: fargo@toolite.com; website: www.toolite.com).

"Dump Bucket" Keeps Sears Tractor Busy

"I used scrap metal to build a 3-pt. mounted, manually operated dump bucket for my old Sears Suburban 10 hp tractor. It'll dig up to 4 in. deep," says Jim Culbertson, Sedalia, Mo.

The bucket measures 16 in. wide, 13 in. long, and 8 1/2 in. deep and pins onto a home-built 3-pt. hitch. A lever extends in front of the tractor seat and is used to raise and lower the 3-pt. A spring-loaded trip lever built onto the bucket's mounting frame is used to dump the bucket. Bucket height can be adjusted by changing the position of a pin in the 3-pt.'s top link.

"It works great for moving gravel and dirt anywhere on our farm," says Culbertson. "I

raise the lever to let the bucket down, then back up and scoop the soil. Once the bucket is full I push the lever down to raise the bucket and drive off. To dump the load I reach back and push on the other lever. By driving forward and letting the bucket down at the same time, the bucket will automatically relatch itself.

"If I want I can set the bucket high enough to just scrape the ground without digging down. It takes only about 30 seconds to hook up."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jim and Lesa Culbertson, 1227 Spring Ave., Sedalia, Mo. 65301 (ph 660 829-4331).



Arthur Argo's post-driving hammer weighs 1,000 lbs. and has an impact force of 114,000 lbs. He likes using it on a "rough-terrain" forklift.

Heavy-Duty Post Driver Mounts On Forklift

When it comes to driving posts, Arthur Argo doesn't mess around. His post-driving hammer alone weighs in at 1,000 lbs. with an impact force of 114,000 lbs. Though the unit can also be mounted on tractors (60 hp and above), his favorite carrier is a rough-terrain forklift.

"My rough-terrain forklift is maneuverable. It turns short and has a differential lock and a shuttle transmission, which most older tractors don't have," says Argo. "When you finish driving posts, you can put the forklift back in place."

The post driver worked so well on his own ranch that Argo builds them for sale. Prices range from \$7,000 to \$10,000, depending on extras. Although they're expensive, Argo says they're built to last.

"Some of our post drivers have now been in use for up to 10 years, driving up to 60 miles of fence a year with no rebuild work needed," says Argo. "We can mount them on a 3-pt hitch, front or back."

He usually has a few rough terrain forklifts on hand as well. He says he can pick them up for \$10,000 to \$20,000 depending on condition. He prefers the 4-WD models when he can get them.

Argo's latest design includes a pivot point mount option, which allows the post driver to be swiveled to either side as needed. This makes it easier to approach an existing fence. The operator can drive down an existing fence line, stop and back in at a slight angle to drive a post in the old line.

"The pivot also makes it easier to drive a post in rocky soils," suggests Argo. "If the post glances off a rock or shifts slightly to one side or another, the operator can pivot the driver to follow the post and continue driving it straight down."

The pivot also makes it easier to set posts



Pivot mount option makes it easy to set posts at an angle.



Heavy duty post driver can also be mounted on a tractor.

at an angle. The pivot allows the drive to swing out a full 40° to either side of center, plus allows a 4-way tilt to right, left, back or ahead. At the same time, a hydraulics side shift allows 10 in. of sideways positioning.

The hammer itself is fabricated from a 10-in. H-beam and rides on Teflon blocks. With no springs or cables, maintenance is kept to a minimum, says Argo. The entire unit weighs in at about 1,800 lbs. and can handle posts up to 10 ft. high. Special hammers are available for posts up to 14 ft. high.

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Jim Culbertson used scrap metal to build this 3-pt. mounted, manually-operated bucket for his old Sears Suburban 10 hp tractor. "It'll dig up to 4 in. deep," he says.

