

Mole Killer “Smokes” Out Pests

Don Rickard couldn't get rid of the moles under his garden. He tried Tabasco sauce, Juicy Fruit gum and even put CO2 cartridges down in the tunnels. Nothing worked until he decided to “smoke ‘em” by putting heated exhaust down the tunnels.

“I found this old mower that was so worn out that all it did was smoke, which made it perfect for this job. The original carburetor was replaced with a Briggs and Stratton carburetor because they're faithful and don't leak gas when idle,” Rickard says, adding that it's bolted on an old push mower chassis to transport easily.

He removed the muffler and screwed on a copper fitting that attaches to a 3-ft. long piece of 3/4-in. dia. flexible steel hose.

Since it gets hot and burns the grass underneath, Rickard puts a piece of concrete block under the hose when in use.

Rickard flattens the tunnels, and then returns later to see which are active. Then, he pushes the hose into one of them, packs the soil around it, and runs the motor for 5 to 10 min. “I can tell if it's doing some good by the smoke coming out of the far ends of the tunnels. This will get the moles behind the walls and under flowerbeds,” he says, add-



Rickard runs an old mower about 10 min. to “smoke” out moles in their tunnels. A piece of concrete under the hose keeps it from burning the grass.

ing that the heat has no effect on grass or plants.

Later, he checks the area for new activity. When he doesn't find any, he knows it worked. “I never see the dead moles. They don't come up for a breath of fresh air,” Rickard says.

He says the machine is relatively quiet even

though there's no muffler on the motor. “Neighbors come over to see what a motor is doing, running by itself in the yard,” he says. “Then they want to borrow it.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Don Rickard, 287 Maewen Circle, Russellville, Ark. 72802 (ph 479 968-2274; email: dricka@cox-internet.com).

Chain Saw Kickback Guard

When a chainsaw hits a knot or something hard, it can kick back at the operator seven times faster than the brain can respond.

That's why Safeguard Ventures, LLC created the Centurion® chainsaw safety guard. It doesn't prevent kickback, but it protects the operator from an incident or any top-of-the-bar mishap. Safeguard's motto is, “It only needs to work once”.

The guard lies on top of the log while cutting, and with a slight tug on the handle, pulls up for undercutting or tightening the chain.

The steel guard is 1 3/8 in. wide and weighs about 1 lb. It comes in 16 and 20-in. sizes and fits blades from 14 to 22 in. long. It fits most popular chainsaw models.

Installation takes less than five minutes and only requires the chain-tightening wrench that comes with the chainsaw.

The blade fits chainsaws with twin stud bolt design so it can't be put on Stihl chainsaws incorporating the “Quick Chain Adjuster” or on Shindaiwa models #300 and #375.

Both guards sell for \$39.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Safeguard Ventures, LLC., 4835 NW 187th Ave., Portland, Ore. 97229 (ph 888 531-9502 or 503 531-9502; email: info@safeguardventures.com; website: www.safeguardventures.com).



Guard doesn't prevent kickback but protects the operator from injury.



With a slight tug on the handle, the steel guard pulls up for undercutting or tightening the chain.

Self-Propelled, 2-Row Corn Picker

“Three Different Machines Equal One Great Corn Picker.”

That's the headline FARM SHOW reader Robert Breyley suggested to us when he sent in pictures and a description of the homemade two-row corn picker he and his son created to pick the corn they grind into feed for their milk cows.

The Breyleys put it together using a late model 2-WD Minnesota Moline Uni tractor's power unit. It has three speeds forward and one reverse plus a variable speed belt drive. They also used an older style New Idea husking bed with attached wagon elevator. They attached the husking bed to the front axle and rear main frame on the right hand side of the operator's platform and engine. The snapping head, from an Oliver 83 2-row picker, was attached in front of the whole thing.

A snap latch detaches the head quickly. The husking bed and wagon elevator are one unit for quick removal.

Learning on the fly, they overcame many problems. One of the first was a very close

clearance between the power unit, powered components unit, counter driveshafts and chains.

They also had problems with the rpm ratios of snapping rolls to husking bed and forward speed. “I had to mathematically figure out how fast the speed shaft had to be turning compared to my driving pulley. The first two ratios came out too slow. Finally, I figured it out,” he says.

Another problem dealt with the tires. “The problem was I needed to narrow the tread width to get it down to 38-in. rows. That was a challenge,” he says, adding they needed to rework the dish of the rim on the right hand front driving tire.

They also extended the wagon elevator 3 ft. and cut out new rubber paddles to replace the original street paddles.

Breyley says he spent between \$1,600 and \$1,800 on it.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robert Breyley, 11007 New London E., Spencer, Ohio 44275 (ph 330 667-2472).

Steel Strips Stop Wear On Poly Combine Snouts

If you've got holes in your combine snouts from where corn has rubbed through, you might want to try these new stainless steel wear strips from Clarke Machine.

They're for Case-IH 1000, Deere 90 or NH 98C series poly row dividers and fit onto the combine's hood and snout.

Made of 18 ga. stainless steel, they're laser cut and bent to fit each model. They attach into the poly with self-tapping screws. The size of the strips depends on the combine.

“The major manufacturers of poly corn heads don't put wear strips on their row dividers. Consequently, after some years of service the snouts start to wear through because of stalks rubbing against them. The hood or back portion of the row divider wears through because that's where the ears of corn strike as they're stripped from the stalk,” Jim Huls, an engineer, says.

Snout Wear Strips for Deere sell for \$36 a pair, Case IH are \$29 a pair. Back (hood) Wear Strips are \$34 a pair for Deere, Case IH 2200 and New Holland 98C and \$29 a pair for Case IH 1000 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Clarke Machine, Box 694, East Hwy. 34, Howard, S. Dak. 57349 (ph 605 772-4164; email:



Stainless steel wear strips fit onto combine's hood and snout.



Strips attach into poly with self-tapping screws.

dave@clarkemachine.com; website: www.clarkemachine.com).



Corn picker consists of a late model 2-WD Minnesota Moline Uni-tractor's power unit, a New Idea husking bed, and an 83 Oliver 2-row picker snapping head.