



Want a tough, low-cost round bale feeder? Try using old tires, says Gordon Siemers.



Every other tire in top row is cut in half, making room for animals to stick their heads in.

## Indestructible Bale Feeder Made From Old Tires

Old tires can be used to make low-cost round bale feeders, says Gordon Siemers, Randall, Minn., who recently sent FARM SHOW photos of a round bale feeder he made out of used car tires.

"It stands up really well to cows and horses. It'll last a lifetime," says Siemers.

He bolted 10 tires together with 3/8-in. double-nutted bolts and 3-in. washers, arranging the tires two rows high in an 8-ft. dia. circle. Every other tire in the top row is cut

in half. That's where the animals stick their heads in to eat. He used four bolts in the half tires to connect them securely to all the adjacent tires.

To reinforce the tires, he attached a pipe frame to the top. The frame consists of a series of 2-in. dia. pipes clamped together at angles and also bolted to the top row of tires.

"It's a good use for old tires, and all it cost me were a few bolts and washers," says Siemers. "I can move it easily with the tines

on my loader-mounted bale fork. The tires are bolted so tightly together that they stand upright without any additional support. In fact, I made a tire feeder for horses that doesn't have a pipe frame on top at all. It works great because there's nothing in the way for horses to rub their manes out. The horses can bend the tires over, but the tires always come right back up. You could drive a post or two next to the feeder and attach it to the tires to keep the sides from bending.

"I used a 1/2-in. drill bit to make the holes in the tires before bolting them together. I made sure I double nutted the bolts, because if the bolts ever came loose you'd have a big mess. If you wanted a bigger diameter feeder, you could just use bigger tires. I've found that pickup tires are stiffer and hold together better than car tires."

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Bright yellow "no trespassing" signs with their black borders and black lettering really stand out. They come with 1 by 2-in. mounting tabs.

## Posting Property A Snap With New Signs

Posting "no trespassing" signs is a pain, as anyone who has had to do it knows. Paper signs, metals signs are expensive, and there is never a post or tree where you need it. All those hassles and more are eliminated with these new easy-to-mount plastic signs.

"Each sign comes with double-headed nails and zip ties attached and are pre-drilled for nailing or tying," says manufacturer Dave Wheeler about "Permanent Postings".

The 13 1/2-in. long by 5-in. high signs have 1-in. by 2-in. mounting tabs. Two nails are attached to each sign. A large hole on the top tab even makes it easy to hang a sign on an existing nail or hook.

"Or you can zip tie them to a woven wire fence or to a regular T-post," says Wheeler.

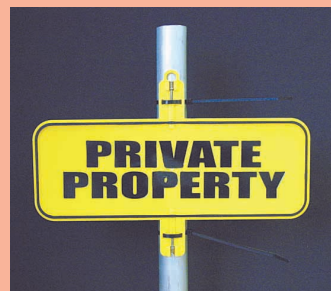
The bright yellow signs with their black borders and black lettering really stand out. Other signs usually have to be wrapped around posts or trees to secure them. The Permanent Posting signs stay straight and easy to read. The high impact, UV stabilized plastic is guaranteed to last, too.

"We think these signs are so good, we are giving them a five year replacement warranty against fading or cracking," says Wheeler.

Residents of states where No Trespassing and No Hunting postings require contact information can request signs with spaces that can be filled in with a permanent marker.

The signs are priced at \$29.95 per dozen with shipping set at \$5, no matter how many dozen are ordered.

"These signs will revolutionize posting property," says Wheeler. "We even have one for yard sales with a hand pointing toward where the sale is."



Signs can be mounted several ways. Here sign is tied to post.



Each sign comes with double-headed nails and zip ties attached and is pre-drilled for nailing or tying.

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"As far as I know it's the only pickup bale mover designed to raise and lower the bale straight up," says Brady Brooks about his new single-bale mover.

## Pickup-Mounted Bale Mover

If you'd like to be able to load bales onto a trailer with your pickup, you'll like this new single-bale mover invented by Brady Brooks of Montgomery, Texas.

"As far as I know it's the only pickup bale mover designed to raise and lower the bale straight up," says Brooks. "It can lift the bale 4 ft. off the ground, which is high enough to load the bale onto a trailer. And by pulling four pins, you can fold the lift mechanism forward onto a bed-mounted frame equipped with a ball hitch, allowing you to haul a gooseneck trailer. It doesn't tie up the pickup bed when not in use, and there's no need for a tractor or forklift to unload the trailer."

The 10-ft. high lift mechanism is made from rectangular tubing and angle iron and has a steel frame that bolts onto the pickup bed. The lift mechanism is equipped with an electric winch that's powered by the pickup's battery and is operated by a toggle switch in the cab. The winch cable acts on a pulley attached to the lift carriage. A pair of pinned-on, angled steel rods provide stability. The bale spear is made from 2-in. dia. steel pipe and pins onto the lift mechanism. Both the lift mechanism and the rods can be unpinned forward into the pickup bed.

"I use it with my 1-ton Ford pickup. It lets me haul a gooseneck trailer to the field and then load or unload bales without the need for a tractor," says Brooks. "The bale spear can be lowered to the bed's floor level, which is low enough to center it on the bale."

"I came up with the idea eight years ago when I was sitting at a red light and a truck



Lift mechanism has an electric winch operated by a toggle switch in cab.

with a gooseneck trailer passed in front of me. There were three bales on front of the trailer, with a tractor squeezed onto the back end to unload the bales. I thought there had to be a better way."

The invention is patent pending and Brooks is looking for a manufacturer. He says a model like his prototype could be manufactured for about \$4,000, and a hydraulic-powered model for about \$6,000.

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