



Roger Gutschmidt built this heavy duty snow bucket out of a New Holland 960 header.

Combine Head Snow Bucket

"I built a super-duty snow bucket out of a model 960 New Holland header," says Roger Gutschmidt of Gackle, N. Dak.

"The header was originally equipped with a Sund pickup and mounted on a 1400 New Holland combine. After the combine became inoperable because of a burned-out engine, the header was useless. Since no one uses these older headers any more, I decided to make a 13-ft. wide snow bucket out of it."

Gutschmidt says his finished unit works great on large level surfaces like driveways and parking lots.

He first stripped down the header by removing the pickup (which he moved to one of his Deere headers), and the large conveying auger (which he sold for scrap iron). Next, he added 1/4-in. thick steel to the sides to strengthen the relatively light-gauge ends of the header.

"I also mounted wear skids on the bottom so it doesn't dig into unfrozen ground. On the front edge I mounted a heavy-duty steel beveled cutting edge. I bolted to existing holes that were already in there for attaching the guards," he explains. "On the rear opening, I installed a plate with attaching bracket



On the header's rear opening, he installed brackets that fit his Deere 740 front-end loader.

ets to adapt to my 740 JD loader."

Gutschmidt says any brand header could be modified to make the snow scoop.

"These headers are quite cheap. In fact, you see a lot of them setting in the trees on farms where they aren't used any more. Since I got the header for free, my costs to make this scoop were about \$200."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gutschmidt Manufacturing LLC, Roger Gutschmidt, 6651, Hwy. 56, Gackle, N. Dak. 58442 (ph 701 698-2310; shopdoc@dtel.net).

Ball Vise Makes Bench Work Easier

You'll like this new-style vise introduced at the recent Iowa Power Farming Show. Working on small motors or other hard to clamp items is much easier with Monsterballvise from Semmel Enterprises.

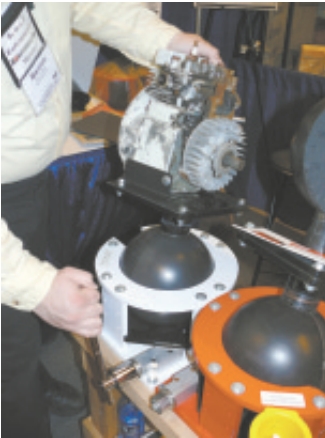
The clever design of the vise allows you to work on all sides of an object without ever reclamping. This innovative design lets you position and reposition the work piece where needed across a near 180 degree arc within a 360 degree circle.

"You can place the held object at any attitude, infinitely variable from fully perpendicular to horizontal and hold it firmly, rigid, and immobile in that selected position," says John Olson, Semmel Enterprises. "Changing positions takes only seconds."

The Monsterballvise has a 1/2-in. steel face plate mounted to a 2-in. dia. stem that extends out of a molded, high-density poly ball. A cross piece welded to the base of the stem and embedded in the center of the ball prevents slippage. Loosen the ball, and it can be rotated from side to side, repositioning the work piece as desired.

The ball, with most of one hemisphere exposed, is held in a heavy-duty framework fabricated from 1/2-in. plate steel. Three models are now available. The bench top unit uses a simple cam lever to lock the ball into position. It weighs 75 lbs. and measures 12 by 12 in. at the base.

Two floor models rely on a twin pedal hydraulic jack system to lock the ball in place. A mechanical locking system is also available. They weigh 197 lbs. and measure 18 by 18 in. at their bases. The fixed height floor model is 31 in. high with the adjustable height



Vise design allows you to work on all sides of an object without having to reclamp. model extending up to a 37 1/2-in. height.

The Monsterballvise was designed by a cello maker for working on large stringed instruments. Initial sales were to other musical instrument makers, sculptors and carvers.

The bench top unit is priced at \$1,000. The fixed height floor unit is priced at \$1,500, and the variable height floor model is priced at \$2,200. Prices do not include shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Semmel Enterprises, Inc., 3268 South 31st St., Lincoln, Neb. 68502 (ph 402 730-4590; semmelentvp@aol.com; www.monsterballvise.com).



A North Carolina company sells poplar bark siding made from Tulip Poplar trees harvested in the Appalachian Mountains.

Poplar Siding Popular Again

Poplar bark has been used to side buildings in Appalachia for centuries. Buildings in the region can be found with bark siding that's 75 years old or more. Now a company has started marketing the all-natural siding throughout the U.S. and Canada.

"The bark comes from Tulip Poplar trees harvested in the Appalachian Mountains during a limited season each year," says Danny Heatherly, Barkclad Natural Products. "It provides a durable, low-maintenance and attractive exterior covering. It can also be used to panel interior rooms."

The bark is hand-peeled on site and carried to pallets, while the wood is harvested for the furniture and plywood industries. At the pallet, it's stacked flat to keep it clean, prevent damage and maintain quality. At a special kiln, it's dried at 150 degrees or higher to destroy insects, eggs, larvae and fungi without the use of chemicals. Moisture levels are lowered to between 8 and 12 percent. It's then cut to 18 and 24-in. lengths with varying widths.

The Tulip Poplar siding is available in three grades: Interior (5/8 in. thick or less), Premium Standard (3/4 to 1 1/4 in. thick) and Super Premium (1 1/4 to 1 1/2 in. thick).

It's available on 900-lb. pallets or in boxes that hold approximately 30 sq. ft. of bark for use in interior design, furniture and craft projects. This Bark-N-Box is priced at \$6/sq. ft. Pricing by the pallet is available from the company, but siding a house with the material generally runs about \$7 per sq. ft. Large sheets of bark sell at a premium \$12/sq. ft.

Like a pig farmer selling everything but the squeal, Barkclad sells a wide variety of



Poplar bark siding can also be used to panel interior rooms.



rustic products. Railings are priced at \$100/ft., while locust poles are priced at \$1 per inch (up to 10 in. dia.) by \$1 per linear foot. The also sell Mountain Laurel picket sticks, tobacco stick railings and rustic (rusty) tin for \$2/ft. Weathered barn boards are available from the firm for \$6/ft.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Barkclad Natural Products, 217 Bethel Drive, Canton, N.C. 28716 (ph 828 648-6092; toll free 877 648-2275; fax 828 648-9028; barkclad@bellsouth.net; www.barkclad.com).



Metal bracket bolts to a tree or post or can be held in a bench vise. Built-in toggle clamp holds one end of squirrel in place.

He Made His Own Squirrel Skinner

"I've hunted squirrels all my life, but it took me until now, when I'm 67 years old, to finally come up with the ideal way to skin a squirrel," says Donny Tyler, Cadiz, Ky.

The squirrel skinner consists of a metal bracket with a built-in toggle clamp that holds one end of the squirrel in place. The bracket bolts to a tree or post, or it can be held in a bench vise.

To skin a squirrel, Tyler cuts the squirrel under the tail and through the tailbone and

then puts the tail in the clamp. Then he pulls on the feet until the skin comes off up to the squirrel's neck.

"It works great. I made a bracket that fastens to the trailer hitch on my pickup. By bolting the squirrel skinner to the bracket, I can easily skin squirrels right in the woods before I come home," says Tyler.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Donnie Tyler, 5286 Will Jackson Rd., Cadiz, Ky. 42211 (ph 270 522-8357).