

## Combine "Drill Fill"

Australian farmer Fred Burdon saves time filling the hopper on his 60-ft. wide air seeder by using his Deere 7720 combine as a "drill fill".

Burdon, who farms 12,000 acres in Queensland, says his combine drill fill saves a lot of time. "It's more maneuverable than a truck drill fill auger because we can swing the unloading auger hydraulically to fill both the hoppers in the air drill without moving the combine. Makes it an easy one man operation. The combine also has better traction for work in wet or muddy ground."

Burdon had to restrict the out-flow of grain by about two thirds in order to use the combine to fill drills. To do that he partially covered one of the floor feed augers in the

bottom of the grain tank. He also removed the rubber spout at the end of the unload auger and replaced it with three cloth seed bags sewn together to make a flexible funnel. To load a drill, the operator positions the air drill under the unload auger, puts the bottom bag of the spout funnel into one of the seed hoppers, and climbs up into the combine cab to run the auger. The 7720's big auger fills the 100-bu. hoppers in about 1 1/2 min.

Burdon says the combine could be used to fill smaller hoppers on drills and planters if output were restricted further.

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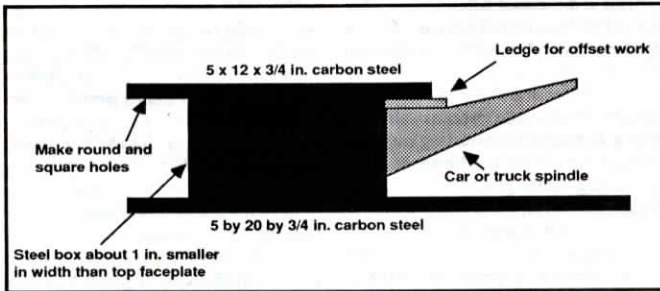


## Temporary Windbreak For Cattle

"If you're going to have wagons sitting around outside anyway, you might as well put them to work," says Clyde Gumbert, Mondovi, Wis., who uses chopper boxes and hay racks as a temporary windbreak for cattle.

"I got the idea a few years ago when we started feeding big round bales out in our cattle yard. Cattle had to go out in sub-zero

weather to feed, but strong winds would discourage them from eating. These wagons give almost perfect shelter. I added chipboard sheets along the bottom of the wagons to provide even better shelter. Now when the cattle feed behind the wagons, they're almost completely out of the wind," says Gumbert.



## Do-It-Yourself Anvil

When Bill Pickens, Flagler, Colo., needed an anvil several years ago, he looked around for a commercial unit to buy. He couldn't find one he liked so he decided to build his own.

"The ones that are on the market are too expensive and don't work as well as the one I built at a cost of about 10 cents per pound for scrap iron plus the cost of welding rod," says Pickens, noting that the total weight of his home-built anvils is 75 to 100 lbs., depending on the height and width.

One of the unique features of Pickens' anvil is the use of a car spindle to make a tapered horn for curved metal work, such as on horseshoes. He grinds away the threads on the small end of a spindle and cuts it off at an angle on the other end to weld to the side of the anvil.

The top faceplate on the anvil is 5 by 12-in. plate of 3/4-in. thick carbon steel. At one end is a small ledge set below the level of the faceplate for offset work. At the faceplate's other end he drills round holes and cuts

square holes of varying sizes for odd jobs.

The base plate is made out of the same plate steel as the faceplate except that it's a few inches longer so you can turn the anvil upside down when needed and have a longer surface to work on.

The main body of the anvil is a box welded together with the same carbon steel. Pickens bevels all edges before welding and then welds extra heavy beads with deep penetration. "It's important to use hardened steel, especially on the faceplate. If made with care, they're as durable as any commercial unit you could buy," says Pickens, who spent a total of about \$25 to build his anvil including steel, welding rod, acetylene and oxygen. He chains the anvil to a stand made with four angle iron legs. He has built several anvils for neighbors and says it would make a good high school shop project.

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## Portable Pig Processor

Dean Knepper of Dyersville, Iowa, built a portable cart which he wheels from crate to crate and between buildings on his 150-sow, farrow-to-finish operation to process newborn pigs up to 1 1/2 weeks old.

Knepper took second place at the third annual Inventions & Gadgets Contest, held last summer at the World Pork Expo in Springfield, Ill. The contest was co-sponsored by National Hog Farmer and the National Pork Producers Council.

The two-wheel cart includes a seat, a removable tub for holding pigs, and a removable plastic tray that holds teeth clippers, ear notchers, and syringes, and other tools as well as medications.

"By putting pigs in the tub I can take my time processing them," says Kneppers. "The day pigs are born I catch them and put them in the tub to notch ears, dock tails and clip their navel and teeth. I also give them shots to protect against scours. I can carry up to 10 pigs in the tub."

Kneppers used 16 ga. sq. tubing to build



the cart's frame. A friend in the upholstery business made the seat which Kneppers fastened with two bolts onto a vertical length of angle iron. He cut a plastic drum in half to make the tub. The 15-in. long, 8-in. wide tool tray bolts to a flat metal plate. The plate is bolted to two vertical lengths of angle iron. A rod through the bottom of the tray allows it to be swiveled toward the operator. The cart rides on 4-in. dia. wheels.

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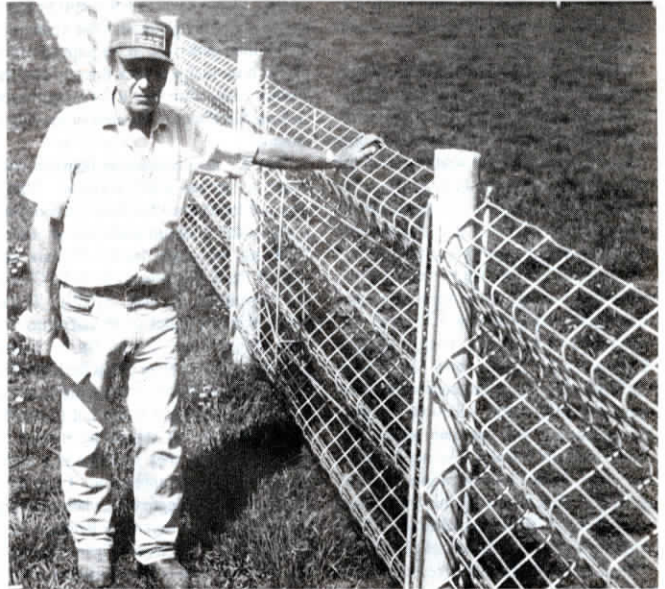


Photo by Alice & Robert Tupper

## Corn Crib Fence

Old corn cribs make good fence panels, says Gordon Johnson, Waco, Neb., who makes fencing out of old sections from his Behlen crib.

Johnson got the idea when he stopped harvesting ear corn and combined it instead. He says the crimped sections are made from heavy wire that can stand up to the abuse of

cattle. He runs the panels end to end, fastened with lag bolts to the large wooden posts. The top and bottom rods on each panel were heated and bent around the posts.

Johnson has purchased additional crib sections from neighbors and plans to use them around all of his feed lots.