



Michael Haynes used salvaged 1 1/4-in. pipe and other material to make this portable cattle chute.

Portable Cattle Chute

When this Charleston, Arkansas, man built his own cattle chute, he didn't want to be limited to where he could use it.

Michael Haynes pastures different groups of cattle in a variety of locations, so his chute needed to be portable.

"I mostly use it in the spring for castration, vaccination, branding, and worming of calves. They are scattered out at different places, many of which are leased or rented lands," he explains.

Haynes made the side panels from 2 3/8-in. oilfield pipe. The frames are 7 ft. tall by 8 ft 6 in. long. They are spaced 26 in. apart.

He then used some salvaged 1 1/4-in. pipe to make the swinging gate frames, filling in the voids with 1-in. pipe. Next, he used 1-in. round rod and pipe to make the gate hinges.

"I fashioned a sliding tailgate from 1-in. pipe and placed it in a track made from 1/4 by 1-in. flat bar. Small angle irons holding pulleys and ropes make the gate operate," Haynes says. "Gussets were used in the corners for support of the chute, as well as to hold it on its trailer."

He made the headgate from scratch out of angle iron, flat bar, round rod, pipe and channel iron. It's loosely patterned after a factory headgate, he says, but he made it heavier and changed a few things.

"I decided to make it operate from the other side, so that if I had to, the head gate could be bolted to my chute for opposite hand operation," he says.

The trailer he built to carry the chutes is patterned after propane tank-hauling trailers.

He started with some 4-in. channel iron and made a horseshoe-shaped frame 10 ft. long and 3 ft. wide at the front. He then boxed the channel iron in, using 10 ga. sheet steel. Haynes used some 2 3/8-in. and 1 1/2-in. pipe to make a tongue, and mounted a boat winch with strap about 12 in. above the frame, over the tongue.

"To make stub axles, I cut out and ground the spindles from an old Chevy Impala. Then I put them into my turning lathe and turned



Trailer that carries chute has a horseshoe-shaped frame made from 4-in. channel iron.

them until they fit perfectly into a 2 1/2-in. double strength pipe," he explains.

Haynes used some 2 3/8-in. pipes to make collars at the rear of the 4-in. channel to hold up the chute. A 2-in. pipe is inserted through the collars on both the trailer and the chute. A large washer is welded at one end, and a washer and pin secure the pipe onto the trailer at the other end. Two of those pipes are used.

Haynes says to load the chute in preparation for moving it, he backs the three-sided (horseshoe) trailer up to (around) it, and then hooks the winch strap to the top of the headgate. Next, he cranks the tongue of the trailer up in the air. This forces the rear of the trailer to the ground, where he can insert his pipe through the channel iron and his chute. He then disconnects the strap and hooks it on the bottom of the chute, where he had welded a hook. He's then able to winch the chute up in the air, which forces the tongue to come down until it's resting on the jack.

"When it's up high enough, I place another pipe pin under the chute and winch the chute down until it is resting on the pin, which is resting on the four inch channel iron," he says. "It can also be maneuvered by hand, since it's balanced, into the perfect location before unloading. The trailer can be moved by hand because of its light weight."

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By using portable panels along with this chute, Haynes says he can work cattle anywhere.



Westendorf Mfg.'s new Dump Spreader gradually raises on-the-go until it reaches a 90 degree tilt that allows all the material to be unloaded.

Hydraulic-Operated Manure Spreader Dumps On-The-Go

This new dump spreader has a totally different way of unloading its contents. The benefits are less maintenance and no leaking or spilling, says Westendorf Mfg., Onawa, Iowa.

The company introduced its new 3-pt. mounted "Dump Spreader" at the recent National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, Ky. Unlike conventional spreaders, this one has no chains or aprons and is entirely hydraulic-driven. It doesn't have rear beaters or even a rear gate. Instead, the back side of the box is equipped with a pair of round expellers with fins bolted onto them. The box gradually raises on-the-go until it reaches a 90 degree tilt that allows all the material to be unloaded. A patented dump motion shifts the weight continuously so it's centered over the wheelbase and always maintains a low center of gravity.

The hydraulics are activated by flipping a switch on an electronic flow control box in the tractor cab. The operator adjusts a dial to regulate the dump speed in relation to the speed of the expellers, which determines how aggressive the spreading pattern will be. The expellers hurl material about 20 ft.

"As far as we know it's the first all-hydraulic spreader on the market. It's easy to operate and easy to clean, and it doesn't have a rear gate with seals that can leak or chains and aprons that can freeze up in cold climates," says the company. "The box is made from a super-slick industrial grade poly and works equally well for spreading both liquid and semi-liquid materials. Sand in the manure won't damage the interior components because there are none."

According to the company, the dump motion of the spreader box keeps it balanced and steady at all heights. Unlike a dump truck, where the center of gravity moves out past the rear wheels, the dump motion of this spreader uses hydraulic arms and cylinders with a high pivot mount to maintain a low center of gravity. As a result, the spreader remains balanced and steady at all heights and also over rough terrain.

The spreader hitch is equipped with a cross-bar that pins onto the 3-pt.'s lower lift arms.



Back side of box is equipped with a pair of round expellers with fins bolted onto them. The box is made from a super-slick industrial grade poly and works equally well for spreading both liquid and semi-liquid materials.

A raised guard on front keeps manure off the tractor cab. There's no beater backlash because the raised box blocks any manure that's thrown forward.

The box has an inside width of 5 ft. and an inside box depth of 56 1/2 in. Overall height is 87 in. and, when tilted up, 14 1/2 ft. Overall length is 18 1/2 ft. Capacity is 270 cu. ft.

The unit requires an 80 hp tractor with minimum hydraulics of 10 gpm.

Price starts at \$13,500.

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