



Wire frame was made with chain link fence and metal rods.

Chain Link Fence Keeps Horses From Wrecking Gate

After his horses tore up 2 gates last spring, Larry C. Turner decided to put chain link wire on the inside of a brand new 14-ft. bull gate.

"Now when horses kick the gate they're kicking wire instead of sticking their hooves through the gate pipe and bending it," says Turner of Frankfort, Ky. "The chain link fence also keeps horses from biting on the gate, and from sticking a leg between the pipes and then bolting and breaking a leg."

He used a steel rod and a come-along to stretch the fence tight against the top of the gate, then wired it on with high tensile wire. Then he repeated the procedure on the bottom and ends of the gate. He also spray painted the chain link fence black.

"I wrapped the high tensile wire through every other loop of the fence so it's on there to stay," says Turner.



Close-up photo shows how wire is tied to gate.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry and Carolyn Turner, 161 Brentlawn Rd., Frankfort, Ky. 40601 (ph 502 223-5513).



William Leiser's sons convinced their dad to help them build this loader tractor out of a 1980 IH 1460 combine. It's equipped with a Buhler 2795 loader with grapple fork.

Loader Tractor Built Out Of Old Combine: Part II

About 17 years ago William Leiser, Grand Island, Neb., built a pair of loader tractors out of old combines (Vol. 17, No. 2). At the time his sons, Jared and Dan, were only 4 and 7 years old. They're 21 and 24 now so they convinced their dad to help them build an even better combine loader. Working together last winter, they built a loader tractor out of a 1980 IH 1460 combine. It's equipped with a Buhler 2795 loader with grapple fork.

"It worked out well and has been a very usable piece of machinery," says William. "We use it every day to feed livestock and during the winter to remove snow. The three of us agreed in the beginning to split all expenses. Our total cost was less than \$8,000 which I think is very reasonable," says William.

They started by removing all components from the combine that they wanted to use – including the axles, cab, diesel engine, and hydrostat transmission – and then mounting them on a home-built frame made from 8-in. tubular steel. They narrowed up the front axle by 29 in. and welded it onto the frame. Then they mounted the combine's body onto the frame and built quick-tach mounting brackets for the loader.

The men also converted a 1966 IH combine into a loader tractor. A 6-cyl. gas engine powers it, and it's equipped with a Buhler 2596 loader.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, William G. Leiser, 4425 N. Engleman Rd., Grand Island, Neb. 68803 (ph 308 390-3078).



Ratchet Rake turns any loader bucket into a giant rake, useful for clearing brush and doing landscape work.

"Ratchet Rake" Fits Any Bucket

You can quickly turn the bucket on your tractor or skidsteer into a giant rake to prepare seedbeds, remove brush, and clean up yards with the patented Ratchet Rake.

Homebuilder Brad Kostyak came up with the idea to clear brush and do landscape work. He couldn't find any attachment he liked, so he worked with his steel supplier to fabricate a rake-like tool fitted with two sets of teeth.

"With just downward projecting teeth the rake was very aggressive, especially when back dragging with the bucket tilted. But the problem was that it was difficult to consistently control the amount of penetration," Kostyak says. "Adding the outward projecting teeth actually stabilized the rake by keeping the downward projecting teeth from over penetrating, which is important in maintaining an even grade.

"No other tool I've seen will pulverize dirt the same way," he adds. "What surprised me was how good it works ripping out brush and pulling out bigger rocks."

He makes 20-ft. passes at a time going forward, digging in and loosening roots. He shakes them out, lifts the bucket about 35 degrees and backs up. The ratchet rake

doesn't clog with vegetation, works forward or backward, and is in front for good visibility.

Besides lot cleaning and seedbed prep, the Ratchet Rake maintains driveways and walking paths and can be used to clean up storm debris and demolition.

It's simple to mount with ratchet straps, which makes it compatible with any bucket. Ratchet Rake comes in three sizes: 52-in. (\$299) and 68-in. (\$329) out of 1/2-in. steel plate for equipment up to 60 hp; and 72-in. (\$359) out of 5/8-in. steel plate for machines up to 90 hp. Bucket sizes range from 45 in. to 78 in.

Ratchet Rake is sold at TSC (Tractor Supply Company) stores in California, Texas, Florida, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New York. It is manufactured in Pennsylvania using top of the line construction - laser cut, robotically welded and powder-coated. It comes with a 1-year limited warranty.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ratchet Rake LLC, 405 N. East Street, Carlisle, Penn. 17013 (ph 888 850-6070; www.ratchetrake.com).

Brand New "Old-Style" Tires

If you're having trouble finding old style tires for your antique tractor, Dawson Tire Service may have the solution. They carry Petlas European farm tractor tires with 45° lugs.

"We've been carrying them for about 18 months," says Ben Herbert, Dawson Tire Service. "There aren't a lot of tires on the market with the R1, solid 45° bar tread design. We brought these in from a factory in Europe. They produce a top quality product using German technology."

Herbert says the tires are priced very competitively in the market. While more expensive than some Chinese imports, they are considerably lower priced than U.S. tires. "They are a very good quality for the money," he says. "We are getting good feedback, and it's a job keeping up with demand."

Dawson backs the tires up with a four-year workmanship warranty and a two-year field hazard warranty. Sizes range from 8.3 by 24 to 20.8 by 38 bias ply in the R1 tread. Petlas



Old-style tires with 45 degree lugs for antique tractors are available from Dawson Tire Service.

also offers a wide range of R1W radials for more modern tractors.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dawson Tire Service, Inc., 806 8th St., Gothenburg, Neb. 69138 (ph 308 537-7408; toll free 888 604-3403; sales@dawsontire.com; www.dawsontire.com).

Chain Beefs Up String-Type Trimmers

"The Brush Crusher is a universal chain-cutter that replaces the head on existing string trimmers. It's equipped with flexible, square-edged chains that are ideal for cutting through heavy grass, bushes and shrubs," says Peter Quail, of The St. George Co., Paris, Ont.

The Brush Crusher is designed to use on any 25cc to 45cc string trimmer. It's equipped with two 4-in. long chains with links about 1/4 in. thick.

"The chains crush through thicker material up to 1 in. thick, yet can easily maneuver around rocks and other objects," says Quail.

Reduced maintenance is a key advantage, says Quail, as there are no strings to replace. "We introduced the Brush Crusher last summer, and so far no one has told us they've had to replace any chains."

You have to be careful when operating the unit as the chains can be dangerous. "If the strings on a conventional string trimmer can



Trimmer-mounted chain-cutter cuts through heavy grass, bushes and shrubs.

cut through flesh, then you can imagine what chains will do. You have to keep them at arms length," he notes.

The Brush Crusher sells for \$57 plus S&H. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The St. George Co., 20 Consolidated Drive, P.O. Box 430, Paris, Ont., Canada N3L 3T5 (ph 800 461-4299 or 519 442-2046; sales@thestgeorgeco.com; www.thestgeorgeco.com).