

Corn Stalk Guide For Plastic Header Snouts

This new Corn Stalk Guide attaches to plastic header snouts, guiding the stalks past the gathering chain and idler sprocket and allowing more corn to enter the corn head.

The guide consists of a high-wear plastic bar that attaches to the snout with self-tapping screws. Before the guide is attached, corn trying to enter the head can easily be knocked away as it contacts the idler sprockets. Once you install the new guides, corn will move smoothly into the head without bouncing away, says inventor Joel Kaler, Lidgerwood, N. Dak.

Works on most standard 30, 22 and 20-in. rows. Sets are available for 6 and 8-row corn

heads. If your corn head is more than 8 rows, you can mix and match the sets. Each set includes the attachments and screws as well as directions for attaching them. The guide can be attached to metal snouts and to twin row heads (please contact Kaler for additional information).

A 6-row set sells for \$899.95 including S&H; an 8-row set for \$1,199.95 including S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joel and Jaci Kaler, 9650 Hwy. 18, Lidgerwood, N. Dak. 58053 (ph 701 403-4977; kalerfarms@gmail.com; www.kalerfarms.com).



Corn Stalk Guide attaches to plastic header snouts, guiding stalks past the gathering chain and idler sprocket. Ears move smoothly into head without bouncing away.



Gary Holloway mounted a small air conditioner and Honda generator in his Deere Gator, cutting an opening on back of the cab to install the AC unit.



Keepin' Cool With AC In The Gator

Thanks to a \$99 air conditioner and a small Honda generator, Gary and Cynthia Holloway can enjoy running around their ranch, no matter how hot it gets in Whitewright, Texas. Holloway and his brother, Mike, installed the air conditioner in the couple's Deere Gator so they can check their cattle, feed the catfish and watch the sunset in relative comfort despite humid, 90 degree-plus temperatures. The Gator's small size allows them to go through woods and areas where a pickup won't go.

"I had a little Honda generator I used on the farm, and I bought the smallest air conditioner (5,050 BTU) I could find," Holloway says. He and his brother used a reciprocating saw to cut an opening on the back of the cab and covered the gaps around it with a metal frame. They removed the front metal wall of the bed and replaced it with a 2 by 12 board on each side of the air conditioner, which is bolted with 4 bolts to the back of the cab.

"It really keeps us cool in this hot and humid Texas weather. It also keeps allergens out of the cab. My wife has grass allergies,

and now she enjoys riding every evening in the Gator," Holloway says. The couple's 2-year-old Havanese dog likes the ride, too, from a perch on top of the dash. As a bonus, grasshoppers and other insects can't get into the enclosed cab.

Because the air conditioner is mounted, he can't use the Gator's dump feature. If he needs to do anything with the engine, he simply loosens the bolts and removes the air conditioner.

For others considering adding AC to their utility vehicles, Holloway suggests choosing a quiet generator. Also, a used air conditioner from an RV mounted on top of the cab, might be a better choice. Home air conditioners are not designed to work on inclines.

So far, the inexpensive unit he purchased has worked fine.

"It's really perfect if we want to sit under a shade tree when it's 100-plus degrees," he says. "If we didn't have it we would not go out at all."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gary Holloway, Whitewright, Texas.

He "Fishes" For Vegetables In Boat

"I can't go fishing any more so I filled my boat with dirt and made a garden out of it," says Elwyn Kie, Rochester, N.Y.

Kie uses an electric mobility cart to get around. "I can drive right up to the boat and do my gardening work without ever getting off the cart," he says.

The 21-ft. aluminum boat sets on a trailer a few feet from his house. Kie opened the drain hole and added a layer of stones at the bottom of the boat for drainage. Then he filled the boat with dirt and composted horse manure.

"I used it to grow tomatoes and strawberries this year," says Kie. "I bought the boat new 6 years ago but never had a chance to use it because my wife developed dementia. She was in the hospital for about 6 years and I was there every day with her. Then I developed a bad back and couldn't go fishing any more. I paid a little more than \$1,000 for the boat. I



Elwyn Kie made this raised garden by filling a 21-ft. aluminum boat with dirt.

could have sold it, but it's worth much more to me as a raised garden."

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John Hull made these oval-shaped "Cat track" gardens by laying old Cat Challenger rubber tracks on their sides and then filling them with dirt.

"Cat Tracks" Raised Garden Beds

Old Cat Challenger rubber tracks, laid on their sides and filled with dirt, make low-cost raised garden beds, says John Hull of Dow, Ill.

He made 2 oval-shaped "Cat track" gardens, each measuring 3 ft. wide by 12 ft. long and 2 1/2 ft. high. They're spaced about 5 ft. apart and set on the concrete floor of an old corn crib. The rubber on each track is about 3 in. thick and is embedded with steel mesh. He put about 4 in. of gravel at the bottom of each garden plot for drainage, then filled them with dirt, mixing 4 in. of compost into the top layer.

"I got the tracks free from a neighbor who is an excavator. He brought them to my place and left them in my driveway, and I used a loader tractor to drag them into place," says Hull.

All that dirt puts a lot of pressure on the tracks, so to keep them from bulging outward Hull first used 2 by 4's to build an H-shaped

framework for each track which he slipped inside as bracing. He drilled 1/4-in. holes through the track every 3 ft. or so and then bolted the framework to it. He also used 9-ga. wire to reinforce the framework, using a crowbar to twist the wires together.

"It turned out to be more of a job than I thought, but it was worth the effort because I have a bad back," says Hull, who set up the truck garden last fall. "I grew strawberries in one set of tracks and asparagus in the other.

"I formed the tracks into an oval shape instead of round because I wanted to be able to reach across from either side to the middle. I was surprised how hard it was to drill holes through the rubber tracks, but that's because they're full of steel – like a radial car tire but about 1,000 times worse."

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Deer-Proof Garden Fence

Don Pace of Sopchoppy, Fla., recently told us about a fence he uses to keep deer and rabbits out of gardens.

"It confuses deer because there are no posts or tight fences they can jump," says Don.

He uses 2 by 4-in. woven wire fence that's 5 or 6 ft. high. The wire is cut into 10-ft. lengths and formed in semi circles, which are then connected together by bent wire ends. Tent pegs are used at the base.

"No gate is needed – I just open any section to enter," says Pace. "I've used this idea on 2 different gardens and used both 5 and 6-ft. high fences, with equally good results. No deer has penetrated either garden. The deer are eating gourd vines that grow through the fence, but they can't get inside."



Woven wire fence is cut into 10-ft. lengths and formed into semi circles, which are then connected together by bent wire ends.

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