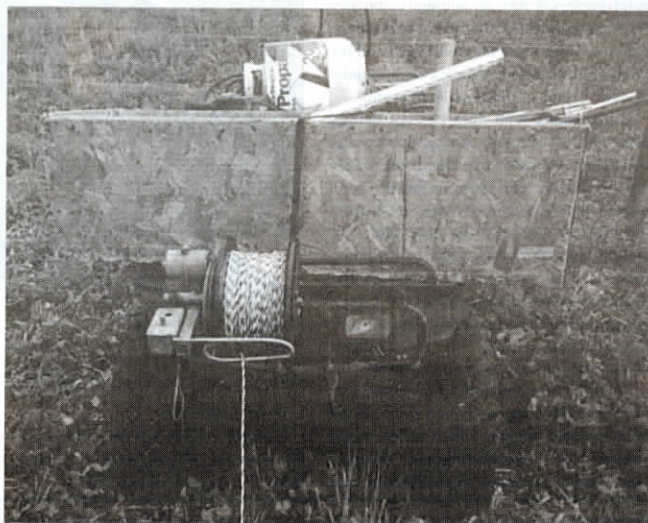


# Made It Myself

(Continued from previous page)



## ATV-Mounted Electric "Wire Winder"

"It's simple but it works better than anything on the market because it's so easy to use. I wouldn't farm without it," says Ray Bjork, Ocheyedan, Iowa, about his 12-volt "wire winder" that mounts on front of his 4-wheel ATV.

Bjork made the wire winder after seeding his entire farm to grass last year so he could set up a rotational grazing system for his cattle. He divided the farm into a series of 80-acre pastures that are subdivided into smaller paddocks by poly wire temporary fences. He moves cattle every day between the paddocks so he needed a fast way to set up and take down wire.

A 12-volt motor powered by the ATV's battery mounts on a bracket that bolts onto the ATV's front rack. The motor turns a shaft that holds a spool of wire. A 14-in. high wood box straps onto the ATV's front rack to hold plastic fence posts and extra spools.

To unroll wire, Bjork mounts a spool on the back rack of the ATV (or on front next to the box) by inserting a post through the center of the spool and strapping both ends down to the ATV frame.

To take the fence down, he puts the spool back on the wire winder and wire is pulled back through the "eyes" in the posts and guided through a steel loop on the frame that helps keep the wire from getting tangled up on the spool.

"I can put up 1/8 mile of fence in about 5 minutes without ever leaving the ATV -



stringing the wire on plastic, step-on posts spaced every 50 ft. - and later wind the wire back up on the spool in only about one minute," says Bjork. "If the wire snags on the spool as I'm rewinding it a circuit breaker automatically shuts off the motor. After all the wire is back on the spool I pull the posts up on-the-go from the seat of the ATV and put them back into the box. The wire winder can be quickly removed by lifting it up off the bracket and unplugging the wire to the battery. I think the same idea would work by mounting a bracket on a pickup."

Bjork says he's considering manufacturing the wire winder which he says could probably be sold for about \$150.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ray Bjork, 6281 160th St., Ocheyedan, Iowa 51354 (ph 712 758-3672).

## Snowmobile Jackstand

"My lever-operated snowmobile jackstand lets me raise the back end of a snowmobile without straining my back. Works great for maintenance work and keeps the track from freezing to the ground during storage. It also allows safe pre-ride warmup of the engine, drive train, and track," says Ken Larson, Maple Grove, Minn.

The "Lever-Lift", as Larson calls it, is made from aluminum and high-density plastic. You position it directly under the

rear lift bar of the snowmobile and pull a lever down to engage an automatic lock mechanism. It holds the back of the snowmobile about 6 in. off the ground. At full lift, the handle can be left in its downward position or pivoted forward out of the way.

Larson is looking for a manufacturer. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Larson, 13301 Maple Knoll Way, No. 309, Maple Grove, Minn. 55369 (ph 612 494-4728).



## Oil Pipe Cattle Guard

"We have a gravel pit in our pasture and the cattle were always getting out because the gravel truck drivers loading trucks would not always shut the gate. To fix the problem I decided to build a cattle guard," says Dan Peschon.

"I had to make it heavy enough to support fully-loaded trucks, so I used 12-in. I-beam, 4 1/2-in. oil well pipe, and 2 1/2-in. square shaft purchased at a salvage yard. The lengths of I-beams are 6 ft. long and spaced about 2 ft. apart. The pieces of pipe are 16 ft. long and set crossways between 5-in. long pieces of square shaft welded to the I-beams.

"There are eight pieces of pipe across the guard. The four outside pipes are welded solid into place while the four

middle ones are welded together with a heavy piece of strap iron on each side. They pull off in one piece to make for easy cleanout.

"The whole guard is set in a concrete pit with a drain on one end to keep water out. Cattle will graze by it but they won't cross it.

"We like our home-built guard better than a commercial guard because it's a lot heavier and is easier to clean out. It also cost a lot less. We priced a commercial one at \$2,400, not including concrete. We spent just \$400, including concrete and paint."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dan Peschon, Rt. 1, Box 157, Woodstock, Minn. 56186.

## Utility Tractor Tilt Blade

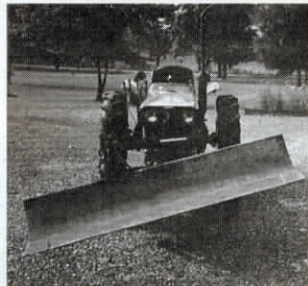
Using grader blades on utility tractors for odd jobs around the farm can be frustrating. It's usually not possible to adjust them for uneven terrain or other various unusual applications.

That's why Richard Jackson built his own three-way adjustable blade to mount on front of his 1979 Kubota 185 4-WD tractor. It tilts end-for-end and can be raised and lowered hydraulically.

"It's excellent for grading driveways and snow removal," says the Circleville, Ohio, farmer. "We also used it to level ground for a 120 by 80-ft. barn, using a laser level we got from a contractor. We were able to get the ground perfectly level for the concrete floor."

Jackson made the blade from 5/16-in. thick plate steel. It's 6 ft. long by 20 in. high and has a bar of 3/8 in. thick plate steel on the bottom cutting edge.

He made a heavy-duty mounting bracket for the blade out of 5-in. dia. pipe and 7-in. channel iron. It attaches with two pins and a bolt to the tractor's front weight bracket. A piece of 4 by 2 in. steel tubing runs from the front mounting bracket to the tractor's



rear drawbar for added stability. Jackson can attach the blade to the tractor in just a few minutes.

Four hydraulic cylinders control the blade. A 4 by 12-in. cylinder on top of the blade tilts it end-for-end. Two 2 by 10-in. cylinders mounted behind either side of the blade angle it back and forth. And a 3 by 12-in. cylinder raises and lowers the blade.

To operate the blade, Jackson had to add an extra block of hydraulic valves to his tractor.

Total out-of-pocket cost was \$500. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard Jackson, 9440 Ringgold Fairfield Rd., Circleville, Ohio 43113 (ph 614-474-8167).

