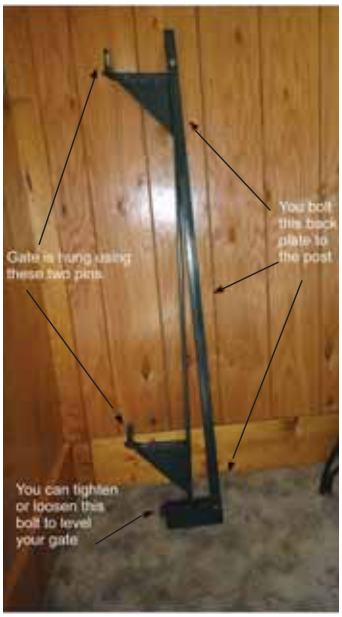


Gate leveling bracket bolts onto existing gate post. Lets you "relevel" a gate when it begins to sag.

Add-On "Leveler" Keeps Gate From Sagging

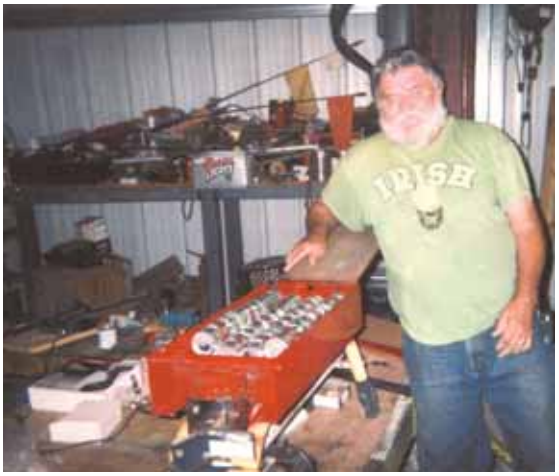
"Any gate will eventually sag," says Roland Ottomoeller, Clarissa, Minn., who invented a gate leveling bracket that lets you "relevel" a gate when it begins to sag

The Level-All gate hanger bolts onto the existing gate post and can be used to hang all manufactured farm gates. It comes with two pins welded to a flat piece of steel and a channel iron bolted to the bottom of the post. The operator turns a 3/4-in. dia. set screw in the channel iron to change the angle of the gate, leveling it.

"It's a simple idea but it works great," says Ottomoeller. "The set screw has a lot of leverage so it only takes a few turns to lift the gate. It also works well to level two gates hung opposite each other."

Ottomoeller sells plans for the Level-All on www.gizmoplans.com.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roland Ottomoeller, 20496 414th St., Clarissa, Minn. 56440 (ph 218 756-2238; ottoroland51@hotmail.com).



Jim Dolan's aluminum can crusher bolts onto the table of an electric-operated log splitter. It flattens 20 cans at a time.

"Log Splitter" Quickly Converts To 20-Can Crusher

Jim Dolan, Las Vegas, Nevada, converted an electric-operated log splitter into an aluminum can crusher that'll flatten 20 cans at a time.

The can crusher bolts onto the splitter table. By removing 3 bolts, Dolan can convert the unit back to a log splitter.

Cans are placed inside a 20-in. long, 8-in. wide galvanized steel container made up of two 4 by 6-in. side rails spaced 18 in. apart. A 1/4-in. dia. threaded rod connects the side rails together at one end, where a 3/8-in. thick steel "drive plate" attaches to the splitter's push plate with one bolt. At the other end, a combination metal "stop" and hinged lid attaches to the splitter's wedge with 2 bolts.

"After placing 20 cans in the container I lower the lid and hold it down with one hand while using my other hand to extend the cylinder. Once the cylinder reaches the wedge end of the container it automatically retracts, and then I raise the lid and place another 20 cans inside and crush them. I repeat the process a third time. Once all 60 cans have been crushed I open the lid, remove all the cans, and dump them into a 30-gal. trash bag.

"It takes three full bags of uncrushed cans to fill one bag with crushed cans that weigh about 22 lbs. Whenever the price of aluminum goes up, I load the bags in my pickup and haul them to our local recycling center.

"I bought the log splitter at Home Depot for $299. It took me about 1 1/2 hrs. to design the crusher, and less than 3 hrs. to build it."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jim Dolan, HCR 38, Box 77, Las Vegas, Nevada 89124 (ph 702 395-2885).

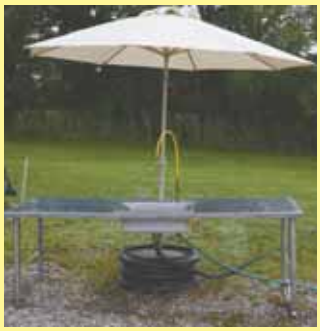
Worktable Makes Veggie Cleanup Easy

Susan Handy, St. Johnsonville, N.Y., liked the garden work station she saw in Mother Earth News so much that she asked her husband Wayne to build one. Now they use it to keep garden dirt out of the house when cleaning vegetables.

"Wayne got an old stainless steel workbench from a neighbor who was no longer using it," she says. "The sink came from a junkyard, and he fabricated the faucet. We even added an old picnic table umbrella for shade."

Wayne cut a hole to mount the sink and another for the faucet. He used a ball valve mounted in the table and connected it to a garden hose for a water source. To ensure ample clearance over veggies in the sink, Wayne bent coated 1/2-in. copper tubing in a high arc. Wastewater is routed through a drain hose to the nearby lawn.

"The umbrella pole extends through the table from a concrete base that we had used for a clothesline," says Susan. "The cost was minimal, but it's really convenient."



Home-built work table has a sink and faucet, with an umbrella for shade.

Telescoping Drawbar Hitch

"It takes the guesswork out of hooking up to any implement, saving time and greatly adding to safety," says Harold Fratzke about his new H&K Quick Coupler Tractor Drawbar. He and his son Kent introduced it at the recent Minnesota Inventors Congress, where it took first place honors.

The invention allows the tractor driver to back up within a reasonable distance of the implement, get out and pull the drawbar out to the implement hitch, and hook up the pin. Then he gets back in the tractor and backs up until the drawbar locks into place.

It consists of a steel plate with a couple of welded-on guides that mount under the tractor's original drawbar, and a spring-loaded release handle that mounts in front of the drawbar pin. The release handle pulls the drawbar pin out, allowing the operator to then pull the drawbar back.

"It eliminates a trip out of the tractor cab to check the alignment of the tractor hitch to the implement, and also eliminates the need for anyone to help while hooking up to an implement," says Harold. "Any time you don't have to put someone between the tractor and the implement you're being a lot safer. Many people know someone who got his fingers smashed when trying to hook up a tractor to an implement.

"The drawbar can be moved about a half inch to either side, which is usually all the adjustment you'll need when backing up. The forward-backward positioning's the real problem. In the future we plan to design it so the drawbar can be swung even farther from side to side."

He says the unit doesn't change the tractor's pulling point at all. "You're pulling from the exact same location so you're not changing anything as far as how you pull the implement. The 2 guides keep the pin centered so it always drops in place as you back up the tractor."

A 10-in. long tube extends forward from the drawbar to keep the hitch pin from accidentally dropping down in front of the drawbar.

Harold Fratzke developed this telescoping, quick coupler tractor drawbar. "It takes the guesswork out of hooking up to any implement," he says.

Fratzke's telescoping drawbar hitch isn't for sale, but he hopes one of the major tractor manufacturers will pick up on the idea.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harold Fratzke, 234 Shoreview Dr., Cottonwood, Minn. 56229 (ph 507 423-6341; cell 507 530-6090).