

## Cordless Drill Unloads Feed From Tote Container

"It's an inexpensive way to store and dispense chicken feed," says Carl Baldwin, Clarksville, Tenn., who uses a cordless drill equipped with a 1 3/4-in. dia. bulb planting auger to "drill" dry chicken feed out of a 275-gal. industrial bulk container (IBC) originally designed to store liquids.

The square poly container mounts on cement blocks about 3 ft. off the ground. Baldwin uses the cordless drill and mini auger to pull a mixture of cracked corn, wheat, millet, and sorghum out of the container's outlet into 5-gal. buckets.

"The IBC container has a 6-in. dia. opening at the top and a 2-in. dia. outlet at the bottom that would have been too small for grain to flow out freely," says Baldwin. "I removed the flapper valve from the outlet so I could insert the bulb planting auger into it. The auger shaft always stays with the container,

and whenever I want to unload feed I just attach the drill to it."

The auger is held in place by a 2-ft. length of 1-in. sq. tubing, which Baldwin bolted vertically to the container's metal holding frame. The tubing extends down just below the outlet. The auger shaft is inserted through a 3/8-in. dia. hole that Baldwin drilled through the tubing. He slipped a piece of rubber hose over the shaft and clamped the hose in place to keep the auger from drilling itself into the tank during operation, and to act as a thrust bearing.

"It works slick. I think the same idea could be used with almost any kind of dry material such as sand, etc.," says Baldwin. "IBC's are strong, durable, and water and rodent-proof. I bought mine from someone who had been using it to store waste vegetable oil. You can often find the containers online for about



Equipped with a bulb planting auger, cordless drill is used to pull dry chicken feed out of a 275-gal. industrial bulk container originally designed to store liquids.

\$100."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Carl Baldwin, 677 Vaughan Rd., Clarksville,

Tenn. 37043 (ph 931 358-3117 or cell 931 242-5738; baldybaldwin@charter.net).

## Metal Sign Holders Made To Last

"I own hunting land and I got tired of having my no hunting and no trespassing signs fall off, rot, or blow away," says Tony Westimayer, a Wisconsin stamping engineer. "I went to every hardware store and home improvement store in my area but couldn't find anything that would work better. After that, I decided to come up with my own idea."

Westimayer's invention is a durable metal sign holder that easily mounts to wood fence posts, trees, "T" posts, farm gates, chain link fencing or any flat surface. He calls it a Postryte. The 8 by 12-in. Postryte frame secures any plastic sign on its flat surface with small tabs. The bracket, made of .032 in. galvanized steel, won't rust and will hold up to all weather conditions.

"One of our concerns was to make sure the holder would stand up to wind," Westimayer says. "So we did our own wind test. My brother drove me down the road at 70 miles an hour and I held the holder out the window to catch the wind straight on, at an angle and

from the back. It didn't bend or break and the plastic sign stayed in place, so we figured our unscientific test was good for the average land owner," Westimayer says with a laugh.

Before building production models, Westimayer made a prototype out of cardboard, and then made other versions out of different types and thicknesses of metal. He settled on a sturdy galvanized metal and his brother used his tool and die expertise to design the tabs that secure plastic signs onto the holder.

Westimayer also designed simple brackets that screw into the back of birdhouses, and then bolt onto any size "T" post. "This bracket is much better than U-bolts," Westimayer says, "and a lot easier to put up, too." He also has a bracket to mount trail cameras.

Last year Westimayer took his products to the giant national hardware show in Las Vegas and won a "retailers choice" award. He has a patent pending on all three designs. He



Durable metal sign holder easily mounts to wood fence posts, trees, "T" posts, farm gates, chain link fencing, or any flat surface.

sells the items on his company website and is also getting distribution at hardware stores and other retail outlets. The price of a single 8 by 12-in. Postryte sign holder is \$6.99. Value packs in quantity are also available.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tony Westimayer, Wesbry Products LLC, N6585 Saint Helena Rd., Horicon, Wis. 53032 (ph 920 485-4052; postryte@gmail.com; www.wesbry.com).

## Vest Keeps Him Cool All Summer

Gary Duspiva found a "cool" way to deal with last summer's heat by wearing an Aqua Vest by Coolshirt Systems (www.coolshirt.net). In spite of 90 to 100-degree temperatures at his Parma, Idaho farm, he was able to work comfortably on his cabless IH tractor by wearing a broad-rim hat and the vest, which connects to a pump that circulates cold water through the surgical tubing in the vest.

"It's hard to describe the feeling of this vest to people," Duspiva says. "But when they try it on, they are appreciative of it. You are just encompassed with cool. Just cooling the core of your body does the job."

Duspiva drills water wells and saw an ad for the vest 4 years ago.

"I bought a unit and liked it so well, that I hooked up to be a dealer for it," he says. While he believes it's a valuable product, he says he's not a good salesman and that people in his area are deterred by the \$650 cost. Portability is also an issue for many – though Coolshirt Systems has battery-powered and backpack options.

Initially designed to keep surgeons cool while wearing Tyvek protective clothing, Coolshirts' products have become popular with athletes, racecar drivers and emergency workers. One unit is large enough to cool six firefighters at a time to avoid heat exhaustion, for example.

"What I like about the vest is that it's easy on and off with quick-connects – like hydraulic connectors. When you disconnect, the water stays in the vest," Duspiva says. If



Hoses run to the vest from a portable unit the size of a small cooler.

he's trimming weeds or doing some other ambulatory chore, the vest keeps him cool for 30 to 45 minutes after it's disconnected. Then he plugs back in for a couple of minutes to cool it down again.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gary Duspiva, 25050 Pet Ln., Parma, Idaho 83660 (ph 208 722-5304; vertical.pipeline.specialist@gmail.com).

## Seeder Plants 3 Crops At Once

There's never been a seed drill like this one from Woods. It can plant 3 different crops at a time, all at different depths.

Chad Bailey, Market Manager at Woods Equipment says the company worked with dealers and users to design the machine. "One user said he wanted a seeder accurate enough to spread a coffee can of seed over one acre," Bailey said, "and that's something that was almost impossible to do until we built this seeder."

The Precision Super Seeder has three boxes that meter different size seed with extreme accuracy. Bailey says that Woods engineers used fluted seed cups, an adjustable metering system, and added a seed calibration tray.

"The Precision Super Seeder's boxes allow cool season, warm season and legume seeds to be planted at the same time," Bailey says. Rye grass, oats, prairie grasses, wild flowers, radishes and beans will all work in the PSS."

Its ability to place different seeds at different depths at the same time is unique. Bailey says, "one set of seed tubes go in front of the roller planting at 1 1/2 in. deep and the other can go behind it placing seeds on the surface of the soil. Then the cast-iron cultipacker firms the ground for excellent seed to soil contact at both depths."

The PSS is available in 4, 5, and 7-ft. widths. All models mount with Cat I and II hitches and will also work on an ASAE Quick Hitch. Boxes are sized at 1, 4, and 5 bushels on the 4-ft. model up to 1 3/4, 7 and 8 3/4 bushels on the 7-ft. model. Warm season seed



Woods seeder can plant 3 different crops at a time, all at different depths.

is accurately metered with a picker wheel and one lynch pin engages or disengages each seed box independently without using tools.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Chad Bailey, Woods Equipment Company, 2606 S. Ill. Route 2, Oregon, Ill. 61061 (ph 800-319-6637; www.woods-equipment.com).