



"Donut"-shaped collar at the top of the hopper supports plant as it grows up out of the cylindrical base which encircles the plant.

PROVIDES 'GREENHOUSE' EFFECT FOR TOMATOES AND FLOWERS

"Sunrise" Hopper Gets Plants Off To Fast Start

Minnesota "green thumber" George De Mars, of Bovey, has come up with a clever way to get tomatoes, flowers and other garden plants off to a faster, healthier start.

Individual plants have their own private greenhouse called a "Sunrise Hopper." It's made of plastic and consists of three parts: A cylindrical 14 in. dia. neck about 20 in. long, a donut-shaped collar (31 in. dia.) and a 16 in. dia. lid.

Early in the spring, 4 to 6 weeks before you would normally start setting out plants and flowers, you screw the collar 4 in. into the ground and set one or two started tomato plants inside. To protect against frost, you cover the collar at sunset with the lid (it has a small center opening for air). Early the

next morning, you go out and remove the lid on each Sunrise Hopper.

After 4 to 6 weeks when the plants begin to branch out, you insert the 31 in. dia. donut-shaped collar which, during the growing season, helps support the branches and keeps tomatoes off the ground. It also retains moisture and helps protect the plant against wind.

DeMars is looking for a manufacturer. Meanwhile, interested "green thumbs" wanting to experiment can purchase hand-made prototype "Sunrise Hoppers" for \$12.95 each.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, George DeMars, Rt. 2, Bovey, Minn. 55709 (ph 218 245-1059).

"GREAT FOR MOWING IN ROCKS"

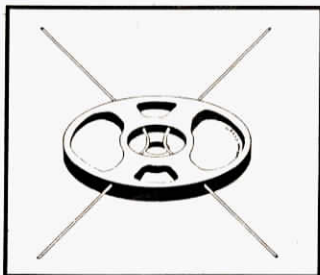
String-Cutter Replaces Metal Mower Blades

New from McGrew Products is a string-type "Grasshopper" cutter that replaces the metal blades on conventional rotary-type lawn mowers.

"It'll cut grass as good or better than metal blades and is adaptable to most makes of single, double or triple blade mowers," says David McGrew, manufacturer. "The Grasshopper mulches your lawn as you mow — without having to do any blade sharpening. And it's especially handy for mowing in rough, rock-infested areas that are virtually impossible to mow safely with metal-blade mowers."

Designed for use with replaceable .105 nylon filament, the Grasshopper attachment sells for \$10.95, plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling.

For more information, contact: FARM



"Grasshopper" adapts to most makes of single, double or triple blade mowers.

SHOW Followup, McGrew Products Inc., 2509 College ave., Terre Haute, Ind. 47803 (ph 812 235-3328).

CRANKS DOWN FOR CLEAN-OUT

"E-Z Up" Bird House Has A Built-In Winch

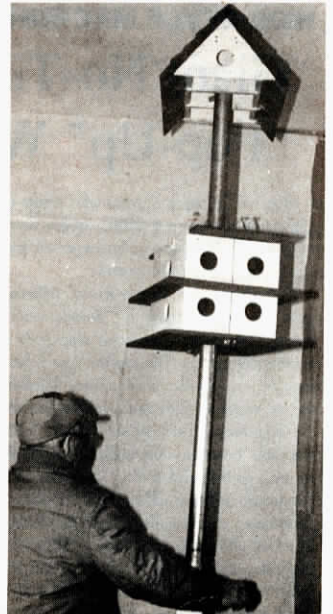
You'll like this pole-mounted "E-Z Up" martin house with a built-in winch that cranks the house up and down as needed for clean-out.

Clarence Kirchner, Fulda, Minn., came up with the design. "I built my first martin house when I retired. It took two men to do the required yearly cleaning. After several years I decided there had to be a better way," says Kirchner.

His new martin house mounts on a 2-in. steel pole. The roof is fixed at the top of the pole but the body of the house - containing 14 separate nesting compartments - raises and lowers via a steel cable that runs up the center of the pole. A steel box near the base of the pole houses the built-in winch.

Once the house has been lowered, a second steel cable from the bottom of the house attaches to an anchor hook. When the house is cranked back up a couple feet, the cable pulls the two halves of the house apart, automatically dumping the nests on the ground and making it easy to finish clean-up. Once cleaned, the two halves of the nest are rejoined, locked, and cranked back up into position.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Clarence Kirchner, Rt. 1, Box 98G, Fulda, Minn. 56131 (ph 507 425-2761).



A winch, enclosed in a box near the base of the pole, is used to raise and lower the new martin house.

Vertical Hog Roaster

Hogs roast better if you hang them straight up and down over the fire rather than across it, according to Louisiana inventor Jim Booker, who's built and patented the first vertical "hog hanger".

Booker says vertical roasting causes more fat to drip from the animal, resulting in a leaner, less fattening meal.

To use his vertical rotisserie, Booker built a 4 by 7-ft. open-ended metal shed. He builds a big fire inside the shed and hangs the pig in the open end. The shed traps heat to evenly cook the vertical pig which is enclosed in a wire roasting rack. The rack is flipped every 2 1/2 hrs. It takes 6 to 9 hrs. to completely cook a 35 to 90 lb. pig, or a beef quarter.

A 1 1/2-in. pipe suspended about 6 ft. above ground supports the vertical rotisserie, which consists of a 1 rpm Dayton electric motor. Booker also makes a heavy-duty model for up to a 200-lb. hog.



Booker flips the vertical roasting rack every 2 1/2 hrs.

The vertical Hog Hanger sells for \$94.95, not including the roasting rack.

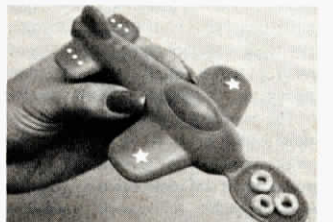
For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Booker Industries, P.O. Box 355, Marksville, La. 71351-0355 (ph 318 253-6018).

Fun Spoon For Kids

"Makes meal time a fun time for kids of all ages," says the manufacturer of the new airplane-shaped spoon, made of FDA approved and "dishwasher safe" polypropylene plastic.

It's available in an infant model (holds 1/2 teaspoon) for infants up to 12 months of age, and a children's model (holds 1 teaspoon). Both models are handy for administering medicines and are molded for a child's small hands, the manufacturer points out.

Sells for \$2, plus 50 cents for shipping and handling. Comes in red, white, blue, pink or yellow. Specify color and model (children or infant) when ordering.



Airplane spoon comes in red, white, blue, pink or yellow.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harber Inc., 7216 Washington Ave., Eden Prairie, Minn. 55344 (ph 612 944-6880).