



Pairs of 18-in. long weed trimmer lines loop through holes that Steven Simpson drilled into the mulching blades on his Deere riding mower.



Simpson drilled the line mounting holes at about a 35 degree angle to the blade, which keeps the lines spaced about 1/4 in. apart.



“Weed Eater” Lines Added To Mower Deck Blades

“It pulverizes leaves into small pieces for fast decomposition without any lawn raking whatsoever,” says Steven Simpson, Quincy, Ind., who attaches weed trimmer line to the blades on his Deere 430 riding mower equipped with a 60-in. deck.

Pairs of 18-in. long weed trimmer lines loop through holes that Simpson drilled into

the mower’s mulching blades. There are 3 blades on the deck and 2 trimmer lines per blade. As the blades rotate, centrifugal force lays the lines over without overlapping.

“It works better than anything I’ve ever used,” says Simpson. “I mow about 5 acres with more than 50 trees on it so I have a lot of leaves to get rid of. Saving time is important to me because I’m a single dad raising a teenage daughter who’s in about every sport you can think of.

“I used it for the first time last year. I went over the yard 3 times in the fall and then once again this spring to take care of a few leftover leaves. I replaced the lines only once during that time. I had been using the mulching blades by themselves for 6 years, but it took a lot longer because I often had to go over the same area several times. The combination of the trimmer lines and the mulching blades produces a continuous mulching action that reduces leaves almost to dust. I can usually hit the lawn once and I’m done.”

“I drilled the line mounting holes at about a 35 degree angle to the blade, which keeps the lines spaced about 1/4 in. apart,” says



Combination of trimmer lines and mulching blades produces a continuous mulching action that pulverizes leaves into small pieces for fast decomposition.

Simpson.

He used his drill press to cut a pair of holes about 1/4 in. apart about 1 ft. from each end of the blade. The holes are the same size as the trimmer line.

He uses .95 dia. twisted trimmer line with sharp edges on it. “Bigger .105 line would probably work better, but I used what I had,” he says. “To determine the length of line

needed I first cut it a little long. Then after I looped the line through the holes I cut it off even with the end of the blade. The line simply loops through the 2 holes so it’s easy to replace.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Steven Simpson, 9601 North U.S. Hwy. 231, Quincy, Ind. 47456 (ph 765 712-0930; roadking231@icloud.com).

Vol. 39, No. 3, 2015

Harold M. Johnson

Founder

Editor/Publisher

Mark Newhall (mark@farmshow.com)

Senior Editor

Bill Gergen (bill@farmshow.com)

Contributing Editors

Jim Ruen (edgcom@acegroup.cc)

C.F. Marley (ph 217 563-2588)

Dee Goerge (dee_goerge@yahoo.com)

Lorn Manthey (redoakridge@mac.com)

Office Manager

Anne Lash (anne@farmshow.com)

Circulation (circulation@farmshow.com)

Shelly Mende, Mary Lunde, Kimberly

Trapp

FARM SHOW (ISSN #01634518) is published 7 times per year (bimonthly plus one special “Best of FARM SHOW” issue published in December) for \$25.95 per year (\$29.95 in Canada) by Farm Show Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 1029, 20088 Kenwood Trail, Lakeville, Minn. 55044. Periodicals postage paid at Lakeville, Minn., and Madelia, Minn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 952 469-5572; fax 952 469-5575; email: circulation@farmshow.com; website: www.farmshow.com). Single copy price is \$5.95 (\$7.50 in Canada). Publication No. 469490.

In Canada:

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40032660. Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses To: Dycorn Mail Svcs., 495 Berry St, Winnipeg, MB R3J 1N6; Email: circulation@farmshow.com

FARM SHOW does not accept advertising and focuses exclusively on new products and product evaluations.

FARM SHOW does not charge for new products or services featured in the magazine. Anyone with a new product or service of interest to farmers - whether inventor, manufacturer, marketer, distributor or whatever - is invited to contact FARM SHOW regarding possible publication.

FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., has not tested or used any of the ideas or products described in its publications. FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., does not promote, recommend or endorse the use of the ideas or products described in its publications. FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., disclaims any and all responsibilities and liabilities in the event of personal injury, death, property damage or losses as the result of the use or application of any such ideas or products. Anyone applying or using such ideas or products does so at his, her or their own risk.

Printed in U.S.A. All rights reserved, including the right of reproduction, in whole or in part, without written permission.



May-June, 2015

Porta-Potty Pigeon Coop

Larry and Susan Lester’s pigeons live the good life in a converted porta-potty shell. The rain-tight, portable toilet has proven ideal for the couple’s Tumbler and Roller pigeons. The plastic will never rot, and it came with air vents already in place.

“When the local gun club built a new club house, they didn’t need the old portable toilet,” explains Susan. “When Larry asked about it, they said he could have it. He brought it home and went to work on it.”

Like any good remodeling job, the first task was to gut the interior and wash it out. The next step was to insulate the walls and door by lining them with thick plywood. He painted the interior a light blue and attached a door latch on the outside to secure the shell.

“He built nesting boxes using 5-gal. square plastic containers, originally used to hold mayonnaise, that he got from a local restaurant,” says Susan. “He cut holes in the back wall and mounted the containers through them, with a strip of wood across the front of each so baby pigeons won’t fall out.”

Larry wrapped exterior portions of the nesting boxes with insulation to keep the heat inside. After mounting dowels for sitting perches, he filled the nesting boxes with straw. He also mounted an old camera lens in the door so he can check on the nesting birds without disturbing them.

Larry cut a hole in one side of the coop and hung an old 4 by 4-ft. dog kennel against the hole. A door in the side of the kennel gives the Lesters easy access. The kennel floor holds food and water as well as giving the birds safe access to fresh air and sunlight.

“Larry let them out in the open one day and a hawk got 3 of them,” says Susan.



Converted porta-potty has insulated walls and door lined with thick plywood. Kennel provides outside access for pigeons.

A plexiglas panel over the top of the kennel keeps out rain, yet allows the Lesters to check on the pigeons from a 2nd floor window.

“The birds love their house,” says Susan. “They seem very happy and content. Four of the females have already hatched out babies.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Susan Lester, 370 Hope Dr., Rutherfordton, N. C. 28139 (ph 828 288-3030; Slester214@aol.com).

Nesting boxes were built from 5-gal. square plastic containers. Lester cut holes in porta-potty’s back wall to mount them.

