

# Reader Letters



I was driving along a rural road when I spotted this solid-looking fence stile for getting up and over a fence without a gate. The legs are made out of heavy angle iron and a pair of handrails across the top are made from 1-in. pipe. There's a large platform on top to allow the user to turn around comfortably before going down the other side. I don't know who the owner is but it looked like it wouldn't be too difficult to weld together from scrap metal. **(C.F. Marley, Nokomis, Ill.)**

We stopped our 3-pt. mounted Bush Hog mower from digging into the dirt by add-



ing four gauge wheels across the front of the mower deck. The wheels came off a forklift. I made the brackets that support the wheels out of heavy metal braces. **(Robert Dunton, 20494 E. County Rd. 1900 N, Topeka, Ill. 61567 ph 309 256-2875)**

We've helped hundreds of FARM SHOW readers convert Cat engines from pony motor to electric start using our do-it-yourself kits. The kits are available for both 12 and 24-volt electric systems. They sell for as little as \$595 to as much as \$885, depending on the kit.

New for 2001 is a kit to convert Cat generators to a 1-wire alternator. Sells for \$385. We also have 1-wire alternators for other applications - 6, 8, 12, and 24-volt available. They sell for \$149. **(Brian Parker, 22775 Pearl St., Jerome, Mo. 65529 ph 573 762-2280; E-mail: bandc@fidnet.com)**

I enjoyed your article in the last issue of FARM SHOW on New Holland's new prototype combine. I thought I'd let you know that the new space-age looking combine was also spotted in British fields this year.

These photos were taken last summer and published by a magazine called



Tractor & Machinery. They show the machine working fields in England. The magazine reported that the machine was accompanied by a team of engineers

from Belgium, since it will reportedly be built at a factory in Zedelgem, Belgium. **(Dr. Andrew J. Sewell, Engineer, Northumberland, England E-mail: combinedoc@aol.com)**

Thanks for including us in your listing of companies selling metal working tools and supplies. However, I wanted to inform your readers that we don't sell benchtop metal-working tools. We specialize in bearings, sprockets, gears, speed reducers, roller chain, electric motors, shaft couplers, hydraulic cylinders, lubricating equipment, and just about any other kind of bearings and power transmission equipment. We would be happy to work with your readers to solve their parts needs for any machine or project. **(Clint Felts, Bearings & Industrial Sales, Inc., 625 Lindsay Blvd., Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402 ph 800-274-7775 or 208 522-0266)**

Thanks for your article on my Vertilathe attachment that turns a drill press into a mini wood lathe.

Any readers who tried to call me using the telephone number in the magazine



might have had a problem. My correct toll-free phone number is 1-800-728-7751, ext 04. I'll be happy to hear from any of your readers who could use a small wood lathe. **(George Devine, G.H. Devine, Inc., 306 Albany Ave., Kingston, N.Y. 12401 ph 800-728-7751, ext 04)**

I thought this unique "front wheel drive" motorcycle might be of interest to other



FARM SHOW readers. It's on display at a museum in Otterberg, Germany. It's fitted with a 5-cylinder, 2-cycle air-cooled engine that mounts inside the front wheel. There's a big magneto on the left side of the cycle and a flywheel on the right side. You start the engine by turn-

ing the flywheel. After it's warmed up, you put the brake on the flywheel and the engine turns, pulling the cycle forward. **(Eldon Marks, 10696 513<sup>th</sup> Ave., Amboy, Minn. 56010 ph 507 674-3828)**

I keep a snow shovel by the back door in winter. But every time I would go to use it the handle would be snowy or icy. So I made a cover for the handle out of a piece of pvc pipe with an end cap on one end. When I need to shovel, I just slip off the cover and the handle is clean and dry. **(Henry Walsh, RR3, Souris, Prince Edward Island C0A 2B0 Canada)**



I must take exception to the story in your last issue, "Better Corner Posts" (Vol. 24, No. 6). The design shown is far inferior to "H" corner post designs and is at best suitable as a temporary corner post. The weak point of the design is the short brace post. The soil must hold it in place but in most cases, you can never compact the hole sufficiently. One way you could reduce the problem would be to backfill the hole with concrete.

On an "H" corner post design, the horizontal brace and diagonal wire brace causes both the corner post and the brace post to work as a unit to resist movement.

Here are three rules to follow when setting corner posts: 1. Set posts deep; 2. Backfill with concrete; 3. Put a rain cap on top of posts to keep moisture from entering the end grain. **(Ivan L. Pfalser, Rt 1, Box 162, Caney, Kan. 67333 ph 316 879-2938)**

If you've got an invention that relates to the harvesting or handling of hay, you might want to bring it to the seventh annual Mid-America Alfalfa Expo which will be held February 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Hastings, Neb. Over 35,000 sq. ft. of heated, indoor exhibit space will feature the latest in alfalfa production equipment, irrigation systems, and many related products.

Cash awards will given to the top three inventions. **(Craig D. Buescher, Rt. 1, Box 54, Deweese, Neb. 68934 ph 402 262-2311; E-mail: alfalfaexpo@alltel.net)**



Due to health problems, we have decided to sell the patent for our Handi Arm end door truck opener which was featured in FARM SHOW magazine and on one of your videos. We would like to hear from anyone who might be interested in buying the U.S. patent, which is for 20 years. We had hoped to travel and promote this product but my change in health has changed all that. **(Elgin Routledge, P.O. Box 2339, Virden, Manitoba R0M 2C0 Canada ph 204 748-3368)**

I liked the article on the "corny Christmas tree" in the last issue of FARM SHOW. Here's a picture of some deco-



rations I made from corn cobs - a tree, snowman, and everyone's favorite, Santa. **(Lennis Conduff, 18545 Lomax Rd., Prophetstown, Ill. 61277 ph 815 537-2000; E-mail: dawson@essex1.com)**



We've had a bench swing outside our house for more than 30 years, and the horizontal steel pipe that supports the swing always seemed to wear out where the chains hook onto it. To solve the problem I welded a pair of universal joints onto the pipe, ran the chains up through them, and bolted them on. The universal joints freely pivot back and forth. Now the swing is a lot more quiet and smooth.

**(J.D. Bates, 148 N. Warren Rd., Ovid, Mich. 48866 ph 517 834-5163.)**



I found your article on the "World's Fastest Cow Wins First Udder Race" (Vol. 24, No. 5) very interesting. I'd like to share a story with you.



I own "Cody", a 13-year-old buffalo that played the lead buffalo in the movie "Dances With Wolves" and also starred in the movie "Radio Flyer". He has starred in commercials and has been to the Mall of America. He has also been in National Geographic and People magazine and frequently attends fairs, local celebrations, and fund raisers.