

Reader Letters



Thanks for your article in the last issue of FARM SHOW about our thriving corn soap business. People who've used our soap tell us it cleans hands better than any soap on the market.

Unfortunately, there was a typo in the phone number. The correct number to reach us is 765 762-6874. **(Larry Wagner, Maysville Soap Company, 2005 East 1400 North, Attica, Ind. 47918)**

A modified golf cart is a lot more handy and comfortable to operate than a 4-



wheeler. Mine is equipped front and back with hitches for moving wagons and other equipment. A couple 5-gal. buckets mount in back for carrying cargo. A plywood cover over the top of the buckets provides a flatbed area for carrying additional loads.

What I like is how easy it is to get on and off. **(Roger Wessels, Fairbury, Ill.)**



I came up with an easy way to wash my hands while spraying in the field. I mounted a 3-gal. plastic water container inside a plywood box that mounts on top of my tractor's front-end weights. I use the washer whenever I'm pumping liquid fertilizer into the tractor's saddle tanks. It's really convenient. The container has a spigot on it so all I do is push a button. The box is bolted to a length of 1-in. angle iron that extends through openings in the weight handles. A bungee strap that extends through the container handle keeps the jug secure inside the box. **(Steve Spiering, 48594 Hwy. 158, Milbank, S. Dak. 57252 ph 320 568-2246)**



We get a lot of rain here in southeast Alaska and have exposure to salt water which means the bearings, brakes, exhaust systems, and other components on 4-WD pickups often have to be replaced. And parts for them aren't cheap.

I noticed that a lot of Toyota 4-WD pickups get driven to the dump because the frames rust out behind the cab. However, Toyota engines seem to run forever so I bought a Toyota 4-WD pickup and chopped the frame off behind the cab. Then I used lengths of square tubing and 2 by 4's to build a flatbed over the pickup's frame. I also shortened the driveshaft and rotated it up by placing shims between the axle and springs. With the shortened

wheelbase it really turns sharp.

My little truck works better than a factory-made model, although if I built it over I'd probably remove one of the leaf springs in order to soften the ride. It really comes in handy for launching boats and pulling small trailers around our homestead, and it's also fun to drive on area logging roads. It works better than an ATV because it's equipped with windshield wipers, seat belts, and a heater. **(Jim Blades, Box 691, Sitka, Alaska 99835)**

Any of your readers who live near loud gas or oil line equipment may be interested in our company which specializes in solving loud noise problems. Noise Solutions Inc. was formed in 1997 and has grown in size and reputation ever since. Our acoustical engineers provide comprehensive noise assessments, then design and install the required noise control equipment, and determine the effectiveness of the solution. Much of our work involves controlling noise produced by compressors used by natural gas companies, and large engines used in the oil industry. It takes big engines to move natural gas through pipelines, and they make a lot of noise.

Noise control is becoming a bigger issue in many areas because of population growth and quality of life issues. Noise control restrictions are becoming more common. **(Gavin Turnbull, Noise Solutions, Inc., 310 - 605 1st St. S.W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2P 3S9 ph 403 232-0916; website: www.noise-solutions.com)**



This photo shows my dog Brandy "driving" tractor. I guess it proves once and for all that farming is going to the dogs! Actually, Brandy isn't really driving the tractor - it just looks that way. Whenever I tell her to go drive the tractor, she jumps up onto the seat and then sits down and puts her paws on the steering wheel.

I took the photos at our local barber shop where the owner put them up on the wall in front of the barber's chairs.

Brandy always loved having her photo taken. We got her from the Humane Society in Winnipeg. She died one year ago. **(James Bonner, Box 515, Winkler, Manitoba, Canada R6W 4A7 ph 204 325-6799)**



We wanted a low-cost way to move trees, so when I was at a junkyard and saw a tank with 1/2-in. thick steel walls I took part of the tank home and made this tree



I read your story in the last issue about a family living in a converted Morton building. My family lives in an FBI pole barn that we have converted into combination home and welding shop. The building measures 120 by 60-ft. and has 24-ft. high ceilings. We saved about 100,000 in construction over the cost of building a separate home and shop.

What's unique about our "barn home" is that we extended the roof to create a 60 by 20-ft. porch at one end. The poles that support the extension are boxed in with cedar siding to give it a country feel. The living area is 1,700 sq. ft. and includes an indoor pond. **(Kathy Smith, 8796 S. US 231, Brookston, Ind. 47923 ph 765 563-3158)**



shovel. We've used it to move hundreds of trees and it works great. I installed a fast hitch on it so I can quickly mount it on my loader bucket. We can move trees with trunks up to 4 in. diameter.



One thing I learned about moving trees is that timing is everything. The rule to follow is, if there's an "R" in the spelling of the month then the tree is safe to move. For example, the month of May has no letter R. April has the letter R so that would be a month to move a tree. If it's dry then fill the hole with water first, because roots will grow during the winter. **(Ralph F. Johnson, 4597 Sunflower Ridge Dr. N.E., Ada, Mich. 49301)**



I haven't lost as many log chains as I used to since I started to spray paint the chains yellow and the hooks red. The bright colors make the chains much more visible in grass and leaves. **(Bill Reeks, 7104B U.S. Hwy. 231 South, Cromwell, Ky. 42333 ph 270 274-3361)**

I came up with a simple way to add a hydraulic lift table to my wood splitter. The table consists of an 18-in. wide, 36-in. long diamond steel plate that's hinged at



one end where it attaches to the splitter beam. A 2 1/2 by 8-in. hydraulic cylinder is used to raise and lower the table. An angle iron bracket supports the cylinder. **(Max Hoy, 2012 Jackson Run Rd., Warren, Penn. 16365)**



Thanks for the story in your last issue on my exhaust system, which removes odors from our cat's litter box in the basement of our house. I've come up with another labor-saving idea for my cat.

Any time we would run water in our sink or flush a toilet, the cat would run like crazy to get a drink of water even though it already had a water bowl. To make it easier for the cat to get its own fresh water, I installed a separate water spout on our kitchen sink. A length of curved copper tubing taps into the existing water line. To get a drink, the cat puts its front feet on a small 3 by 5-in. stainless steel pedal mounted in one corner of the sink. The pedal is wired to a microswitch that opens a solenoid valve. It delivers a small, steady stream of water that's easy for the cat to drink. **(Joe Hinger, 13772 Glazier Ct., Apple Valley, Minn. 55124 ph 952 953-0347)**

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