

Reader Letters



Editor's Note: Our report on the Greenedge Precision Fencing one-pass fencing machine in the last issue (Vol. 39, No. 6) said there was a video of the company's 5-strand fence system at FARM SHOW's website. It should have directed readers to the company's website, www.greenedges.com.



Here's my suggestion to your readers. When you are done reading your copy of FARM SHOW, leave it at your barbershop. That's how I discovered the magazine. Now I'm a subscriber and I just ordered 3 gift subscriptions. **(Daniel J. Barrett, Office of the District Attorney, Bradford County, Penn.)**

I want to thank FARM SHOW for printing the article about making penetrating oil from a 50-50 mix of automatic transmission fluid and acetone. At the time I read it, I had just bought a 602 Minneapolis-Moline tractor with a motor that had been stuck for a long time. So in July I poured that penetrating oil mix into the cylinders and let it sit for a couple months. When I started playing with it in October, we were able to free it up. We got the tractor running and drove it down the road about a quarter mile. It used 2 quarts of oil so we thought we would have to overhaul the engine. But, in just a little bit, the muffler turned white and there was no blowby. The engine runs great now and uses no oil. Thanks FARM SHOW. **(William Clift, Marshfield, Mo.)**

The letter in your last issue from a reader who said his old IH freezer costs him \$50 a month to run made me laugh. My folks bought a new IH refrigerator and deep freeze in 1951 when we got rural electricity. It has been moved and unplugged only two times since then. Otherwise, it has been in continuous service. I've never noticed any high electricity usage for it. In fact, it hardly even runs due to the 4-in. insulated walls. In 64 years, it has never even been serviced. **(Marvin Smith, Hooper, Neb.)**

Thanks for the report in your last issue on our "pull and lift" log handling system for woodsplitters called Gorillabac. Unfortunately, the article stated that I was the inventor instead of Fred Kalakay, who came up with the patent-pending idea of screwing a round "grip" ring into heavy logs and using a winch to pull the log over and up onto the splitter deck. It eliminates the need to roll and lift logs while splitting. Handles logs up to 250 lbs. with very little effort required. You can check out this unique new log splitting accessory at our website or call Fred Kalakay at 260 249-9420. **(Tim Turczyn, www.gorillabac.com)**



I mounted a 6-ft. wide patio table umbrella on my Deere 50 tractor. I attached a 1 1/4-in. dia. pipe to the tractor drawbar for it to fit into and also Velcroed it to the tractor seat. The umbrella happened to be green like the tractor. It works great and really makes a difference on hot, sunny days.

I made a 3-ft. long compost sifter from a pair of 5-gal. pail lids attached to each end of a cylinder made out of 1/2-in.



hardware mesh. I fastened the mesh to both lids, then cut away part of one lid to make an opening for filling it up. I drilled a hole through both lids that's big enough for a round wood handle and then ran the handle all the way through, wedging it in tight.

I place the compost sifter inside a wheelbarrow and use the handle to roll it back and forth to sift out compost that's ready to use on our garden. **(Tom Lass, 5502 Hill Rd., Cromwell, Minn. 55726 ph 218 644-3235)**

Steel T-posts work great for No Tresspassing signs. Just drill holes in the flat stabilizer at the bottom to attach the sign and drive the post in upside down. No more looking for convenient fenceposts or trees to hold signs. T-post signs stand tall and can be easily straightened if they tip a bit. Also works great for garage sale signs, auction signs, etc. If the signs are just temporary, upside down posts are quick and easy to remove. **(Keith Ludewig, Forreton, Ill.)**

I was reading through an older issue of FARM SHOW (Vol. 38, No. 1) when I came across an article about Clayton Bjstrom and the lift he designed to help handicapped farmers get up into their combines. My wife had been suffering with knee problems so I thought the lift might be ideal to help her get up onto our patio deck, which is about 6 ft. off the ground. I contacted Mr. Bjstrom and he was able to adapt the lift to work for me. He added 2 large baskets to the sides so she could bring in groceries and other things. I now have hip problems as well so I also use it every day. The lift will allow us to stay in our home for many more years. Compared to a commercial wheelchair lift, this lift was about half the price and requires far less maintenance. Had it not been for your magazine we would not enjoy the freedom we have. **(Frank Ruppert, Burdett, Alberta, Canada)**



Nearly 11 years ago, FARM SHOW ran a story on a 46-ft. long, 2-story camper I built that had a porch and even a garage. The open air 8 by 9-ft. porch was on the top level while the 12-ft. airtight garage in back could be used to carry a smaller car.

I thought you might be interested to know that I sold the camper to a fellow who has driven it all over the U.S. with no problems. It was, and continues to be, one of my most successful projects. **(Delton Bergsgaard, 1402 Pine Ave., Superior, Wis. 54880)**

We're the manufacturer of the Burn Right™ Hi-Temp Mini-incinerator previously featured in FARM SHOW (Vol. 35, No. 1). It's designed to burn trash but we've found that it also works great to burn out tree stumps. The incinerator's round shape makes it ideal for this job, and your yard waste is the fuel so there's no cost.



Just put the incinerator over the stump, fill with yard waste, and burn the stump out. The angle grates at the bottom of the incinerator (which are designed to hold burnables off the ground for increased air flow) can be removed so that the incinerator's base ring lays flat on the ground. The incinerator will contain all burning embers so you can burn stumps safely.

Here's a tip - driving copper nails into a new stump will stop any further growth. Also, drilling holes into the stump like you would when tapping a tree to make maple syrup will dry the stump faster. **(Ron Wilfer, Burn Right Products, ph 262 227-5727; sales@burnrightproducts.com; www.burnrightproducts.com)**

When it's time to clean plant material off my jeans and shoes after using a string weed trimmer, I like to use a stiff-bristled snow brush. It works great on clippings. **(John Wolfe, P.O. Box 3141, Buffalo Head Prairie, Alberta T0H 4H0)**



I painted this pair of 8-ft. sq. quilts on our barn last spring. Each quilt is painted on a plywood door that's hinged to a wooden frame that covers a large opening used years ago to load and unload bales and loose straw.

I installed scaffolding to paint the quilts, first applying a coat of primer and then adding 3 or 4 coats of paint. A final layer of marine varnish keeps the quilts from fading in the sun. **(David Zenk, 57958 418th Lane, New Ulm, Minn. 56073 ph 507 359-9244)**



Here's a photo of my dad's New Holland 166 self-propelled baler. The last time we had it running was a year or two ago when we took it to the world plowing championships near Methven, New Zealand. I still have the baler's original operator's handbook and parts catalog as well as the original wrenches and grease gun.

It's great to see that some of these rare self-propelled balers have survived the test of time, especially when so few were ever built - only 305, I believe. Our baler has the serial number 1276. According to New Holland, their first self-propelled baler was produced on July 30, 1956 and the last one in April of 1957. **(John Paterson, 2009 Georgetown-Pukeuri Road, 4 K.R.D., OAMARU, New Zealand 9494; dunallan@slingshot.co.nz)**

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