



Harlen Grovom built this 7-ft. wide grapple fork out of cultivator and chisel plow shanks.

## Grapple Fork Built From Cultivator, Chisel Shanks

Harlen Grovom of Park River, N. Dak., recently sent photos of a 7-ft. wide grapple fork he built out of cultivator and chisel plow shanks.

"I use it on my Bobcat skid loader to pick up rocks and fallen trees, which I use as firewood for my outdoor woodburning stove. It's built pretty strong," says Grovom.

Grovom had previously used cultivator shanks to build a grapple fork that mounted on the bucket of his New Holland skid loader (Vol. 38, No. 2). "My new model works better because dirt falls between the shanks and onto the ground instead of in the loader bucket. I don't get a load of dirt every time I scoop up something," he says.

He used 4 by 2 tubing off an old cultivator to build the frame, which supports 2 rows of spring-loaded shanks spaced about 7 in. apart. The top row of shanks are off a Wil-rich cultivator, and the bottom row is off a Deere chisel plow. A 1 1/2-in. dia. steel shaft forms the pivot point, and a pair of hydraulic cylinders opens and closes the grapple.

"I use it a lot. It works great to pick up a whole bunch of firewood together at one time. I spaced the shanks as close together as I could to keep material from falling through," says Grovom.

"I really like the spring-loaded shanks, because if one hits something hard it'll bend back without breaking like a welded-on shank might."

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## "Spud Spikes" Cook Potato From The Inside

Spud Spikes are 6-in. long, food-grade stainless steel "nails" that create a better baked potato faster, says Leon Frechette, C.R.S., Inc., Spokane, Wash.

You insert the nail lengthwise into your potatoes before baking. "The nail allows heat to come in from both ends to the center of the potato so it can cook from the inside out. It reduces baking time by up to 50 percent," says Frechette.

The special spikes can also be used for brats and sausages. "They keep the juices in, stay straighter, and lay in the bun nicer once you remove the spike," says Frechette. Spud Spikes can even be inserted into apples before baking and into meat to reduce roasting time.

The company has also developed several gourmet seasoning rubs for the potatoes, including pepper, original blend, and garlic.

"A potato baked with Spud Spikes gets



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evenly baked, and the seasonings deliver favorable crispier skin. Your potatoes will taste like you want them to taste and not like they just came out of the ground," says Frechette. "Spud Spikes are made from the same alloy used in surgical pins and screws."

A set of 4 Spud Spikes and a storage tube sells for \$17.99 plus \$5.95 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, C.R.S., Inc., 1011 E. 29<sup>th</sup> Ave., Spokane, Wash. 99203 (ph 509 926-1724; crs@spudspikes.com; www.spudspikes.com).

Reader Inquiry 122

## First-Of-Its-Kind Wands Clean Out Radiators

As Featured On RFD TV's Successful Farming Machinery Show

"It's designed to clear out every nook and cranny of your machine's cooling system," says Jerry Crum, Okemah, Okla., about his company's newly patented, "Radiator Genie".

It consists of a pair of wands that are sold in a set. One wand hooks up to an air compressor hose and the other to a garden hose. The handle on each wand is equipped with adjustable pressure.

A "pinched down" fan head is designed to fit into the engine's cowl and between the fan blades, where it can be positioned at the correct angle to blow directly through the radiator coils and exert maximum pressure to the back side of the radiator.

"It looks like a simple tool but a lot of thought and design went into it," says Crum. "We tested it for two years with no product failure. The wand tubing is small enough so you can get into confined areas, yet big enough to create a tremendous amount of air force to clean today's high-efficiency, downsized cooling systems. And there is no better tool on the market to clean large or small air filters."

A set of 2 wands sells for \$34.95 plus S&H. Makes a great gift!

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Reader Inquiry No. 123