

Reader Recipes

Black Bean Soup

8 cups pumpkin or butternut squash (half cubed and roasted with salt, pepper and garlic, and half pureed)
4 cups black beans, cooked
1 tbsp fresh, grated ginger
1 medium onion, diced and sauteed
1 tbsp cumin
Brown sugar, to taste
Cayenne pepper to taste, about a pinch
Water, as needed

Combine ingredients and cook over medium-low heat for about 1 hr.

Bacon Cheddar Patty Cakes

3 bacon slices
4 cups leftover mashed potatoes, cold
2 eggs
1 tsp onion powder
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp black pepper
1 cup cheddar cheese, shredded

Cook bacon until brown and crisp. Remove and crumble. Leave drippings in pan. Mix all ingredients together in a bowl and form mixture into 8 patties. Heat bacon drippings over medium heat and pan fry the patties until crisp on each side.
J.K. Chappell, Gering, Neb.

Pickled Green Beans

2 1/2 cups water
2 1/2 cups vinegar
1/4 cup canning salt
Dill
Garlic or onion chunks
Green beans, uncooked

Stuff jar with fresh green beans, dill and onions or garlic. Boil brine solution and pour over beans in jars. Remove air bubbles and seal. Process in hot water bath for 10 min.

Evie Kirchner

Aunt Frances' Lemonade

5 lemons
5 limes
5 oranges
3 quarts water
1 1/2 to 2 cups sugar

Squeeze the juice from 4 lemons, limes and oranges into a 1-gal. container. Thinly slice remaining fruit and put some in container, set aside the rest. Add water and sugar to juice. Mix well. Serve on ice with fruit slices as garnish.



Steel tube frame protects mailboxes. An angled mounting pin allows arm to swing freely, yet return to center.

Armored Double Mailbox Also Swings Freely On Post

"My double mailbox is protected against vandals and also swings out of the way if hit," says Dale Voigt, Cable, Wis.

The double mailbox stand is made from a short length of 3-in. pipe that forms the main vertical support, with a smaller 2-in. pipe welded to it at a 45 degree angle. A pipe cap is screwed onto the end of the pipe. A 2 1/4-in. pipe fits loosely over the angled 2-in. pipe and is welded to a horizontal support that holds the mailboxes, which are screwed to a steel plate and protected by a rectangular frame made from 2-in. angle iron.

"It eliminates damage to mailboxes caused by snowplows or vandals," says Voigt. "The mailboxes just swing to the side and fall back in place due to gravity."

"There's enough clearance for the snowplow driver to run his wing blade right under the mailboxes, which saves a lot of snow shoveling for us during the winter. Yellow marker tape on the frame makes it safe. A small chain keeps the boxes from rotating all the way around. My mail carrier says these are the best mailboxes on his route."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dale Voigt, 16235 Frels Rd., Cable, Wis. 54821 (ph 715 584-0006; dandvoigt@gmail.com).



Catalog pages feature adult-size trikes and wagons, as well as a wide range of well-built wheeled toys for kids.

Adult Trikes, Kids' Wagons

Valley Road Woodworks makes all types of small wagons and tricycles, even ones for adults. Wagons range from traditional coaster wagons to heavy-duty utility wagons designed for use with miniature horses. All are made on site.

They even make shafts for use with dogs and goats to pull their coaster wagons. "Just detach the handle and replace it with the shafts," explains Gideon Fisher, Valley Road Woodworks.

Their 2-wheel trailer cart is designed to be pulled by a child's trike. Like the wagons, they are made in Valley's shop. The trikes are heavy-gauge steel, and the wheels are made to their specifications. Steering and wheel hubs are on ball bearings.

"Our adult trikes are popular at pick-your-own farms that have entertainment centers for children," says Fisher. "They tell me that parents and teachers who come with school groups like to ride them while the children are on the smaller trikes. They're built to handle any size adult, no limits."

Trikes start at \$150 for the child-size, with adult trikes priced at \$225. Wagons range from \$80 for the coaster wagons to \$510 for the 34-in. wide, 60-in. long, Big Oak twin-seat wagon for miniature horses.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Valley Road Woodworks, 1278 Georgetown Rd., Quarryville, Penn. 17566 (ph 717 786-6875).

Whole Melon Fruit Slicer

This new fruit slicer makes cutting up whole watermelons a quick and easy job.

The 10-in. dia. Perfect Fruit Slicer is specially designed for cutting medium to large-sized melons and vegetables into single-serving slices. Stainless steel blades do the cutting. You just grab onto the handles and push down all the way through the melon.

Sells for \$24.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup (www.cooliamo.com; ph 321 209-1070).



Slicer quickly cuts up melons and smaller fruits or vegetables.

FARM SHOW®

New Products For The Farm, Ranch Home



Kiefer installed a humidistat from an old dehumidifier (lower left) and a pull switch (lower right) to his bathroom fan.

Dehumidifier Switch Used To Control Bathroom Fan

"Next time you see an old dehumidifier going to the dump, grab it," says handyman Herman Kiefer of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Kiefer says there's a valuable component inside dehumidifiers that has a great secondary use. What he's referring to is the control switch called a humidistat.

Kiefer says that's the switch that turns the dehumidifier on and off depending on the humidity in the room. Always a thinker and a tinkerer, Kiefer removed the humidistat from an old dehumidifier and wired it in series with his standard on/off bathroom fan motor. It now turns the fan on during a shower when humidity is high and automatically shuts it off when humidity returns to normal.

Says Kiefer, "It was an easy installation because I was able to mount the switch directly to the motor plate of the fan and wire it in place. I adjusted the switch by taking my normal 10-minute shower and turning the switch knob until the fan came on, then replaced the cover. Now the fan just runs until the humidity goes down, not for two hours because I forgot to turn it off. I know you can get this feature in new, higher priced fans, but what's the fun in that?" Kiefer says.

Kiefer also wired a pull chain-type switch from a discarded ceiling fan in parallel with the humidistat. "I can use it to turn the fan on for reasons other than humidity by pulling the chain."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Herman Kiefer, 273 Eastern Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario Canada (ph 705 575-5607).

Non-Stick Silicone "Cookie Sheet"

This new non-stick silicone baking mat measures 11 1/2 by 16 1/2 in. Works great for food preparation, baking and more. The mat is safe in your freezer or oven (-40 to 480°F). FDA approved.

Sells for \$14.99 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Range Kleen Mfg., 4240 East Rd., Lima, Ohio 45807 (ph 419 331-8000 or 888 391-2020; www.rangekleen.com; sales@rangekleen.com).



You don't need to grease these non-stick flexible silicone baking mats.