

Reader Recipes

Crispy Caramel Corn

7 qts. popped corn
1/2 cup white Karo syrup
2 sticks butter
1 tsp vanilla
2 cups brown sugar
1 tsp salt
1/2 tsp soda

Boil syrup, butter, sugar and salt together for 5 min. Remove from heat and add soda and vanilla. Pour over popcorn and mix well. Bake in 250° oven for 1 hr. Stir several times while baking.

Cornbread Casserole

1 1/2 lbs. lean ground beef
1 med onion, chopped
1 can mixed vegetables
1 small can tomato sauce
Dash of salt, pepper
Dash of Worcestershire sauce
Dash of chili powder
1 box Jiffy brand cornbread muffin mix

Brown beef and onion. Drain. Add vegetables, tomato sauce, salt, pepper, chili powder and Worcestershire sauce to taste. Heat until warm. Pour into casserole dish or 9 by 13 pan. Mix Jiffy muffin mix per package instructions and distribute evenly over meat mixture. Bake in preheated 400° oven until cornbread is done, about 15 to 20 min.

Biscuit Mix

5 lbs. flour
3 tbsps salt
3/4 cup baking powder
2 tsp cream of tartar
1/3 cup sugar
2 lbs. lard

Mix well. Store in an airtight container. Keeps well for 2 months or more. To use, mix 4 cups with 1 3/4 cups milk. Drop on ungreased pan. Bake at 400° until golden.

Lemon Jelly

2 tbsps granulated plain gelatin
1/2 cup cold water
1/2 cup boiling water
2 1/4 cups ice water
1 cup sugar
3/4 cup lemon juice
A little lemon rind

Soak gelatin in cold water until soft. Add to boiling water and stir until dissolved. Add sugar and stir until dissolved. Remove from heat. Add ice water, lemon juice, and lemon rind, then mix thoroughly. Pour into container which has been dipped into cold water. Cover and chill.

“Pistol-Grip” Fish Hook Remover

You can remove a fish hook safely and easily from deep inside the fish’s mouth with this new “pistol-grip” fish hook removal tool.

The Quarrow® Fish Jaw Spreader uses a pair of long, stainless steel prongs to lock the fish’s mouth open for retrieval of the hook. Squeezing the tool’s plastic handle produces a ratcheting action that locks the fish’s mouth open, allowing you to reach in with a pliers and remove the hook. Once that is done, pulling on a trigger releases a spring-loaded mechanism that brings the prongs back together.

Because of the tool’s ratcheting action, the prongs can be opened anywhere up to 6 in. wide without harming the fish.



Long steel prongs lock fish’s mouth open to retrieve hook.

The Quarrow® Fish Jaw Spreader can be used with either your right or left hand and is equipped with a wrist lanyard. It sells for \$12.99 on the company website.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bass Pro Shops (ph 800 227-7776; www.basspro.com/shop/en/quarrow-fish-jaw-spreader).

Elevated hoop garden makes it possible to plant vegetables without kneeling.



Barrel Garden Is A Backsaver

Backyard handyman Tom Hohl turned several used 30-gal. poly drums into a covered hoop garden and a handy vegetable washing station. Hohl says the idea is a simple way to make it easier for his wife to plant vegetables without kneeling on the ground.

“For quite a few years she was planting early vegetables in the ground and covering them with plastic cover hoops, but that was mostly hands and knees work,” says Hohl. “We came up with this idea of cutting a 30-gal. drum in half and placing it in a sturdy cradle about 3 ft. off the ground. The real benefit is she can now plant those early vegetables standing up. I added hoops over the top so she could cover them with plastic and have a heat tunnel to protect them from frost.”

Hohl built sturdy cradles using treated 2 by 4’s for the legs, cross members and top. The poly drum halves are screwed to treated 1 by 6s on each side. Six of the drum caddies produce a 24-ft. long waist-high trough on one end of their large garden. Drain holes in the bottom of each drum allow excess water to run



Homemade vegetable washing station also uses a drum supported by a wood cradle.

out. The hoops are made of plastic pvc pipe used for lawn sprinklers. Hohl bent them in an arc and secured them by extending the ends through a flat 2 by 4 on each side.

“The hoop troughs are a real backsaver for my wife and she doesn’t have to worry about frost,” says Hohl. “I also made her a vegetable washing station with another cradle and drum, adding wheels on one end so we can pull it into the garage for the winter. The tub sits near the spigot on the side of our house so she can wash off root veggies rather than taking them into the house.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tom Hohl, 4772 McComber Road, Duluth, Minn. 55803 (hohl4772@msn.com).

“Fur-Zoff” Grooms Horses, Cleans Up Pet Hair

“It started as an industrial product but one idea led to another, and we’re still uncovering new uses,” says Chris Andersen, about “Fur-Zoff”, a soap bar-sized gray block made from recycled glass that removes pet hair from furniture, clothing, car seats and floors.

“Lots of people have contributed to finding uses for it,” Andersen says. “A taxidermist was the first to suggest the hair-removal idea. Then a little girl came up at a trade show and asked if the product could remove bot-fly eggs from a horse’s legs. Turns out it worked great for removing that and also for grooming horses.”

Fur-Zoff is made by grinding recycled beer and wine bottles into a fine powder, then mixing the powder

with a binding agent. The mixture is sent through an extruder, emerging as pliable 6-in. long oblong plugs. The plugs are then baked at 1,550 degrees F. The glass melts and the bonding agent produces a gas, which forms the bubbles that create the rough texture of the Fur-Zoff block.

A testimonial from the company’s website states: “Your product is the greatest hair removal item I have ever used and I count it as a miracle in my two-dog household. The first couple of weeks after I got them, I worked on every carpet in the house. I couldn’t believe the amount of dog hair that I ended up with!”

Sales of Fur-Zoff have grown by 25 percent annually for the past 5 years and Andersen says they’re still

finding new applications. “My wife and I were photographing eagles along the Mississippi River one day, and I managed to collect a heavy load of burs on my coat and pants,” he says. “She suggested I try the Fur-Zoff on the burs and it worked great. I got rid of the burs a lot faster than if I had had to pick them off by hand.”

Fur-Zoff costs \$12.99 on the company’s website and comes with a 100 percent lifetime guarantee. Anderson says they never wear out. It can also be purchased online at similar prices.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Chris Andersen, AMV, LLC, P.O. Box 3124, LaCrosse, Wis. 54602 (ph 608 785-0032; www.furzoff.net).



Soap bar-sized gray block removes pet hair from furniture, clothing, car seats and floors.

FARM SHOW®

New Products For The Farm, Ranch Home

Septic Tank Alarm System

TankFull is an easy-to-install, on-tank monitoring system that measures levels of waste water in septic tanks and can send an alert by cell signal to owners or pumpers.

“The whole thing started with truck monitoring. We were the first in North America to put monitors on our trucks so customers pay by the gallon rather than by the trip,” explains Mitch Olson, representative of the TankFull division with Duck Mountain Environmental.

Customers liked it so much, that the company decided to develop a way to monitor holding tanks so they only get emptied when they really need it.

“TankFull is an ultrasonic sensor that mounts on the lid,” Olson explains. “We don’t measure water; we measure the air in the tank. It beams to the fluid level and we do a reverse calculation. That keeps it simple, and the monitor is easily accessible.”

Customers choose from a 110-volt sensor (\$600 Canadian) or solar-powered sensor (\$700 Canadian). Customers can monitor the level themselves and call the company to have the tank pumped. Or, they can pay for a subscription service that the company monitors. People with cottages and second homes typically prefer the subscription service.

Pumpers like the monitoring system because they can efficiently schedule pumping routes in the same area. Generally tanks are pumped at between 50 and 75 percent full. Customers save money because they are charged by quantity rather than each service call.

Olson is working with U.S. companies to sell and install TankFull sensors. “We prefer that pumpers install it, and they can be dealers to monitor their customers — and get on the truck monitoring system. Being transparent with gallon fees eliminates the competition,” Olson says.

He invites companies interested in TankFull to contact him.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Duck Mountain Environmental, 437 Queen Elizabeth Blvd. E., Kamsack, Sask. S0A 1S0 Canada (ph 306 542-2014; www.duckme.ca; mitch@tankfull.ca).