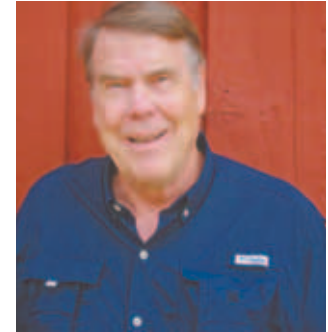


Dear Reader:

Welcome to our 37th Anniversary “Best of FARM SHOW” issue. It’s a dandy - a collection of most popular products and ideas featured in previous issues of FARM SHOW. Our first Best of FARM SHOW was published back in 1980 - three years after FARM SHOW Magazine was launched.

We’ve inserted handy “Reader Inquiry Cards” which you can use to order free literature and follow-up information on many of the products featured in this special issue. If you’re in a hurry and need instant “where to buy” and other information, just call or write. You’ll find addresses, phone numbers and websites at the end of each story.



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Shipping Container Makes Great Feed Bin

Mack Rankin needed extra feed storage for his 60-cow herd so he bought a shipping container. The dairy farmer’s simple modifications made the container ideal for using his skid steer-based feed system.

“Standard bulk bins are great, but the size we needed cost \$5,000,” says Rankin. “The shipping container cost half that, plus we already use our skid steer to scoop supplement. With the container, we can use it to scoop up cornmeal as well.”

Rankin set the container on a shale pad for drainage. The shale prevented the locking rods on the door from engaging so he used his angle grinder to remove the bottom tabs and shorten the rods slightly. He also added a ramp leading up to the doorway.

“The doors still seal tightly with just the rod tops engaging,” says Rankin.

The biggest change was to cut a hole in the roof for easy access by the delivery truck. He made a lid for the opening by cutting a 35-gal. drum in half and setting it over the hole.

To secure the barrel, he bent threaded rod, inserted the bent end through the lower wall of the barrel and the other rod end through the top of the container and tightened them down.

“I used rubberized silicone and a light coat of Flex Seal around the barrel and the fasteners,” adds Rankin.

He built a lid out of scrap wood and steel roofing and hinged it to the top of the barrel. It can be opened with an 8-ft. 2 by 2



Mack Rankin needed extra feed storage for his 60-cow herd so he bought a 20-ft. long shipping container and modified it to use with his skid loader-based feeding system.



He cut a hole in container roof for access and then cut a 35-gal. drum in half and set it over hole, adding a hinged lid (left). Container’s shale pad prevented locking rods on door from engaging so he shortened the rods slightly.

from the inside and closed from the ground outside.

“With a little shoveling, we can fit 11 tons of cornmeal into the 20-ft. container,” says Rankin. “We had a tight budget, and this

works great.”

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