Electrified strap irons on one side of tower are fitted with two 4-in. dia. pvc pipes that ride over smaller pipes inside. Pipes turn freely to roll over pivot tire cleats without catching.

Drive-Through Center Pivot Electric Fence

"I made this electric fence center pivot crossing for a friend. It lets his center pivot towers roll right through an electrified gate," says Richard Jagels, Buhl, Idaho.

The pivot tower passes between 2 T-posts set 50 in. apart. Each post has a 2-in. dia. black plastic pipe placed over it, resting on top of a shorter pipe that's sunk into the ground. Both pipes support a pair of 24-in. long, 3/16-in. wide electrified strap irons that face across from each other. Both strap irons on one side of the tower are fitted with 9 1/2-in. long pieces of 4-in. dia., pvc pipe that rides over a 1 1/2-in. dia. rigid plastic pipe inside.

As the pivot tower wheel contacts the sewer pipes, they turn freely and roll over the pivot tire cleats without catching. Once both pivot wheels have crossed through, the spring-loaded gates return to their original position. "The straps will swing out of the way with the pivot running either clockwise or counterclockwise," says Jagels.

He buried an insulated wire between the posts to keep everything electrified. He uses a pair of T-posts located just outside the gate to provide reinforcement. "I welded a 3-in. long light gauge pipe onto both ends of a 13-in. long metal strap, then slipped the pipe ends over the posts," says Jagels.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard Jagels, 3559 N. 1500 E., Buhl, Idaho 83316 (ph 208 731-0702; rvfarms1@filertel.com).

Glenn Page uses a tillage shovel to remove a strip of pasture sod and then plants corn into the slot. Cattle graze at top of slot without pulling plants up by the roots.

"Pasture Corn" Boosts Late Season Grazing

By Glenn Page

I've been experimenting with planting corn into my pastures. The idea is to use a tillage shovel to remove a strip of pasture sod and then plant corn into the slot. The slot provides a weed-free seedbed and allows grazing 2 to 3 weeks after planting.

As expected, cattle graze at the level of the top of the slot. The growing point of corn is below ground until the 5-leaf stage, and by that time the plant is well rooted and isn't easily pulled up by the cow. Cattle stay out of the slot so there's no trampling of the plants.

Last summer I planted the pasture corn in late July. We had a cool August, so by mid September, when the photo was taken, the corn was still quite small. The slot doesn't have to be as wide as the one shown in the photo.

A short-line equipment manufacturer took an interest in this idea a while back, but nothing ever developed. I still think a 2-row tillage unit could be married to ground-driven corn planter units to make a reasonably priced unit.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Glenn Page (glenpage2001@charter.net).

Double Pulley Bracket Keeps Sucker Rod Running True

Edward Stanley, Parker, Texas, doesn't have to replace worn-out sucker rods on his windmills very often. That's because he uses a pair of plastic pulleys to hold the sucker rod perfectly at the center of the pipe that leads down into the well.

"I've used this idea on my farm for the last 5 years on 2 different windmills, and the sucker rods on both of them are still going strong. Nothing on the market works as well," says Stanley. "The double pulleys keep the sucker rod lined up perfectly with the center of the pipe, so it doesn't rub on the sides."

He drilled a pair of holes in two 5-in. lengths of angle iron and then welded them to the top of a 2-in. dia. coupler that attaches on top of the pipe. The pulleys are bolted on inside the angle irons, and spaced just far enough apart to hold the sucker rod in place.

He also cut a slot the same width as the sucker rod into one side of the coupler. "If I need to pull the sucker rod out in order to access the working barrel, I just remove the pulley on the slotted side of the coupler and then unscrew the coupler and slide the sucker rod out," says Stanley.

The pulleys he uses are designed to work with 1/2, 5/8 or 3/4-in. dia. sucker rod. Stanley sells a kit that includes a coupler, 2 pulleys, bracket and 2 bolts for $75 plus S&H. To order go to his website.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Edward Stanley, 4902 E. Parker Rd., Parker, Texas 75002 (ph 972 342-1061; www.porterprotools.com).

A pair of plastic pulleys keep windmill's sucker rod perfectly centered inside well pipe.

Pulleys are bolted on inside 2 lengths of angle iron, which are welded to a 2-in. dia. coupler that attaches to top of pipe.

Hexagon-shaped steel stop blocks come in 2 pieces that pull apart using a coil spring welded onto one side. "My Steel blocks hold up much better than aluminum," says Roger Kuntz.

Steel Depth Control Stops For Hydraulic Cylinders

"Hydraulic cylinder depth control stop blocks have been around for a long time, but most of them are made from aluminum. The problem is that aluminum blocks are soft and can become mangled and deformed after use, especially when used with today's high-powered tractors. Our new steel stop blocks hold up much better and last longer," says Roger Kuntz. "We use precision laser-cut technology to make them."

The hexagon-shaped steel stops come in 2 pieces that pull apart using a high strength coil spring that's welded onto one side. To install, pull the 2 pieces apart and snap them onto the cylinder shaft.

Two kits are available. One is designed for cylinder shaft diameters of 1 to 1 1/2 in. and comes with 5 blocks in 1/4, 3/8, 1/2, 3/4, and 1-in. thicknesses. The other kit is designed for shaft diameters of 1 1/2 to 2-in. and has 5 blocks 1/2, 3/4, 1, 1 1/2, and 2-in. thick. Each kit sells for $75 plus $10 S&H.

Kuntz also offers a magnetic storage tower to store the blocks. It's an 8-in. high pvc tube mounted on a magnetic base that holds up to 6 stops. "The storage tower helps keep your stops in one place and can easily be moved to another piece of equipment," says Kuntz.

The storage tower sells for $15 plus $10 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roger Kuntz, K-Tech, 5251 Co. Rd. X, Grainfield, Kansas 67737 (ph 785 673-5560 or cell ph 785 673-8560).