

Capture Flies With Fly Net Trap

A YouTube video showing a net trap filled with thousands of flies caught our attention recently. If you have problems with flies, you may want to check out TheSunshineSpot Fly Net Trap™ available online for \$25. The 9 1/4 by 15 3/4-in. net trap has a bowl at the base to hold bait that lures flies inside. Once inside they are trapped within the cone shape of the iron wire netting.

Directions suggest using overripe fruit, veggies or stinky fish bait. But one commenting customer said Fancy Feast cat food with a little water to keep it moist did the trick for her. She videotaped a bag filled

with dead and living flies.

The flies can be easily removed by taking off the bottom of the trap and turning the cone part inside out into a disposal container.

The trap is designed to be hung outdoors in backyards, on farms, at horse arenas, public parks, outdoor restrooms and any other place flies congregate.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, TheSunshineSpot, www.thesunshinespot.com.

Similar net-type fly traps are also available on Amazon for less than \$10.



Wire-type net trap can be hung outdoors any place flies congregate. A bowl at the base holds bait that lures flies inside.

Labor-Saving Firewood Handling System

"I'm a machinist by trade and use an outdoor wood burning furnace to heat our home. I wanted an easier way to handle our firewood, so I built this labor-saving collection of equipment for less than \$2,000," says Wes Newman, Beaver County, Alberta.

He uses his Deere 318 garden tractor to pull the equipment, which starts with a wagon running gear with uprights on each side. It's followed by a 2-wheeled swiveling crane, which was fashioned out of a commercial crane originally designed to fit in the bed of a 1/2-ton pickup. The crane is equipped with 4 big telescoping outriggers and has a 5-ft. reach that can swing a piece of wood in a 360° arc. A hand-cranked bottle jack is used to raise or lower the boom.

Newman pulls the equipment to the woods and cuts logs into 8 to 9-ft. lengths, then uses the crane to load them onto the wagon. Once 4 or 5 logs are loaded on the wagon, he uses the crane at home to unload the logs onto a big home-built steel sawhorse, where he cuts the logs into 16-in. lengths. He rolls the pieces onto a nearby wood splitter, with his wife running the controls.

"It's an inexpensive system that almost makes handling firewood a fun job again," says Newman. "We had been cutting logs in our woods into 16-in. long pieces. We had to load them by hand onto a trailer, then drive home and split them. Now we hardly have to pick up anything. I crank the winch handle



Wes Newman's firewood handling system includes a Deere garden tractor pulling a wagon running gear with uprights, followed by a 2-wheeled swiveling crane with 4 big telescoping outriggers.

to raise or lower the boom, and release it to swing the boom around by hand."

The crane rides on new 15-in. wheels and an axle that Newman shortened to 4 ft. "The tractor, wagon, and crane are all the same width, which makes it easy to maneuver them through the woods," he says.

The crane swivels on a round 3/4-in. thick plate which Newman bought at a scrap yard for \$200. "The plate just happened to be the right size," says Newman.

A short, telescoping hitch that he mounted on front of the crane keeps the end of the

boom positioned over the center of the wagon. "By extending the hitch I can use the tractor to tow the crane separately," says Newman.

He used 4 and 3 1/2-in. square tubing to build the telescoping outriggers and then built an understructure to support them. Each outrigger is fitted with a pair of big screws that are used to adjust the outrigger's height.

"The number and location of the outriggers I use depends on what I'm doing," says Newman. "When loading logs, I keep the front two outriggers in the extended position

and the back two in the collapsed position. The outriggers can be adjusted up to 4 ft. horizontally and 20 in. vertically in case the ground is uneven."

He bought the wagon at Princess Auto for \$300. "I bought the crane on sale for about \$300, and paid \$49 for the axle and \$40 a piece for the wheels," notes Newman.

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Wrapping old chains around tarps works great to protect equipment left outside, says Gary Swensen. "Chains won't come loose, even in the heaviest winds."

Chained Tarps Stay Put

"If you're like me, you never have enough room in your storage sheds," says Gary Swensen.

"Tarps are the next best thing for protecting equipment or supplies left outside. But everyone knows straps, ropes or bungee cords can all work loose over time in the wind.

"I've discovered that wrapping old chains

around tarps is the way to go. They don't come loose, even in the heaviest winds, and it lets you make use of any old chains you have laying around. Even old truck tire chains will work."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gary Swensen, 1408 Sunrise Drive, Yankton, S. Dak. 57078 (ph 605 660-3489).

"Comfort Grip" Paint Can Handle

If you do a lot of painting, you'll appreciate Don Boggs's simple new invention - the Second Hand paint can handle.

The patented unit consists of a spring-loaded, 2-piece metal bracket that attaches to the side of the can over the original handle. A hinged, "comfort grip" handle on top of the bracket keeps the can tilted for easy brush access and can be folded down out of the way to leave the top of the can wide open.

Boggs says a friend who did a lot of painting helped him come up with the idea. "He and I started to manufacture the Second Handle and sold some locally. Unfortunately, he recently passed so I haven't pursued marketing it. I still have about 1,000 handles on hand, which I'm willing to sell for \$9.95 a piece plus S&H."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Don Boggs, 619 Amberwood Road, Pickens, S. Carolina 29671 (ph 864 787-4596; doboggs1937@gmail.com).



Spring-loaded, 2-piece metal bracket attaches to side of can over original handle.