

Editor's Notebook



Scott Geyer
Editor & Publisher



Corn plant (left) was spray-painted red. Less than 48 hrs. later you can see the growth.

High Speed Corn Growth

We spotted these pics on the Facebook page of the Newfolden Co-op Elevator in Newfolden, Minn., that show how fast corn grows in the middle of summer. A corn planter was spray painted on a Saturday morning as shown in the photo on the left. Less than 48 hrs. later the photo on the right was taken showing about 8 to 10 in. of growth.

Stoltzfus made this model to teach his grandchildren about the solar system.



These Kids Have A Great Grandpa

Samuel Stoltzfus was impressed when he saw a museum display that showed what happens as the earth rotates around the sun. Using scrap parts, he built a smaller 1 by 2-ft. version at home.

"It's fun to teach my 54 grandchildren how our solar system works," Stoltzfus says. "The model shows plainly why we have different seasons because of the way the earth tilts."

The earth is represented by a globe, the moon by a golf ball wrapped in foil, and the sun's rays are provided by a flashlight at the opposite end of the model. He manually spins the contraption, showing how angles and light change in winter and summer.

The model comes apart and is small enough for him to take to meetings and events. He plans to take it to the school where his granddaughter teaches, for example. He starts his lesson with Genesis and how God created the sun and then shows his listeners how everything works together to create light and dark, seasons and moon phases.

"It's a great tool for teaching," Stoltzfus says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Samuel Stoltzfus, 3184a Mill Lane, Gordonville, Penn. 17529 (ph 717-687-8194).

Wheat Sharks?

Retired nurse and landowner Anne Melady from Ontario, Canada, had some fun in a wheat field this year.

She placed shark fins in the field made from plywood spray painted black. They were fixed to the ground with 1/2-in. electrical pipe brackets. "When the wind blows they do move some, adding to the illusion," says Melady.



Drivers of 193 tractors lined up to create this circular design with a big Y in the middle that stands for Yankton.

Creating Designs With Tractors

The Tri-State Old Iron Association in South Dakota has held an annual 2-day tractor ride since 2006. In 2010, members Jerome and Beverly Mueller started creating different designs on paper and then translated those designs into hundreds of tractors lined up in a field to create images photographed from the air.

"We draw up each image on graph paper and then use a carpenter's square, tape measure, and colored flags to plot it out in a field," says Beverly. "A lawn mower is then used to create the final pattern, so the tractors know where to line up. Once they're all in place, Dave Tunge, an aerial photographer from Dakota Aerials, Yankton, S. Dak., takes a photo from high above."

This past summer's design was a continuous spiral entitled "What Comes Around Goes Around" with gaps left to create a giant "Y" for Yankton. A corn planter marker was used to create the "Y".

Past designs included a huge "USA", a tractor, and a 10th anniversary design celebrating the history of the club.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tri-State Old Iron Association, Yankton, S. Dak. (ph 605-660-1943; 2005tsoia@gmail.com).

The Check's In The Mail

It's no secret that the U.S. Postal Service has had its share of problems over the years. But dropping an envelope into a box with a 58 cent stamp on it and getting it delivered anywhere in the country is still a pretty good deal.

In August the Postal Service raised rates on all classes of mail - and the percentage of increase was 3 to 4 times that of previous increases. In October, they announced that they will be slowing down the mail service as well.

Consequently, all mail is taking more time to move through the system. Please be patient with FARM SHOW issue and renewal mailings. We are working under our normal schedules on our end, but things are now taking longer to get to you and to get back to us.

It looks like longer delivery times are the new norm so maybe I should start mailing my Christmas cards now.

Liberty Quotes

"Experience has shown that even under the best forms of government, those entrusted with power have, in time, and by slow operations, perverted it into tyranny."
Thomas Jefferson

"It seems foolhardy to assume that the armed state will necessarily be benevolent. The American political tradition is, for good or ill, based in large measure on a healthy mistrust of the state."
Sanford Levinson

"One who deceives will always find those who allow themselves to be deceived."
Niccolo Machiavelli

"When government fears the people there is liberty; when people fear the government there is tyranny."
Thomas Jefferson

"A nation of well-informed men who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the region of ignorance that tyranny begins."
Benjamin Franklin

"Our Constitution is in actual operation; everything appears to promise that it will last; but in this world nothing is certain but death and taxes."
Benjamin Franklin

"None who have always been free can understand the terrible fascinating power of the hope of freedom to those who are not free."
Pearl S. Buck

"But what is freedom? Rightly understood, a universal licence to be good."
Hartley Coleridge

"If government could create jobs and raise children, socialism would have worked."
George Gilder

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Points To Ponder

- "To pretend to know when you do not know is a disease."
Lao-Tzu
- "Nothing is so difficult as not deceiving oneself."
Ludwig Wittgenstein
- "As long as man remains an inquiring animal, there can never be a complete unanimity in our fundamental beliefs. The more diverse our paths, the greater is likely to be the divergence of beliefs."
Sir Arthur Keith
- "To educate a man in mind, and not in morals, is to educate a menace to society."
Theodore Roosevelt
- "Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example."
Mark Twain
- "Education is the best provision for old age."
Aristotle
- "The trouble with most of us is that we would rather be ruined by praise than saved by criticism."
Norman Vincent Peale
- "The greatest discovery of any generation is that a living soul can alter his life by altering his attitude."
William James
- "Rather than love, than money, than fame, give me truth."
Henry David Thoreau

Sven visited Ole at the hospital on the day that Ole's son - little Ole - was born.

"Sven, you won't believe what just happened," said Ole. "I was looking at little Ole in da nursery room when anodder dad said to me, 'My daughter vas yust born yesterday. Maybe someday our kids will meet and get married.'"

"Dats nice Ole," said Sven. "Vhat's da problem. Maybe dat could really happen."

"Yeah, right," said Ole. "Like I'm going to let my little Ole marry a girl twice his age!"

A man traveling through the countryside stopped at Ole's small roadside fruit stand and bought some apples. When the man mentioned that the apples were awfully small, Ole replied, "Yup, dat's right."

The man took a bite of one of the apples and exclaimed, "Not very flavorful either."

"Dat's right," said Ole. "Lucky der so small, ain't it?"

Ole was at a big toy store and pointed out a train set to the store clerk. "I'll take dat one."

"I'm sure your son will like it, sir," said the clerk.

Ole sighed loudly, "I suppose yew're right. Yew'd better give me two of dem."

Lena told little Ole, as they waited for the bus, to tell the driver he was just 4 years old so he could ride for free.

As they got onto the bus, the driver asked Ole how old he was. "I am 4 years old," little Ole said.

"And when will you be 6 years old?" asked the driver. "Vhen I get off da bus," answered little Ole.