Vesco's home-built shop tool can be used to repair hydraulic hose (left), baler belts (right), or it can be used as a press on bearings or U-joints.

"SAVES COUNTLESS HOURS OF DOWNTIME"

Portable Hose Maker, Belt Lacer, And Press

After years of making runs back to the shop to repair hydraulic hoses or fix round baler belts, Vance Vesco, Lovelock, Nevada, finally came up with a combination portable hydraulic hose maker, belt lacer, and hydraulic press.

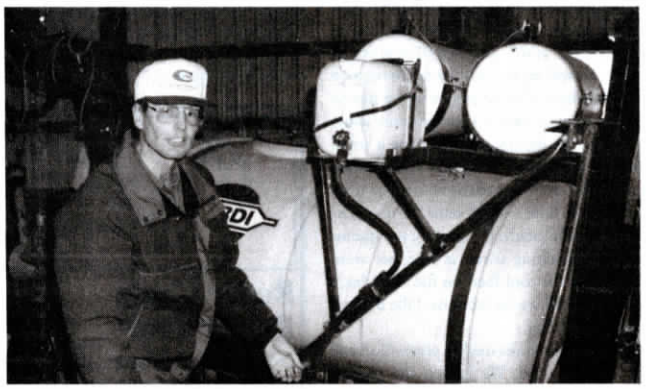
"It saves countless hours of downtime because I can do a lot of jobs right in the field," says Vesco. "I made it out of scrap metal that I had around my shop."

Vesco used 1-in. dia. steel rod to make the sides of the unit and a piece of 1 by 2-in.dia. steel plate to make the top. A pair of steel springs run from the top to a mounting plate that supports a 12-ton jack that's free to slide up or down the rods. There's a table with a hole at center on the bottom of the unit. To use the hose crimper, Vesco feeds the hose up through the hole and into the crimper, then clamps the new end onto the hose and uses the jack to press it on. To use the vice as a belt lacer, he inserts a steel block into the hole and places the belt lacer on top of it.

"I can plug the unit into a receiver tube on back of my pickup to hold it steady or lay it flat on the pickup tailgate," says Vesco. "It's really handy because I can back the pickup up to my baler right in the field and repair belts there without having to remove the belts from the baler. It actually works better than mounting the belt lacer in a vise because I can lay the belt down flat and put the lacers in perpendicular to it instead of having to stand the belt on its end. Makes it a lot easier to repair seams.

"I also use the press to push univeral joints or ball joints out of bearings."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vance R. Vesco, 1290 North Meridian Road, Lovelock, Nevada 89419 (ph 702 273-7312).



Spray Tank Rinse System

When Nick Stockman began looking for a rinse system for his sprayer a few years ago, he discovered he couldn't justify the price of a commercial.

So the Strathroy, Ontario, poultry farmer built a sprayer rinse system of his own.

"It's a fairly simple system," says Stockman. "It's probably not as thorough as a commercial system with multiple rinsing jets, but it's great for cleaning out what's left in the bottom of the tank when you're ready to change chemicals. It cost only about $255 (Canadian) to build."

Stockman's system uses two recycled 14.5-gal. dairy chemical containers to hold fresh water. The containers are fitted to a rack above Stockman's 300-gal. Hardi spray tank. Rinse action is provided by two simple greenhouse irrigation sprinkler heads that deliver a jet of water inside the tank. Ball valves and various plumbing components make up the rest of the system. Stockman's set-up allows for two complete rinses of the tank in the field.

For operator safety, Stockman also added a handy wash station to the sprayer. It's a 3-gal. plastic jug fitted with tap and a hose.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Nick Stockman, R.R. 7, Strathroy, Ontario, Canada N7G 3H8 (ph 519 245-0250.).

CAN ALSO BE USED TO WATERPROOF WALLS

"Liquid Rubber" Floor

"It permanently waterproofs any concrete or wood surface without creating any odors or toxic fumes. It's so durable you can't even sandblast it away," says Bill Emerick, Ideal Products, Inc., Plymouth, Ind., about the company's new "Sani-Tred" liquid rubber coating for floors and walls.

It can be used on farrrowing house floors, finishing floors, dairy barn floors and walls, pit floors, etc. The product can be applied at any thickness and fills any size gaps, grooves, depressions, etc. Cures quickly at temperatures from over 100 degrees to minus 5 below zero.

"It's designed to last the life of whatever it's covering and won't crack, harden with age, or peel from the floor or wall surface after it cures," says Emerick. "It's user friendly and is an excellent adhesive - no priming is necessary. It isn't water soluble so it works great for waterproofing a basement. It cures in four hours or so at any thickness and will stretch five times its size after it cures so it stays flexible. Humidity and dewpoint have no effect on it. Viscosity can be adjusted from a very thin liquid to a thick putty or caulk.

"The material can be set up for almost any kind of texture you want. For example, it can be impregnated with rubber granules to make a slip-resistant floor surface. First you apply a liquid base coat, then broadcast the rubber granules onto it. Excess granules are removed after it cures.

"It has many applications on dairy farms because it bonds directly to concrete and can be pressure washed without being damaged. It works better than expensive mats that have to be removed and cleaned on top and bottom. It also works great for hog operations because applying it to the floor is much less expensive than buying elevated farrowing crates and finishing room grates and flooring. It can also be used on the bottoms of grain bins and in fertilizer containment areas, and it works great for coating the inside of gravity wagons. It's abrasion-resistant and provides a smooth surface that reduces crushing of grain."

Sells for $49 per gal.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ideal Products, Inc., 15515 3rd Road, Plymouth, Ind. 46563 (ph 219 784-3308).

KEEPS SQUIRRELS AND OTHER VARMINTS AWAY

Snap-On Guard Stops Transformer Outages

You might want to tell the folks at your local electric co-op about this new device for preventing power outages caused by wayward animals on high voltage electric equipment.

Called the Guthrie Guard, the red, tarantula-shaped invention has been getting rave reviews from a growing number of power companies that have used them.

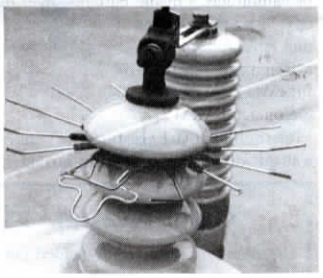
"They're a God send," says Jack Klasing, of Illinois Power's Champaign-Urbana service area. "We typically had three to five power outages a week from squirrels getting on our transformers, blowing fuses. In the spring breeding season and just prior to fall hibernation, we'd easily have three to five a day. That was just intolerable to us and our 70,000 rural and urban customers."

Then Klasing heard about Guthrie Guards and called inventor Jim Guthrie on the phone.

"I ordered 500 because I realized he was onto something," Klasing says. "In a little over a year, we've installed about 1,100 on our equipment in problem areas. We've had only three power outages from squirrels in that time - and all three of those were flukes, no fault of the product. That's a big win for our customers and a big win for us. I was $41,000 under my emergency call budget last year and 2/3 of that savings was the direct result of Guthrie Guards."

Guthrie spent five years designing, testing and perfecting the device, which has 12 stainless steel wires spaced around a center hub.

It installs on electric transformers. Power doesn't have to be shut off for installation. It uses the electrostatic field generated around high voltage lines to deter animals, explains Guthrie.



Guthrie Guards simply snap onto transformers. Once installed, squirrels and other animals will stay off.

"Squirrels caught on video making contact with the guard found it jolting, but non-lethal, much like an electric fence contact," he says. "But it's enough of a jolt to train them not to make future contacts."

Since Guthrie introduced the invention, which has been publicized in one electrical trade journal and at least one newspaper, he's been getting calls from all over the U.S.

His Iowa company has sold more than 50,000 of the devices at about $12 apiece in 32 states. It has orders for 40,000 more.

"It's been very hectic," he says. "We really didn't anticipate the kind of response we've been getting."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jim Guthrie, Guthrie Corporation, P.O. Box 1811, 5105 Sand Road SE, Iowa City, Iowa 52244-1811 (ph 319 339-9490; fax 337-2147).