



This fierce looking tiger scares predators away — long distance!

## CONTROLS PESTS, PREDATORS

# Look What He's Doing With Tiger Manure!

By Mark Lee

Looking for something to keep rabbits, dogs and other predators out of your yard and garden?

Get a tiger!

Impossible you say? Well, then, try tiger manure!

**Tiger manure?**

No kidding, the stuff really seems to work. At least when you mix it with lion droppings.

It may sound like a recipe some medieval witch doctor cooked up, but the idea comes from modern day tree grower David Moore, of Broken Arrow, Okl.

Moore entered the tree nursery business about a year ago. He has 80 acres of Verdigris River bottomland planted in row after row of young trees.

The farm is two miles from the river. The area teems with small game and whitetail deer roam the bottoms. How, Moore wondered, could he economically protect tender young shoots and saplings from hungry deer and rabbits? A game-proof fence would be prohibitively expensive and chemicals (if he could find one that worked) probably wouldn't be cheap either.

Moore is the sort of fellow you can depend on to come up with an ingenious solution to almost any problem. Several pieces of special machinery in use on his tree farm he designed himself. When he turned his imagination to the game-crop damage problem, it didn't take him long to come up with an answer.

"I got the idea by watching a Walt Disney show in which a cougar herded a deer into a box canyon. The deer was spooked by cougar scent. I started thinking how I could get something that might work like that to scare animals away without doing

them any harm. Then I thought of the zoo," Moore said.

Moore called Tulsa's Mohawk Zoo and got in touch with Larry Nunley, large mammal supervisor. Nunley said Moore was welcome to all the manure his charges produced. Steve Kramer, keeper of bears and big cats, would save the stuff when cages were cleaned.

"Now they call me whenever they have a box-full saved for me. I go up there and pick it up. I keep it in a sealed garbage bag in a closed box. When I get it, it's still fresh and sure smells potent," Moore said.

Inside his garage, Moore opened a cardboard box containing about 20 pounds of manure. Even though wrapped in plastic, the material gave off an odor similar to that of a backed-up sewer drain mixed with burning tar.

To test his idea, Moore tossed a piece of manure into his dog pen. When his two Irish setters got a whiff they snarled, raised their hackles and slowly backed around the corner of their dog house.

"It sorta surprised me. They couldn't see anything, but their nose told them something suspicious was out there. They didn't even turn and run. They faced the direction the smell was coming from and backed away real slow," Moore said.

Out on the farm, Moore drove his pickup truck around the perimeter tossing out shovelful of exotic manure.

"That was about a year ago, and so far it seems to work. I know when we first started planting around here we saw a lot of small game and some deer on the place. We haven't seen any animals, any damage and not a track in the field. Everything just seemed to



## "MAKES PIG-PACKIN' EASY"

# Show Goers Spoofed By "Hawg" Carrier

Almost no one got by Zietlow Distributing's booth at a recent farm show without a look at a show-stopping new product—a pig-packer that, according to straight-faced company representative Rod Crotinger, "Even makes carrying greased pigs easy."

The "revolutionary" Pig-Packer is about 3-ft. long and is shaped like an upside down "C", with a snout loop at one end and a tightening screw at the other.

"We designed it to take advantage of the pig's natural protruberances and apertures in the least complicated way," Crotinger explained to passersby, who weren't sure what to believe. "Attaches in seconds. Can be used either right or left-handed."

The McPherson, Kan., company reports that, although the pig-packin' carriers could be built to "handle" small calves and lambs, too, orders "have yet to start pouring in". They'll build one for you or your company, though — for just \$39.95.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Zeitlow



"It'll even carry a greased pig," says Rod Crotinger.

Distributing Co., 1321 North Main, McPherson, Kan. 67460 (ph 316 241-4279).

clear out," Moore said.

A couple of weeks ago, however, Moore found one set of tracks across the middle of his field. Either raccoons aren't afraid of lions and tigers or the effects of the predator droppings were wearing off as the manure rotted. Moore figured it was the latter and said it was about time to lay down some more manure.

"It stays fresh in that plastic bag, and when I put it out it smells up the farm. When there's no wind, it really hangs in the air until the droppings start drying out. Sometimes the smell hangs around for days," Moore said.

Some of Moore's neighbors were perturbed when he started spreading lion manure around because "I chased all the critters from the neighborhood."

At his home, Moore had trouble with some dogs getting into garbage bags placed along the curb for pickup. "I put a little tiger manure out by the end of the driveway and we didn't even see our neighbor's dog for a while. He never bothered our garbage again," Moore said.

Larry Nunley said the big cats each get 7.5 lbs. of a commercial horsemeat-based zoo feline ration every day, and a couple of chickens

twice a week. He said it takes a week for Kramer to save up enough manure (about 50 lbs.) from the four animals to make a trip worthwhile.

"I guess it works. Moore isn't the first guy to call us for some manure; I guess we've had 10 different people come out here for it. It's hard for me to see how it would work because it decomposes so quickly," Nunley said.

"We really don't like to do it, but we'll take care of a request now and then. We don't save it unless someone calls us for a batch. Maybe we ought to sell it," Nunley joked.

Keeper Kramer said the lions and tigers usually relieve themselves in the moats around their grottos.

"They're big cats; They'd never mess inside their dens. They'll usually go to about the same spot to do it, too. Tigers like water and often relieve themselves in running water when they can," Kramer said.

"I don't think deer really know what a lion or tiger smells like. I think it's just a strange scent from a large animal they can't recognize that keeps them away," Nunley said.

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