



SolarRoll is a solar-powered wheel mover that gets charged through a 200-watt solar panel connected to deep-cycle batteries.

Solar-Powered Drivetrain Aids Irrigation

HydroSide Systems and Wade Rain have partnered to produce the SolarRoll, a solar-powered drive system for Powerroll wheeled irrigation systems which are driven by 7-hp. gas engines.

The newly released SolarRoll is built on the Powerroll frame and powered by the HydroSide solar drive train. The resulting tool is a solar-powered wheel mover that gets charged through a 200-watt solar panel connected to deep-cycle batteries with an MPPT intelligent charge controller.

Rather than requiring valuable manpower in the field, the SolarRoll will move at the click of a button with no risk of broken pull-start lines or having to refill the gas tank. It's possible to operate it remotely, even from a mile away.

The batteries have 120-amp hours and are continuously charged by solar panels on sunny days, meaning there is minimal risk of running out of battery power. These panels

still work on partly cloudy days, and rain or over-splash from your irrigation system can keep them in optimal working condition by cleaning dirt off the panels.

During a 60-ft. set move, it consumes a maximum of 1.3 amps and up to 28 amps over a quarter mile. Overall, the drivetrain can move more than 2,200 ft. per charge without any chargeback.

You can keep your existing irrigation infrastructure, including pipes, wheels and sprinklers, as the solar drive train only replaces your mover. Both companies plan to release a retrofit kit to transform an existing Powerroll mover to the solar drive train. To purchase a SolarRoll, contact your local Wade Rain dealer.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wade Rain, Inc. 9995 SW Avery St., Tualatin, Ore. 97062 (ph 503-692-5353; sales@waderain.com).

Heat Pump Powers Hot Water Heater

Rheem Manufacturing's ProTerra Plug-in with HydroBoost water heaters put ambient air to work, delivering hot water to the tap. Like other hybrid water heaters, the Rheem units use heat pump technology to claim 5X the efficiency of standard gas water heaters while producing zero emissions.

Unlike other heat pump heaters, it's designed for whole-home application and to run on 120V, 15 Ah power rather than 240V. This makes for a quick and simple install and is ideal for drop-in replacement of gas water heaters.

In addition to long-term savings, buyers can take advantage of tax credits and utility rebates where available.

The ProTerra units have a similar footprint to conventional water heaters. Rheem offers four models from 36 gal., 62 in. high by 20 1/4 in. diameter, to 72 gal., 75 in. high by 24 1/4 in. diameter.

Once installed, the units can be controlled, monitored, and scheduled with the downloadable app on any mobile device. They're also "Demand Response" ready to take advantage of local utility rebates and reduced rates.

ProTerra Plug-ins are equipped with LED screens with built-in water sensor alerts and audible alarms. A leak sensor and shutoff valve are optional.

Visit the Rheem website to find local dealers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rheem Mfg. 1100 Abernathy Rd. NE, Suite 1700, Atlanta, Ga. 30328 (ph 770-351-3000 or 800-621-5622; www.rheem.com).



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No Key Needed For Secure Shed Lock

Don Wepf developed the Gate Lock a dozen years ago for a safe and convenient way to lock the gate to his backyard with a pool. With its simple installation and a keyless lock easily opened with one hand, it quickly drew the attention of friends and relatives, which led to the electrical contractor marketing his business, Yardlock, full-time. Recently, he added a model to lock up a shed to his product line.

"The Shed Lock latching mechanism is different, more like a screen door," Wepf explains. He adds that he recognized a need to give people an option besides a padlock. Getting a key out can be inconvenient and very often people have padlocks but don't close them.

The Shed Lock shares Gate Lock's features. The zinc diecast body and plastic shell are weatherproof to not freeze or rust. The four-dial combination has 10,000 ways for the owner to set it. Videos online made by one of Wepf's business partners show how to install the mount plates, feed the cable through a drilled hole and attach the lockbox.

To open the lock, slide down the weather-proof cover, flip the dial to the right code combination to open the door, and pull the cable to lift the latch on the other side. As a bonus, there's plenty of room to store a spare house key. To lock everything up again, close the shed door, scramble the combination, and slide up the weather-proof cover.

Customers purchase the lock as a safety precaution to keep kids out of sheds that contain gas or chemicals as well as for security to protect valuable equipment.

The Shed Lock and Gate Lock each sell for



Shed lock uses no key and no batteries and is easier to use than conventional padlocks.



about \$75 online as well as in tool and home improvement stores.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Yardlock, 4050A Sladeview Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5L 5Y5 (ph 844-463-9459; sales@yardlock.com; www.yardlock.com).



Sprinkler slides on a sled made from a 50 gal. plastic barrel.

Do-It-Yourself Pasture Irrigation

A recent article in the American Pastured Poultry Producers Association (APPPA) member publication (Issue 132) outlined a towable pasture irrigation system. Matt Cadman came up with the idea in 2022 when he was faced with dead grass as he turned out 1,200 pullets.

"The solution to our lack of rain was to construct our very own K-Line irrigation system," recalled Cadman.

The K-Line system consists of a long line of sprinklers on sliding pods attached with irrigation hose. It can be towed with a 4-wheeler.

In his article on the APPPA forum, he laid out a detailed how-to. He also listed all the materials needed to build it, as well as the tools he used.

Cadman made sprinklers on skids made out of the sides of 50-gal. plastic barrels. He drilled holes in the skids for the 45-ft. lengths of 3/4-in. HDPE black plastic pipe to enter and exit. They were joined at each skid with PEX couplings and an upright for

a sprinkler head.

Cadman used 10-in. pieces of 2 by 4's to sandwich the pipes and PEX couplings as well as to fix them to the skid. Once the sprinkler heads were attached, all that remained was to hook it up to a water source with a flexible hose. The hose made it easy to change sprinkler positions without reconnecting.

He estimates the system let him put down about an inch of rain in a 12-hr. period. With a 5-head line, he could water about 3 acres a week.

"The skids worked better than I imagined," reported Cadman. "In the odd event that they flip over, they almost always right themselves. The flexible PEX line that holds up the sprinkler head can take a beating without any issue."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, APPPA Grit, American Pastured Poultry Producers Association, P.O. Box 85, Hughesville, Penn. 17737 (ph 888-662-7772; www.apppa.org).