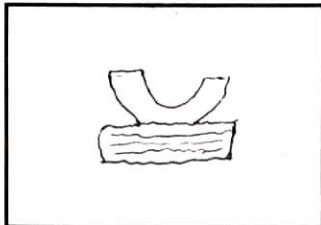


Reader Letters



I use an old discarded wheel rim with a tire still on it as a base for a salt or mineral feeder for my cattle. I cut another tire in half and drill holes through the bottom of the tread, then bolt the half-tire to the center of the rim, which lies flat on the ground. Bigger tires and rims can be used to make larger troughs to feed grain. (**Woody Stewart, Box 203, Rockglen, Sask., Canada S0H 3R0 (ph 306 476-2572).**)



I used parts of an old garden rake and shovel to build my "Road Runner" bird. The nose is a guard off a sickle mower. The legs and feet are made out of rebar. (**Nick Shemko, Box 1655, Tisdale, Sask., Canada S0E 1T0 (ph 306 873-4072)**)

Thank you for your story in Vol. 19, No. 1, on our grain vac repair business. We've had a lot of interest in our service. Unfortunately, our phone number was left out of the story. It's 306 734-2228. (**Glen Haugerud, Glen's Grain Vac Services, Box 444, Craik, Sask., Canada S0G 0V0**)

My new Ticket Tracker computer program is designed to keep track of weight tickets at harvest. The menu-driven program can be easily operated by people with little or no computer experience. It tracks tickets by farm, field, elevator, delivery location, trucking company, and truck driver using 3-digit codes that are easily accessible using a "hot-key". The program allows you to instantly figure the shrink on a per ticket basis, allowing you to view the wet and dry pounds as each ticket is entered. Reports can be printed to the screen or printer, and "mix-and-match" criteria can be used to print tickets for a specific field, farm, or a grand total. The program sorts all reports by ticket number for easy comparisons. Totals on reports are printed in an easy-to-read format at the bottom of each report.

Setup is simple, allowing the user to define such things as farm name, pounds per bushel, base moisture, and shrink per unit. Ticket Tracker can be operated on IBM or compatible computers equipped with 256K RAM, DOS 3.2+, and VGA, EGA, CGS monitors.

The program sells for \$150. A demo disk is available that sells for \$10. Cost of the demo disk is refunded if you buy the program. (**Steven Smith, Ticket Tracker, Rt. 3, Box 123, West Point, Miss. 39773 (ph 601 494-1387)**)

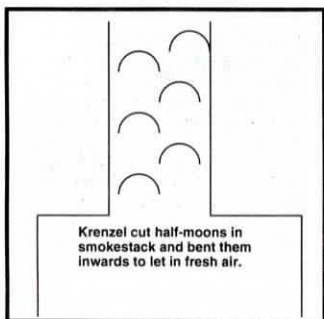
We farm with horses and have discovered a good way to move round bales over short distances. We remove two prongs from an old 4-prong grapple fork and stick one of the remaining prongs on the grapple into each end of the bale, then attach a short chain between a set of double trees and the grapple fork. The pulling effect causes the fork to tighten up on the bale. (**Aden J. Schrock, 7549 Co. Rd. 97, Bellville, Ohio 44813**)

I discovered a way to convert an ordinary toilet into a urinal. It helps keep things tidy at night when I go to the bathroom. I insert a 3-ft. long, 4-in. dia. piece of plastic pipe that's trimmed on one end to fit the bottom of the toilet. The pipe slopes forward. I just lean into the pipe. Using this technique there's no noise or splatter. (**Francis Meiller, 480 Meadowlark Dr., Minneapolis, Kan. 67467 (ph 913 392-2083)**)

I read with interest your story about a combine catching on fire (Vol. 19, No. 1). I've seen a couple combines burn myself. I'm a retired machinery repair man of 30 years and came up with the idea of installing a sprinkler system on combines. It would consist of four sprinkler heads, some 1/2-in. dia. copper tubing, and a 100-lb. pressurized tank to hold water. The copper tubing would hook up to an outlet off the bottom of the tank. Trapped air inside the tank should provide enough pressure to make it work when the sprinkler heads melt loose due to a fire. It would be inexpensive to install and should cut the cost of fire insurance. (**Floyd E. Ver Ploeg, Rt. 1, Box 128, Lovilia, Iowa 50150**)

I noticed your reader letter about a trash burner made by David Poole (Vol. 19, No. 1). Several years ago I was given the job of building a non-smoking incinerator for our church where we burn a lot of plastic styrofoam and food refuse. I built mine like David's with one important addition. I mounted an afterburner on it that completely burns all the smoke. I used an 8-in. dia., 4-ft. long stove pipe, as well as four 3-in. angle irons. I mounted the stove pipe into a hole cut into the barrel end using finger slots cut into the stove pipe. The four angle irons were bolted to the edge of the barrel end on top of the drum.

I inserted ten 3-in. dia. "half moons" in a staggered pattern into the pipe with the cut toward the top in a circular pattern around the pipe. The circle's inner part was bent inward into the pipe, allowing fresh air to



enter because the piece bent into the pipe acted as a deflector. The extra fresh air really made it burn hot and it sounded like an old gas blow torch. With the right amount of air flowing in from the bottom, the pipe consumes all the smoke and fumes from the plastic and styrofoam. However, it burns terribly hot. I had to make a new pipe after about 10 firings but it really solved a stinky problem. These kind of low-cost, easy to make, low tech solutions are what we need.



We're introducing a TwinLink front 3-pt. system for 4- and 6-cyl. Ford New Holland PowerStar tractors equipped with front wheel assist. All TwinLink systems are integrated with the tractor design ensuring that there is no interference with steering, tractor clearance, lights or routine maintenance accessibility.

TwinLink is equipped with Cat. II fixed lower links, 5,000-lb. lift capacity at hook-end, 27 1/2-in. lift range, double-acting hydraulics with down pressure, semi-auto-

matic quick coupler, and adjustable top link. All hydraulics and fitting hardware is included and takes less than two hours to assemble.

TwinLink is designed for light and medium duty use such as sprayers, tanks, row-crop cultivators, light blades, rakes, bale spears, pallet lifts, specialty equipment for vegetables, vineyards, orchards, etc. (**Lars Paulsson, general manager, LaForge Systems, Inc., 4480 Treat Blvd., Ste. 230, Concord, Cal. 94521**)

Keep up the good work. (**Daniel Krenzle, 510 Elizabeth St. N.E., Cullman, Ala. 35055**)

In response to the "safety issues" raised by Mitchell Hushak in a recent issue (Vol. 18, No. 6), I'd like to put in my 2 cents. True, we see more farm accidents than we'd like to. But most farmers are truly safety conscious and recognize the hazards inherent in their occupation. There isn't one farmer out there who wants to get hurt, much less hurt another - and definitely not by sharing their innovations in FARM SHOW. It's been my experience in working with farmers in cooperative extension and vo-ag programs that they're endowed with two additional senses - "horse" and "common" - that give them the uncanny ability to recognize and avoid potential hazards. Are these two senses required to obtain "Professional Engineer" credentials? (**Leon Osowski, Mile 2, Alexander Creek, Alaska**)

I recently received a copy of FARM SHOW's article on corn burning stoves (Vol. 18, No. 6). I thought you might like to hear about our new Pellet Master stove. We've developed a very efficient "corn adapter" for it. Our stoves burn a wide range of materials - high ash wood pellets, bituminous coal, cherry and olive pits, paper pellets, crushed walnut shells, and other recycled materials like shredded paper and cloth diapers - when mixed and pressed into pellets. In general, we've got an attractive "trash burner" capable of efficiently utilizing relatively high ash burnables that would plug up static feed stoves. We hope to be on the market within the next year. (**Lanney Wixson, 1625 Burlington Blvd., Burlington, Wash.**)

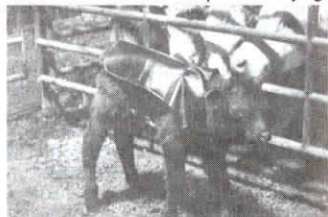
About FARM SHOW's article on a Perkins diesel engine installed in a Ford pickup (Vol. 18, No. 6): My brother has been repowering vehicles for missionaries using Perkins diesel engines for years. He personally has two repowered pickups. One is a 1/2-ton 1973 Ford with a 4-cyl. turbocharged Perkins. It has a 4-speed overdrive manual transmission and gets 25 mpg on the highway. The other is a 3/4-ton Ford with a 6-cyl. turbocharged Perkins. It has a 3-speed manual transmission and gets 20 mpg. My

brother plans to put an overdrive transmission in this pickup, too. The Perkins can handle an overdrive transmission because it has so much torque. The Clark 5-speed overdrive works best in my brother's opinion. (**Leonard Hodges, Rt. 1, Box 53-C, Callaway, Va.**)

I was manning the till at the hardware store I work at the other day when I noticed a copy of FARM SHOW on the counter. It really brought back fond memories from when I was a kid and Dad was a subscriber and I'd browse through all the interesting ideas people came up with. So I scribbled down FARM SHOW's address and subscription price and am enclosing payment for my one-year subscription. (**George Nickel, Box 81, Morris, Manitoba.**)

Thanks for many years of great entertainment. My wife got me your encyclopedia for Christmas and I'm enjoying that a lot. I'm anxiously waiting for your "Buyer's Guide" and 5-year story index. I'm currently building a motorized bathtub like the one featured on the new Best of FARM SHOW video. (**Mark Kenner, 2736 Oakley Wells Rd., Richmond, Ky.**)

When it's cold and wet, our new Calf Coat will save you a lot of calving problems. You just put it on the calf and to protect it from the elements and disease. The Calf Coat is made of polyester reinforced vinyl to shed water and is ventilated to promote drying.



The back portion is double layered, with the top layer containing an infrared reflecting insulation panel for extra warmth. The Calf Coat significantly reduces heat loss. There are no recognition problems with the mother. Sells for \$45 and dealer inquiries are welcome. (**Triple J Calf Coat, Box 572, Rt. 2, Buffalo, Mo. 65622; (ph 417 345-6038 or 8461).**)