

### "Sit Down" Walker For the Elderly

Wesley Erkel knew that elderly, geriatric patients in nursing homes and hospitals should be able to move around freely for independence and a feeling of self-worth. He didn't like the four-legged walkers commonly used because "they are too slow and they may tip over, injuring the patient."

As a solution, Wesley built this four-wheeled cart that lets the person sit down, while still allowing them quick, easy movement. "It gives old people more mobility and a sense of security," Wesley told FARM SHOW.

The cart is made of steel tubing that's been bronze-welded at the joints. A set of 5-in. caster wheels provides mobility. The seat is pegged into the cart and can be adjusted up or down for comfort and ease of movement. "It's designed to be fairly high so the person can get to his or her feet easily," Wesley notes. There's a security gate on the



front that encloses the person in the cart and prevents them from falling out forward.

Wesley thinks the cart could sell commercially for about \$150. He's looking for a manufacturer to take over production for a royalty fee.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wesley Erkel, Box 18, County Rd. 11, R.D. 1, LeCenter, Minn. 56057 (ph 612 357-4932).

## FARM SHOW

"Made  
it  
Myself"

Some of the best new products we hear about are "made it myself" innovations born in farmers' workshops. If you've got a new invention or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so, where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors? (Send to: FARM SHOW, Box 704, Lakeville, MN 55044).

Harold M. Johnson, Editor



### Roller Loader Handles, Feeds Big Round Bales

Now you can use your tractor-mounted manure loader to pick up, transport, stack, unroll or feed big round bales. "Best of all, it should sell for under \$1,000," says Thomas Gray, of Iva, S.C. about his invention, the Roller Loader.

The Roller Loader replaces the bucket or fork on the tractor loader. It's clamped onto the loader booms with four U-bolts, and installs in minutes, according to Gray. Existing hydraulic cylinders are used to perform lifting and bale squeezing operations.

"By using the tractor loader, you can load bales onto a truck or trailer, or stack one bale on top of another outside or inside a barn. The Roller Loader can be attached to any tractor equipped with a front or rear-end loader. It's designed to handle up to 2,000 lb. bales and can be used to handle or load any other type of bales, including conventional square bales," notes Gray.

The Roller Loader features a set of rolling discs on the ends of the bale arms for picking up the bale and allowing it to roll along the ground for unrolling and feeding. The discs squeeze together hydraulically to grab the bale. Four 8-in. prongs, and one 12-in. prong on each disc, hold the bale securely. The discs themselves are concave and scalloped to help hold the bale.

While Gray has made only one bale handler so far, he says it has been in use three years, and has lifted hundreds of bales. The loader lifts bales up to a ton in size, and will lift and release bales to a height of 8-10 ft. It will fit almost any front-end loader. He says he would like to find a manufacturer to fabricate and market his patented invention. Meanwhile he would fabricate a few himself.

For further details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, T.C. Gray, Rt. 3, Box 86, Iva, S.C. 29655 (ph 803 348-6506).



### "Super-Powered" Farm Mower

I built this power mower and have used it now for five years. There are often areas on my farm where grass grows 3 or 4 ft. tall before it gets cut and most mowers are greatly underpowered for such material. A drawn tractor mower is often too much trouble to hitch up so some cutting is neglected.

We have this 7-ft. wide mower ready to go at all times. Powered by a 25 hp. Wisconsin motor, the power train consists of a 4-speed truck transmission and a rear end from a Pontiac car. A chain drive speed reduction is used from the transmission down to the differential drive. Clutches for the traction and mower drives are V-belts where an idler pulley engages and disengages the power. The

4-speed transmission gives the mower a range of from 2 to 10 mph.

The mower is spring-balanced for easy raising and lowering with a hand lever, and gauge runners enable the mower to float nicely on the ground. There is a 36-in. rotary blade on each side of the mower and an 18-in. blade in the center just back of the two side blades. They overlap so no grass is missed while turning.

This mower was built for our own use and is not being manufactured.

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