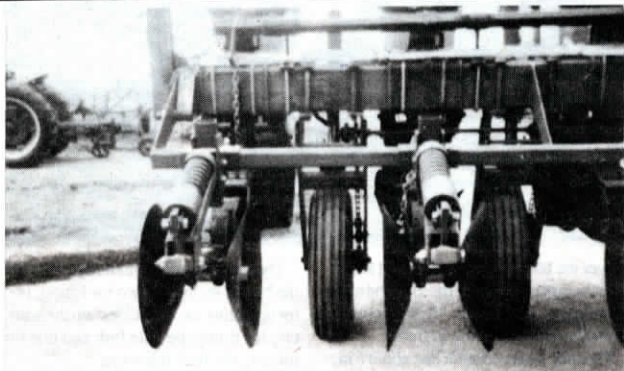


# Made It Myself

(Continued from previous page)



## "Coned" Disk Blades Keep Planter On Ridges

Pairs of spring-loaded "coned" disc blades, mounted on the fertilizer bar ahead of each planter unit on an 8-row Deere 7000 planter, make great ridge planter guides, says Greg Leland, Brice-lyn, Minn., who liked the idea so much he's applied for a patent on it.

Leland, who switched from conventional to ridge planting three years ago, hinged pairs of 20-in. dia. blades together "inside out" so that the back sides of the cones are just above the top of the ridge. The weight of the planter maintains down pressure on the discs so they "hug" the sides of ridges.

Leland has used the units on over 2,700 acres without problems. "Part of the dependability of these units is their simplicity. Some commercial ridge guide systems use an electric-over-hydraulic design which can result in expensive repairs. These units have no gismos - no electric solenoids, hydraulic dampeners, leaky fittings, bad connections, computer chips or circuit boards. They're easy to mount and to adjust, and their short profile allows sharp turns even with duals. After they're set you can almost forget they're there."

Leland mounts the coned disc blades on the three outside rows on each end of his planter, leaving the center two rows open because the planter hitch interferes with mounting.

According to Leland, the coned disc

blades are unaffected by the size or shape of the ridge. "If the ridges are wide, the blades cut into the center part of it and hang onto that. They seem to be unaffected by speed and are not hindered by large amounts of trash. Also, they hold well on steep hillsides. The entire set of ridge hugging units would have to move over for the planter to slide."

Each set of blades mounts with two bolts to a bracket on the fertilizer bar, allowing Leland to adjust the units horizontally along the bar. A vertical tube, drilled with holes, fits through each bracket, allowing Leland to set blades at eleven different height positions. By tightening or loosening a nut, he can control the amount of down pressure or spring tension so each unit can flex 7 in. up or down. At 1 in. of flex, each pair of blades receives 630 lbs. of down pressure. At 4 in. of flex, down pressure increases to 920 lbs. Leland says he hasn't yet been able to calculate the pounds of down pressure at the 5, 6 or 7-in. flex levels.

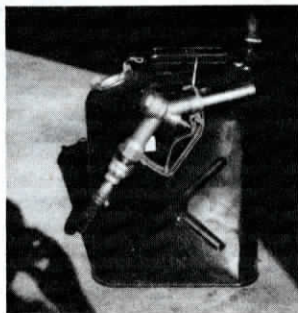
Bracketing changes would allow use on various makes of planters, says Leland, who estimates the ridge planter guides could be built for a retail price of \$300 to \$350. Manufacturer inquiries are welcome.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Greg Leland, Rt. 1, Box 130, Brice-lyn, Minn. 56014 (ph 507 653-4468).

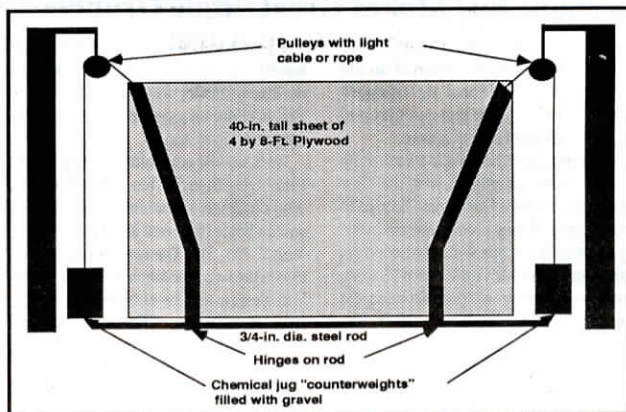
## Nozzle-Equipped Gas Can

"I got tired of the mess and clumsiness of using a funnel to refuel my garden tractor and other small engines," says Joseph Shearer, Genoa, Ill., who got the idea of attaching a fuel hose and gas pump nozzle to a 5-gal. can.

"I first installed a 3/8-in. dia. nipple across from the filler hole and attached a short length of hose to it, affixing a pump nozzle to the other end. I just loosen the filler hole to let air in and hold the can up horizontally. If I were going to make it commercially I'd put a handle on the filler hole side of the container to make it easier to hold horizontally, and I'd also make the can out of plastic to keep it lightweight."



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joseph Shearer, Rt. 1, Box 233, Genoa, Ill. 60135.

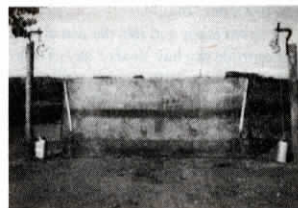


## Easy-To-Build "Drive-Over" Gate

A simple "drive-over" gate made out of a piece of plywood and miscellaneous parts eliminates the tedious chore of opening and closing gates by hand.

Bill Zahaiko, Newdale, Manitoba, simply pushes the 8-ft. wide by 3 1/2-ft. high gate down with his car or pickup bumper and drives over it. After the vehicle has crossed the gate, the gate automatically flips back up into place.

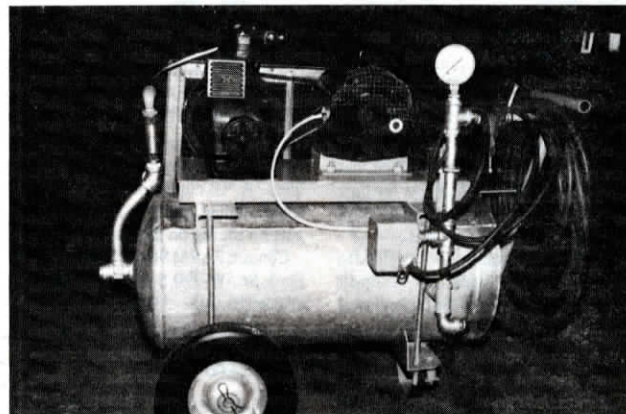
A 3/4-in. dia. steel rod runs along the ground just under the bottom edge of the gate. The rod is anchored to the ground by holders sunk 18-in. deep. Two metal straps on the gate hinge on the rod where the gate drops down to the ground. Zahaiko bolted 40-in. lengths of flat iron along each side of the gate about 8-in. from the ends. The lengths of flat iron run up to the gate's top corners. The corners are tied to counterweights - old chemical jugs filled with gravel - by ropes that run through pulleys. To sup-



port the pulleys and counterweights, Zahaiko set two 5-ft. high wood posts 10 ft. apart, one on each side of the gate.

"The key is to set the weights and ropes at the right length so that when the counterweights reach the tops of the posts, the gate lies flat on the ground. When the gate springs back up, the weights should just touch the ground," says Zahaiko.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bill Zahaiko, Box 71, Newdale, Manitoba, Canada ROJ 1J0 (ph 204 849-2273).



## Portable Air Compressor

"We built our own portable air compressor that we can easily transport around the farm for blowing up tractor and implement tires and to blow dust off equipment," says Clarence Leazenby, Paradise, Mich.

"I used a 20-gal. water tank and made 'saddles' for the top and bottom of the tank out of four flat pieces of 3/16 by 3 by 3-in. angle iron and used threaded rods to clamp the assembly to the tank. The compressor, motor, wheels and front stand all attach to these. They can be easily removed if the tank ever springs a leak or fails for any reason.

"The compressor was salvaged from a

large refrigerator and the pressure switch, gauge, fittings and check valve from a scrapped water pump. An axle was welded to the bottom saddle and fitted with a pair of discarded wheels. I installed a drain petcock in the bottom of the tank to remove moisture when needed. The only new component I used to build the compressor was a 1 hp. motor.

"The compressor compresses air up to 60 lbs. For safety, there's a pressure relief valve below the pressure switch."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Clarence Leazenby, Box 66, Paradise, Mich. 49768.