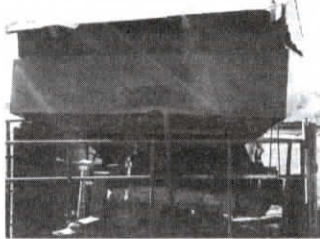


Reader Letters

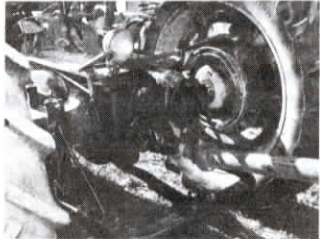


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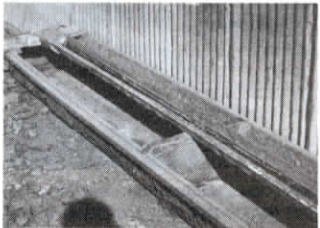
or spring when they are not vigorously growing. Once moved, you should anchor these trees down for quite a while to allow new anchor roots to grow out. Even with a big root ball, a wind could push these trees over if they're not tied down. However, if they do blow down, you can stand them up again and they'll probably survive. You also should water newly-transplanted trees from time to time until they are firmly rooted in their new locations. **(Fred Vageison, Rt. 3, Morrisville, Ill. 62546 ph 217 824-4898)**



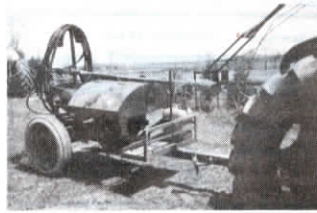
I made this creep feeder out of a salvaged combine hopper. I built a wood feed trough beneath it and cut holes into the bottom of hopper to let feed drop into trough. Then we put wheels under the hopper and fitted it with a tongue so we can move it around. Calves can feed on two sides of the hopper. We put metal gates up around it to keep cows out. **(Joe Dugan, Box 906, Roblin, Canada ph 204 564-2690)**



Farmall H tractors make good power units for augers. We made an adaptation that lets us clutch it from the back of the tractor without getting onto the tractor seat every time. It consists of a hand lever with a 90° crank that connects to an extension rod that runs up to the clutch mechanism, attaching to it below the pedal. A hand lever that bolts to the back corner of the platform is used to operate the clutch when putting the pto in and out of gear. Works great. **(Roger & Bruce Elliott, Rt. 1, Box 15, Montrose, Ill. 62445 ph 217 924-4350)**



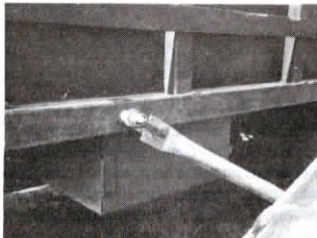
I raise geese and built this combination goose feeder/waterer myself. Geese like to wet down their feed as they eat so I mounted a waterer above a wood feed trough that measures 14 1/2 in. on top and slants down to 10 in. on the bottom end. Sides are 11 in. high. I made the water trough out of a piece of rain gutter with a float on one end to regulate water level. Sides are stiffened with 3-in. wide, 3/4-in. thick boards. **(John P. Hofer, Glendale Inc., Box 850, Cut Bank, Mont. 59427)**



Here's a pair of machines we built for use on our fruit trees. The first is a gas-powered hydraulic pruner that rides on a 2-wheel trailer. It's powered by a Briggs & Stratton engine that direct-drives a hydraulic pump. The pruner, which we bought used at an auction, is controlled by a simple flow control valve and connects to 40 ft. of 3/8-in. dia. hydraulic hose, which lets us trim about 10 trees without moving the tractor. Works well on trees up to 12 ft. tall.



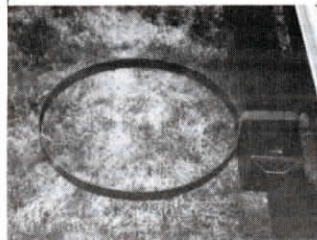
We also built a pto-powered air sprayer that uses the chassis, valves and blower from a junked Hardy sprayer and a stainless steel spray tank from another sprayer. The pto shaft, sprockets, pulleys and other parts came from a scrap yard. We fitted it with a new diaphragm pump. The pump and agitator are driven by roller chain. The blower itself, which mounts on back, is driven by three V-belts. Needs a minimum 45 hp tractor. Does a good job on trees up to 20 ft. tall. Out of pocket cost, including sand blasting and priming of old parts, was about \$1,100. **(A. Vanden Brink, 6740 120th Ave., Fennville, Mich. 49408)**



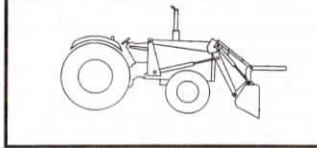
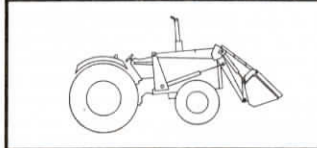
I came up with this way of hooking a Graves hay loader to the side of a grain truck so it won't come unhooked when you turn. We use it to load both hay and straw. The hitch that came on the loader originally just dropped into the standard hole on the truck. It would come loose sometimes if you hit a bump or if you had to back up. We took the hook off the hay loader arm and welded the end of an old Cat 1 3-pt. hitch lift arm onto it. We mounted a Cat 1 3-pt. hitch pin onto the side of our trucks. This works great. It won't come unhooked and the swivel action of the 3-pt. hitch ball gives it enough flexibility. **(Jason Starnes, 1020 Leonard Rd., Salisbury, N.C. 28146 ph 704 637-1805)**

I made this garbage bag holder to mount on the back of a pickup camper or trailer. We've used the idea for about 5 years. As far as I know, there's nothing like it on the market. I've made and sold a few to friends.

It's made from 1-in. strap iron. I first make a 4-in. square which fits over most camper bumpers. Then I make a 15-in. dia. circle and weld it to the top of the square so it can be put on the bumper with either end up,



which makes about 4 in. difference in how far it is from the ground. The bag is held on the ring by clothes pins or whatever you want to use. I also made a bumper-mounted holder to hold a small pan to wash my hands after cleaning fish. Helps keep the camper clean. **(Melvin Buss, Rt. 2, Box 53, Pierce, Neb. 68767)**



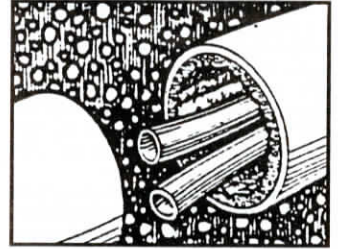
No added hydraulics are needed to operate this "poor man's" bucket clamp. A clever linkage arrangement closes a jaw against the bucket of a loader by action of the bucket cylinder. This loader jaw makes it easy to pick up bulky items like stumps, building trash, etc. It's mounted in place by simply replacing pivot pins on the loader. In operation, a jaw link causes the jaw to pivot out of the way when the bucket is tipped into the dumping position. When the bucket is rolled back, the link causes the jaw to rotate towards the edge of the bucket, providing a gripping function. I've patented the idea and want to find a manufacturer. **(Albert C. Pollard, P.O. Box 266, Irvington, Va. 22480 ph 804 435-3619; fax 804 435-0145)**

Here in Palouse hill country in Washington, we often get troublesome tailwinds when harvesting. They cause crop material to build up on radiators so we have to stop to clean them off and let the combines cool down. We noticed that the problem was usually worse in barley and we also noticed that when the problem was the worst, we also got a buildup of material on the ladder. Finally, my brother rode in the engine compartment on the combine to watch the buildup occur. Since the engine fan moves a tremendous amount of air, some of the chaff and straw being carried by in a tailwind would get drawn over to the ladder area. Some would go into the rotary screen and be swept away without bother but it would continue to build up around the latter. Then, if the wind switches, or the combine turns a corner (the same as a wind switch), this wad of material would get sucked all at once onto the rotary screen. This big wad of material would be too much for the rotary screen and would build up on the leading side of the vacuum duct, getting ground up by the screen into fine enough pieces to get through the screen. Or, in the case of barley beards, they get forced through the fine mesh screen. These pieces of beard and chaff plug off the air flow through the radiator. Once the surface area is approximately 25 percent blocked off, the temperature starts to go up. We now know that whenever we're getting buildup on the combine ladder, we're likely to have a plug-up problem.

We came up with a kit that fits on the rotary screen that solves the problem. It reroutes the flow of air so it comes in through

the side louvers and the top instead of through the bottom. It consists of a piece of molded foam rubber that's held on by magnets so you can easily take it off when needed.

The kit sells for \$39.95 and can be shipped UPS. It fits Deere 9600, 9500 (straight and sidehill models), and 9400 combines. **(Dennis Solbrack, Arrow Machinery, Inc., P.O. Box 70, Colfax, Wash. 99111 ph 800 473-3629 or 509 397-4377)**

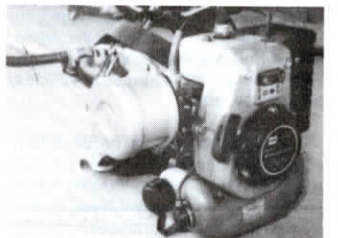


Since our automatic self-stoking outside wood furnace was first featured in FARM SHOW (Vol. 16, No. 5), we've come up with a new product - "Low-E Insulated Pipe". It's designed for use with outside wood boiler furnaces. Our Low-E pipe is 1/4-in. thick and consists of a core of polyethylene foam bonded to two exterior sheets of aluminum. The new pipe resists all three types of heat transfer - conduction, convection and, most importantly, radiant energy transfer. Low-E provides an excellent barrier against air infiltration from outside. And, unlike other types of insulation, Low-E absorbs no moisture.

We developed this pipe to be used with outdoor furnaces but it can also be used to insulate water pipes for domestic hot or cold water and livestock water - both above and below ground. With extremely cold weather last January, our pipe was really put to the test. One local farmer put a garden hose inside our Low-E pipe to get water quickly to his heifer barn after his pipes froze. He didn't have any more problems.

When running lines to the house from an outside wood boiler, we recommend burying the lines inside our Low-E pipe in a trench about 18 in. deep. It's easy to use and will significantly reduce heating costs. **(Howard A. Johnson, President, Johnson Mfg. & Sales, Inc., N5499 Cty. E, Ogdensburg, Wis. 54962 ph 800 515-4328 or 414 244-7581)**

After reading your last issue about the do-it-yourself foam marker built by Virgil Fuchs, I decided to make my own for use on a grain drill. I wanted to let you know that it works great. Power is supplied by a pair of inexpensive 12-volt powered air compressors - the type that plug into a cigarette lighter. They blow air into a pair of 5-gal. plastic pails. When I want to drop foam, I just flip a switch to either side. **(Robert Riley, Orangeburg, S.C. 29115)**



It's been my observation over the years that small 2-cycle engines are usually fitted with less than adequate "air cleaners" than you find on most 4-cycle engines. I suspect cost-cutting is the main reason for this. My Sears brushwacker with a 51.7 cc engine was an expensive machine but came equipped with a basic "bug strainer" air filter. To solve the problem, I adapted an air cleaner from a junked Rupp/Tecumseh engine which uses a replaceable round pleated paper filter. I can detect no difference in operation of the