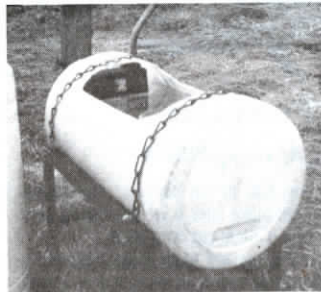


Reader Letters



Thank you for the article in your last issue on our new punch and chisel holder. One correction - it sells for \$29.95, not \$39.95 as you reported. (**Dennis Knobloch, Knobloch Automated Mfg., Box 56, Alford, Iowa 51230 ph 712 473-2400**)

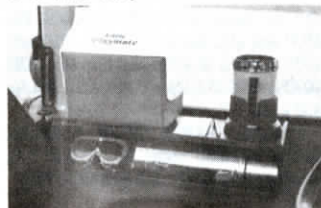
I used an old 30-gal. plastic tank to make an inexpensive, portable cattle waterer. I got the tank from my brother who has a dairy



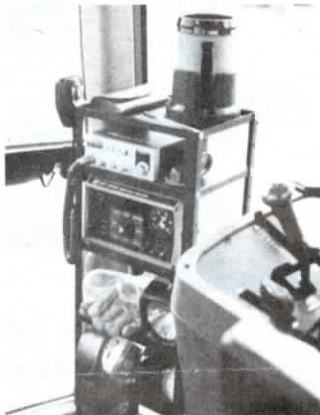
operation. The tank originally contained iodine teat dip. It's made from heavy nylon plastic and is virtually indestructible. I rinsed out the tank, then cut an opening in the top and installed a float on one end, out of the reach of cattle, and cut a hole in the top of the tank to insert a garden hose. I mounted the tank on top of a homemade steel frame. I welded a pair of bolts onto each side of the frame so that I can chain the tank to the frame. I've also used these plastic tanks to make calf feeders. (**Ralph E. Hunt, HCR 5272A, New Salem, Mass. 01355 (ph 508 544-3830)**)

I recently began importing non-treated twine designed for use with high moisture silage bales. Conventional twine is often treated with oil-based chemicals to resist weathering that tends to eat right through the plastic silage wrapping. Chemical-treated twine isn't necessary on high moisture silage bales because there's no oxygen to degrade the twine. When non-treated twine is thrown on the ground it breaks up quickly, making it much easier to dispose of than treated or plastic twine. Sells for \$22.50 per roll.

We also manufacture net wrapping for round balers that sells for 10 to 20% less than other net wrapping. As far as I know, Exxon is the only other U.S. manufacturer of net wrapping. (**Ted Gerber, International Plastic Products of America, Inc., Box 861, Newark, Ohio 43055 ph 800 323-4031 or 614 345-4540**)



I recently began manufacturing a wide variety of custom-fit steel shelves for tractor cabs. The shelves are designed to fit Deere 30, 40, 50, 55, and 60 series and 6000-7000 models, Case-IH 7100-7200 models, and Cat Challengers. Some models are universal in design and will fit many different makes of tractors and even combines. The shelves come in handy for mounting radios, mobile phones, monitors, control systems, owner's manuals spare parts, coolers, thermos jugs, drink holders, etc. The various designs include top-shelf units that fit the curvature of the front window, 8-in. sq. 4-shelf units that can be mounted beneath the top shelf, fold-up double shelves (some of them universal)



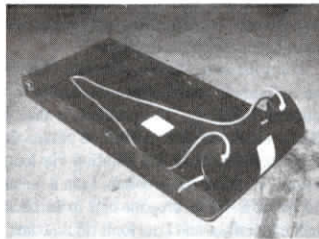
that fold up out of the way to allow room for a passenger, ledge or post mounting brackets for shelves, and universal 5-shelf units that fit a variety of tractor and combine cabs and have shelves that can be spaced at 1-in. intervals. All models are built from heavy gauge steel so they withstand vibration and rough field conditions. They have protective vinyl edge molding on all flanges. They sell for \$30 to \$90. Mounting brackets needed for some models sell for an extra \$15. All other mounting hardware is included. (**Neal Hyde, Hyde Industries, Box 278, Lodgepole, Neb. 69149 ph 308 483-5706**)



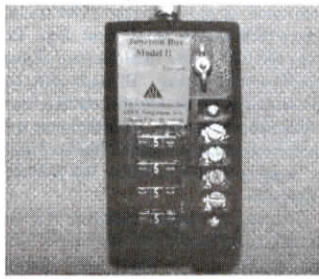
Our new "sunrise plant helper" works great for planting tomatoes, and other garden vegetables, earlier and protects plants from the wind while multiplying moisture available to plants. It also keeps branches from breaking and keeps fruit off the ground. It consists of a poly cone that has a screw-type design on the bottom. You turn the planter clockwise into tilled soil about 4 1/2 in. so that holes on the side of the planter are at ground level. If desired, you can dig out soil from the center and replace it with the soil you want for the plants. The soil inside the planter should be at the same level as soil outside the planter.

You can cover the planter with a lid whenever there's a threat of frost. If severe low temperatures are predicted, you can place a 10-ft. wide strip of plastic over an entire row of planters. You can leave the plastic and lids on in the morning until the temperature warms up. We've had great success using the units to plant our tomatoes 3 to 4 weeks earlier than normal for our area, and they help extend the growing season well into the fall.

Sells for \$19.95.
Our new plastic 'chore sled' works great for hauling bottles, buckets, feed, bales, even newborn calves. It's 45 in. long, 16 in. wide, and 8 in. high and has a nylon cord



rope that's used to pull it. It'll withstand high impact even at subzero temperatures. Sells for \$39. (**Poly Tank Co., 62824 250th St., Litchfield, Minn. 55355 ph 800 328-7659 or 612 693-8370**)



We're now offering a new low-cost Model II version of our electric "Junction Box" (Vol. 15, No. 6) that mounts on the side of the tractor or combine for easy, no hassle electrical hookups. It works like a fusebox and has four circuits with 30 amp, 12-volt capacity. Comes with a heavy duty 10-ga. cable that connects to the battery. It provides quick and easy power access from inside the cab. Sells for \$49.95. (**Tri-R Innovations, Inc., 628 S. Sangamon Ave., Gibson City, Ill. 60936 ph 217 784-8495**)



Last fall you published a story about our prototype header-mounted combine dust vacuum (Vol. 17, No. 5) that mounts on the feederhouse opening to remove dust from the header and discharge it to the side of the combine behind the header. It was originally designed for our New Holland combine. However, we got so many phone calls from your readers that we decided to build a version for Deere 9500 and 9600 combines and we recently exhibited it at the National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, Kent.

Our unit is unlike other dust dividers on the market because it sucks dust off the header rather than out of the feederhouse. The mechanically-driven unit uses a fan to blow chaff through a hose to the rear of the combine and onto a chaff tray, where it falls onto the chaff spreaders. It's chain-driven by the feederhouse shaft that drives the header auger. It's virtually maintenance-free because there's no hydraulics to create heat. The hinged shroud can be flipped up for access to the header auger in case it plugs up. Sells for under \$3,000, including chaff tray. (**Wade Little, Box 44, Decker, Manitoba, Canada R0M 0K0 ph 204 562-3538**)

Our 3-pt. three-in-one utility implement can be used to plant, hill, or dig potatoes. Saves a lot of time and work. To use it as a planter you attach the seat and mount a pail full of potatoes ahead of it. You simply sit on the seat and drop potatoes through a chute. Potatoes fall into the ground and are covered up by planting fins. In mid-season you can remove the planting fins and seat and



bolt on the hilling shear to roll dirt over alongside the growing plants. When the potatoes are ready for digging, you go down the center of the row and use the shear to roll potatoes out either side of the implement. Sells for \$299 (Canadian). (**Hold-On Industries, Inc., Box 430, Aberdeen, Sask., Canada S0K 0A0 ph 306 253-4343**)

Thanks for printing my "worst buy" on Pella windows. Soon after the article ran, a Pella representative called us and said someone would be getting in touch with us to help resolve our problems. We were pleased with the quick response. However, that was over a month ago and we still haven't heard anything. (**L.J. Balzer, P.O. Box 670, Hooker, Okla. 73945**)

Here's a mouse catcher that works good: Put 4 to 5 in. of water in the bottom of a 5-gal. pail. Spread peanut butter in streaks inside the bucket, about 1 to 2 in. down from the top edge, spaced about 3 in. apart. Mice will climb into bucket and fall into the water when they try to get at the peanut butter. There's no limit to how many you can catch and it's safe around pets and kids. Great in shops, barns, etc. (**Shirley Drew, 711 Savoy Rd., Windsor, Mass 01270**)

We run dry corn out of our two dryers and through a rotary cleaner before it goes to storage. One of my men put a squirrel cage fan under the cleaner on an angle. It blows the "bees wings" away, leaving quality clean fines which fall to the ground. We then grind them up for feed. (**Bill Knof, Rt. 1, Nahotah, Ill. 53058 ph 414 646-8186**)

Thanks for your article in the last issue on our "foolproof" way to keep deer out of farm crops by fencing in fields with underground "invisible fence" and then letting dogs roam free in the fenced-in area. The article gave the impression that this method is 100 percent effective. Actually, we say it's about 90 percent effective in reducing damage to fruit trees for a couple reasons. One, the dogs will only go within about 30 ft. of the underground wire, so that means deer can still get to any trees within that border area. And two, sometimes deer go inside the fenced area and the dogs simply don't detect them.

One other thing the article didn't mention is that there is a training period for dogs. You need to teach them how the invisible fence works and the location of boundaries. We run a length of string above the underground wire and walk dogs all around the perimeter so they learn where it is. Otherwise, they will run right through since they won't understand the shock they receive from the radio collar. Once they learn where the boundary is, they won't go near it. (**John Torrice, RD 7, Box 287, Oswego, N.Y. 13126 ph 315 342-3793**)

Thanks for having professional harvesters "tell it like it is" regarding combines in the last issue of FARM SHOW. It's no surprise many custom operators use MacDon or Deere heads on their Case-IH Axial Flow combines after reading about problems various owners have had with Case-IH sickle drives.

Credit must be given to Deere dealers for retaining any combine customers at all considering that over 73 percent (17 of 23) of