

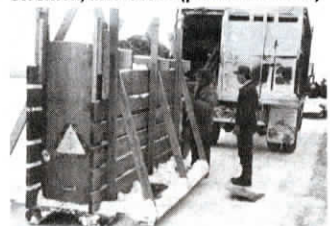
# Reader Letters



trailer made out of a pickup box. The loader consists of a telescoping boom made out of heavy steel pipe. It swings 360° in order to load into both the trailer and the pickup used to pull it. A 2 1/2 by 16-in. cylinder raises and lowers the boom. I use a 3 hp. Briggs & Stratton engine to power a steering pump from a GM car, which provides hydraulic power. A 5-qt. steel tank serves as fluid reservoir. Log chunks are lifted both by the hydraulic-powered boom and by a hand-cranked winch. Steel cable threads through pulleys at the top of the mast and at the end of boom.

When two or more men are working, we use log tongs to lift wood chunks. When working alone, I use a "screw eye" which I can turn down into the wood without having to hold it in place while I crank the winch.

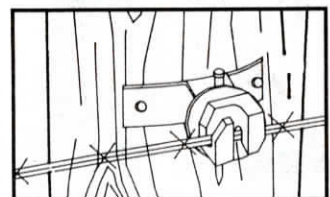
(Contact: Sam R. Curtis, Rt. 1, Box 76, Stockton, Mo. 65785 (ph 417 276-4539))



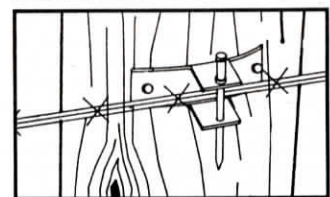
I built this portable cattle chute last winter to catch a wild steer that was roaming wild in the bush. I tow it behind a tractor or truck. It rides on skids. The 8-month old steer had been running wild in a pasture for six weeks and was so wild that I couldn't get within 1,000 ft. of him. I had to catch him in the winter - there was no chance of catching him in the summer because he wasn't hungry enough.

The 5-ft. high cattle catcher looks like a squeeze chute. It has a wooden floor and a plywood trap door on back with a steel gate on front. It mounts on 12-ft. long skids. I put feed out on the ground in one spot for the steer for a week and then hauled the cattle catcher out to the same area and opened the gate, putting feed inside on the floor of the unit. The steer eventually walked into the chute and as he reached for the feed, he pushed against a nylon rope which caused a pin to pull out, tripping the plywood gate. Then we dragged the animal back home in the chute. (Lyle Spies, Rt. 2, Alma, Ontario Canada N0B 1A0)

We make easy-to-install let-down fence clips for metal and steel posts that make it easy to temporarily drop down fence wires when crossing over, clearing snow or getting rid of weeds. The wire-holding clip consists of a



flat bracket with a pair of "ears" with holes through them. The clip is nailed to wood posts or fastened to steel posts with a pliers-



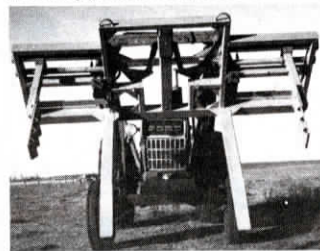
like tool. To string a wire, you simply place it between the clip ears and insert a nail through the holes. Unlike staples, the wire remains loose in the clip so it can be re-tensioned. If you need to lay down the wire, you just pull the nail.

We also make an electric insulator that attaches to the standard base clip. You just straddle wire with the insulator, rotate it 45 degrees, and slip the nail through the back to hold it in place. Works with smooth, barbed or poly wire. The insulator is made from a mix of 50% plastic and 50% reclaimed rubber-tires. Makes it stronger than 100 percent plastic and more pliable in cold weather.

Steel post clips sell for \$17.95 per 100 and include the latch-pin nails. Wood post clips are \$19.95 per 100 and include installation and latch pin nails. Insulators are \$14.95 per 100. (Baker Fencing System, P.O. Box 110, Freedom, Wyo. 83120 ph 208 873-2632)

Our rub-on licorice-flavored calf powder encourages reluctant mothers to lick their young, getting the process started right after birth to protect the life of the newborn. "Calf Claim" powder can also be used to get cows to accept orphaned calves. I got the "secret" formula from my veterinarian uncle who came up with the recipe nearly 20 years ago to solve the problem for his clients. It worked so well when I started my own vet practice, that I decided to make it available commercially. Now I and my partner, John Peters, make and bottle Calf Claim in off hours with the help of our wives. We use a cement mixer to combine the raw ingredients, which we buy from a local co-op. Then we bottle the product in 6-oz. bottles and sell it to vets and cattlemen across the country for about \$10 a bottle. One bottle is good for about 7 applications. One application is usually enough to get a reluctant mother to accept her calf.

Calf Claim has also been used on horse foals and lambs, but has had most of its success with beef and dairy calves born to first-time mothers. It's applied immediately after birth. It helps to dampen the calf's back first to make the powder stick. (Calf Claim, Mount Ayr Veterinary Clinic, Box 153, Mount Ayr, Iowa 50854 ph 515 464-2202)



We think our new Hyd-R-Bale carrier is the best bale handler on the market. It fits any front-end loader and is designed to handle bales from 4 to 7 1/2 ft. in dia. and up to 2,000 lbs. It lets you place bales exactly where you want them. No more dropping large round bales into tub grinders with a front fork. Our bale carrier lets you gently place bales in a tub and release the side arms hydraulically with no shock to the tub grinder. Lets you pick up bales by either the sides or ends.

A fork slides under the bale and the two side arms grab onto it. A single double-acting cylinder controls in and out move-

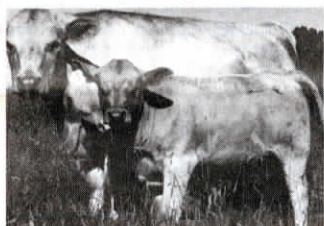
ment of side arms. A back support, which measures 4 ft. wide and 36 in. high, keeps the bale from falling backward onto the tractor. Comes with universal mounting brackets to fit any front-end loader. Sells for \$2,395. (Clifford C. Grosz, Hyd-R-Bale Carrier, P.O. Box 275, 915 Lincoln Ave., Harvey, N.Dak. 58341 ph 701 324-2721)

Once you've tried our new denim "Cow Towel Apron", you'll never want to be without it again. It looks like a nail apron but has a small slit in front that dispenses towels like



a tissue box. We've already sold several hundred of the patent pending aprons through a local distributor. The apron holds up to 100 towels and fits up to a 54-in. waist. The towels are always right there when you need them. You don't have to go looking for them. Everyone who's tried it tells me I should get it on the market but I've had a tough time finding a national distributor to handle them.

Towel aprons sell for \$5.75. We make a second model that also has a teat dip cup holder. It sells for \$5.99. (Linda Culver, L-C Aprons, Rt. 2, Box 217, Bloomer, Wis. 54724 ph 715 568-3758)



My husband and I raise Murray Greys, an Australian breed, and we're also involved in the Northwest Murray Grey Association. They're tough and can handle harsh conditions yet they're very docile and easy to handle. Murray Greys developed as the result of a genetic accident on an Australian ranch in 1905 when a roan Shorthorn cow bred to Aberdeen Angus bulls started dropping only grey calves, 12 in all over the years. The rancher's wife liked the grey animals and the rancher didn't want to "contaminate" the rest of his herd, so he didn't take them to market. The herd of greys was eventually sold to another rancher in 1929 who developed the breed, maintaining the unusual color along with other desirable characteristics from the two parent breeds. In 1962 the first Murray Grey breed association was formed and a few of the animals were shipped to the U.S.

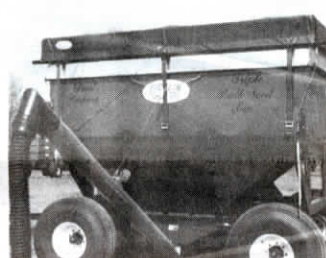
Being from Australia, Murray Greys thrive on hot, difficult terrain but are also well-suited to colder climates. It's not uncommon to see them out rustling feed at 30 degrees below zero with a stiff wind blowing when other breeds run for the shed.

Many ranchers breed Murray Grey bulls to first-calf heifers because of their easy calving ability. Murray Greys calve at 60 to 80 lbs. Cows are highly fertile and wean at 50 percent or more of their own body weight. All animals are naturally polled. Heifers reach 700 lbs. at yearly age and 1,300 lbs. at maturity. (Linda Jensen, Northwest Murray Grey Association, P.O. Box 4, Glenns Ferry, Idaho 83623 ph 800 437-6977 or 208 366-2670)

I am a lover of FARM SHOW Magazine. Both my wife and I read it avidly when it arrives. Your magazine is outstanding in the help it gives farmers. It's an electric bundle of creative ideas.

I would like to gently call your attention to misinformation in the last FARM SHOW issue - "DDT Eaters Alive, Healthy". You may count me in with people who ate DDT, and yourself for that matter. We all have ingested DDT through milk and other foods. DDT is still finding its way into the U.S. food chain. I would imagine that the blustering DDT-eater ate less than a dose that was poisonous. Like you and me, he probably ate a subclinical dose, and it probably was a compound that resembled DDT in a less active form (chlorophenothanes, generally). The risk of small amounts of DDT to adult humans is negligible. Clifford Roan could not have been poisoned in six months. However, over a longer period of time, six years perhaps, the accumulating DDT would have made him sick - for real - in the same small doses. Had his same dose been given to an infant of six months, that dose might have poisoned the infant, even though it showed no effects on him in his adult life.

I also take exception to the last statement you make: that DDT saved millions of lives around the world. DDT is still used around the world, but the World Health Organization says that 2 million people die because of incurable malaria. They die, because mosquitoes are now resistant to DDT, and the organism which causes malaria is resistant to quinine therapy, and most secondary drugs. (Bud Hoekstra, P.O. Box 121, Eureka, Calif. 95502)



Our new triple bulk seed wagon has three equal compartments to keep varieties separate. Each compartment has its own door opening for ease in filling the planter. At harvest, you can replace the triple door with a single door and use it like a normal grain wagon. Compartment sizes range from 83 to 150 bu., depending on the size of wagon. A roll-top tarp kit is available as well as a hydraulic-driven auger with bristle brush flighting. We also plan to introduce a wagon divided into just two compartments. (Jeanie Ficklin, Ficklin Machine Co., Inc., 209 W. Grant, Onarga, Ill. 60955 ph 815 268-7826).

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