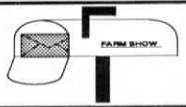


Reader Letters



Sickle bars are hard to remove from cutter-bars. The best way I have found to get the job done is to use a small chain or cable and a post maul. I tie one end of the chain to the end of the sickle and wrap the other end around the head of the maul, leaving 4 or 5 ft. of slack. Then I swing the maul back and forth. Works great. **(Deane T. Clawson, Fredericktown, Mo.)**

I would like to second the reader's experience who wrote in last issue about his sure-fire way to keep coons out of sweet corn. We have also been successful with an electric fence placed around our corn patch. We position a single wire about 6 in. above the ground. In the morning there are tracks all around the field but none inside. As long as there is good tension so coons have to climb over, and a good strong shock if they do, they'll stay out. Just watch out that you don't trip over the wire when you go to pick some for yourself. **(Owen DeBoer, Rt. 7, Brantford, Ontario, Canada)**

I use an empty 55 gal. drum for a little portable work table. It's the right height. I put an old blanket over the top which then also serves as a grease rag. Works good for sorting through nuts and bolts. The drum is easy to roll from one job to another. You can also pour sand in the bottom of a 55 gal. drum and use it as a stationary welding bench. **(Buddy Hoopes, 1910 12th St., Beloit, Ohio 44609)**

Here's an idea that makes driving in winter easier. I put two tractor weights - 100 lbs. each - on the floor in the back of my car. It works much better than putting them in the trunk since that makes cars harder to steer, causing fish tailing, etc. **(Fred Schnept, Rt. 2, Box 20, Janesville, Minn. 56048)**

I read with interest your article in a recent issue questioning the benefits of oil additives (Vol. 14, No. 6) and would like to tell you about my experiences. Seven years ago our Case "D" was using between 2 and 3 quarts of oil per day while doing spring field work. Time was lacking for an overhaul so I poured in one can of STP Oil Treatment. I don't pretend to know what it did but it solved the problem. I did no overhaul and the tractor is still going strong. **(Ray Stillman, Campbellford, Ontario)**



I would like to show your readers how I stored my round bales last year. I stacked them end to end, in two rows side by side with one row on top. What's new is my roof made from recycled highway billboard signs from the interstate highway. I paid \$200 for two complete signs already down and loaded on a trailer. The individual sections are 9 by 12-ft. tin with a frame made out of 2-in. sq. thin gauge tubing. Three men can carry them by hand. We just wire them together at the top and let them hang over the bales. No posts, no foundation, no tie-downs, and the roof is heavy enough to hold itself down. We

had 50 in. of rain last year. The hay under the roof is as good as the day I stacked it. With a little care in handling, the roof sections should last many years. Small woodland critters also enjoy the shelter. **(Terry A. Riegler, Rt. 1, Box 594, Sparta, Mo. 65753)**

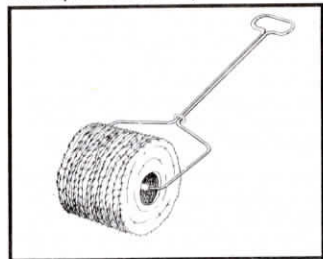
I'm 96 years young but I like to keep up with farming today so I had to have a subscription to your magazine. I retired 30 years ago in 1960. I still drive a car and keep active. **(William Von Behren, Minonk, Ill.)**



Landscape ball carts are used to transport large trees from truck to planting sites through narrow gates and passage ways where large vehicles can't go. I invented this powered ball cart that can move up to 1,000 lb. trees easily, hauling them up steep grades and through 36-in. gates to planting sites. It's safer and easier to use and there's less chance of workers getting hurt or suffering a hernia. It's powered by a 7 hp. motor which belt-drives a 3-speed transaxle connected to rear wheels. It has a belt tightener hand clutch, brake and hand throttle. The tree basket tilts up to pick up a tree or put it in place. The cart has large flotation tires so it won't make deep ruts in the lawn even when the soil is wet and soft. I have built two models and would like to find a manufacturer. **(Raymond Fager, 622 So. Holland-Sylvania Road, Toledo, Ohio 43615)**



This portable wood-cutting machine lets me cut up logs into firewood and load the wood myself. The frame is from an old IH hay baler. The engine is a "Le Rey" that originally ran two pea "runners". The saw blade is belt-driven by a 32-in. long driveshaft salvaged from a truck driveline. The blade raises and lowers hydraulically. Logs drop onto an old bale elevator after they're cut and are carried up into a waiting truck. **(Darrel Hamilton, Rt. 1, Dayton, Wash. 99328 ph 509 337-6385)**



We developed our new barbed wire unrolling tool called "Roll-A-Bob" after years of problems stringing fence. It handles all brands of wire, eliminating the cut hands and torn clothing usually associated with

unrolling barbed wire and it makes a two-man job into a one-man job. At average farm wages, the Roll-A-Bob will pay for itself after 5 hours of use. You simply slip it over a roll of wire and pull it along the ground. Sells for \$21.95 plus \$3 postage. **(Bill R. Fox, Fox Enterprises, Rt. 1, Box 163, Five Points, Tenn. 38457 ph 615 852-4258)**

I've been getting FARM SHOW for several years and thought you would be interested in our Hydra Post Driver. It's a first-of-its-kind machine that works faster and safer than conventional drivers on posts of any size up to 10 ft. long, 7 in. dia. It's unique because it uses a combination of down pressure and rapid, vibrating blows to drive the post rather than the up and down strokes of a driver. It uses the same principal as a



jackhammer. Downpressure varies from 0 to 4,000 lbs., depending on the tractor, and the vibrator delivers up to 1,500 blows of 500 lbs. per minute. The combination of the two forces drives large wooden posts in 10 to 60 sec., depending on the ground. Another unique feature of our machine is our pilot shaft that lets you sink a pilot hole in hard or rocky ground and then pull the shaft back out with the driver, before driving the post.

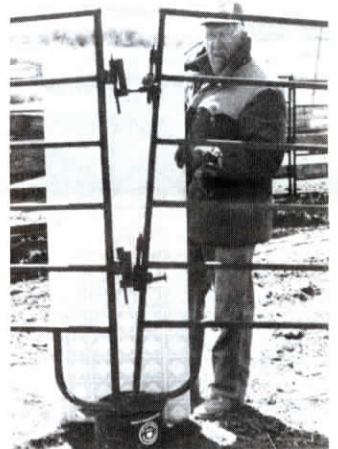
Our post driver uses a solid frame to mount to the tractor - not a 3-pt. hitch - and swings in either direction. It can also drive posts into the ground at an angle. Dismounts from the tractor in minutes. Minimum tractor size recommended is 80 hp. We're now building the machine for sale - there's nothing on the market that even comes close to it. **(Dan Frere, Aldan Industries, Box 577, Trochu, Alberta T0M 2C0 Canada ph 403 442-2182 or 2465)**



Four years ago we were sheep herders looking for the perfect ewe. We tried different breeds of sheep, including Dorset, Columbia, Finn, Rambouillet, Polypay and Suffolk, but we always fell short of our goal of a 200 percent lamb crop. After hearing rumors about a new breed of Russian sheep called Romanov that had made their way to Canada by way of France in 1980, and were being tested at an experiment station in Lethbridge, Alberta, we made several trips to the station to confirm for ourselves whether the astounding stories we had been hearing were true. We liked what we saw and when Lethbridge had their first sale of crossbred (1988) and purebred (1989) Romanovs, we were fortunate to purchase several of their top animals.

Although each of our previous breeds had their own special qualities, we've found the Romanov to be far superior. They're in a class of their own. Romanov ewes breed when they're 70 days old, compared to regular lambs that mature sexually at 6 to 7 months. And unlike most breeds, with not quite 1 lamb born per ewe per year and less than that making it to market each year, Romanovs have phenomenal multiple births. Quads and quintos are common and there have been many recorded births of 7 to 9 live lambs. Regular sheep ovulate and breed only in the fall of the year while Romanov ewes breed naturally any month of the year so we can easily raise two lamb crops a year per ewe averaging six lambs per ewe. That's a 600 percent lamb crop! And one of the most striking characteristics of the Romanov is the aggressiveness of the newborns. Due to a tremendous will to live, they'll survive conditions where traditional breeds of sheep would perish.

We've been placing Romanov sheep across Canada and the U.S., using international truckers or flying them to their destinations in crates. It's definitely the hottest livestock breed on the market today and will cause an impact equal to that caused by the introduction of exotic cattle breeds in the 60's. We have gone from "rags to riches" on the coattails of our Russian sheep and they've been the adventure of a lifetime. **(Lyle & Delorse Bowles, Box 591, Maple Creek, Sask. S0N 1N0 Canada ph 306 662-2916)**



When building a corral using panels on uneven ground it's difficult to connect them together. It's also a problem when making temporary panel corrals in calving sheds where there is straw build-up and frozen manure to cope with. My corral panel connectors solve the problem and also act as hinges between panels, enabling you to use one as a gate. I haven't seen anything like them on the market - I've used them for four years. They're made from 1-in. tubing and 5/8-in. rod welded together as shown in the photo. The tube brackets slide up and down on the removable pins, providing plenty of "give" over uneven ground. **(Adam Turbak, Box 261, Elkhorn, Manitoba R0M N0N0 Canada)**

We sell our diamond walking sticks at arts and crafts shows. Diamond willow only grows in the north from Michigan and the Dakotas up to Alaska and the Northwest Territories. We have traveled twice to Alaska to gather the wood we need. Diamond-shaped marks are made on the willow by wasp stings that cause the white wood to form a dark diamond-shaped mark around the sting.

I have canes made from 20 other different kinds of wood as well, gathered from swamps, woods, etc. I can no longer get around as well as I used to since I have a bad

(Continued on next page)