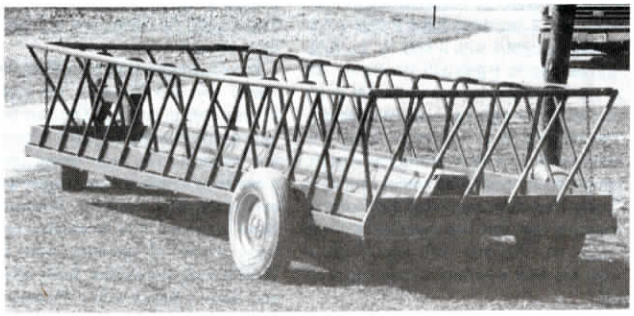
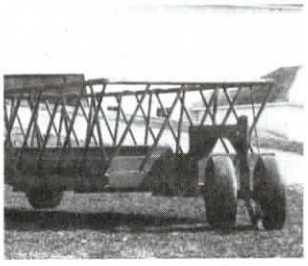


Portable Big Bale Feeder

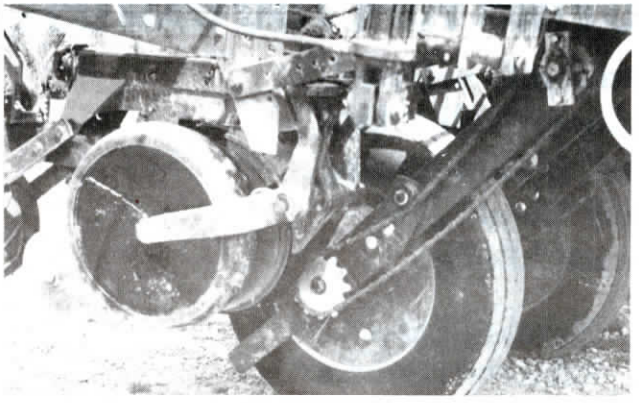
"A similar factory-built bale feeder would cost at least $2,500. We spent less than $150 to build our own," says James Anderson, Sulivan, Ill., who put together his own bale feeder with the held of his son Todd.



"We used almost all salvaged material including cow stanchions, channel iron door frames, corn elevator parts, wheels and hubs from an old AC combine, wheels and hubs from a fertilizer spreader, and used pipe and lumber.

"It has slanted feed bars which helps save hay by making it harder for cows to pull their heads out. The front two wheels mount on a castoring hitch so it's easy to pull and maneuver. It holds three big bales. It works great because you can pull it out to where bales are stored to load it and then pull it back into the feedlot for use."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, James H. Anderson, Rt. 1, Box 303, Sullivan, Ill. 61951 (ph 217 728-4673).



Disc Covers Keep Planter Gauge Wheels From Throwing Stones

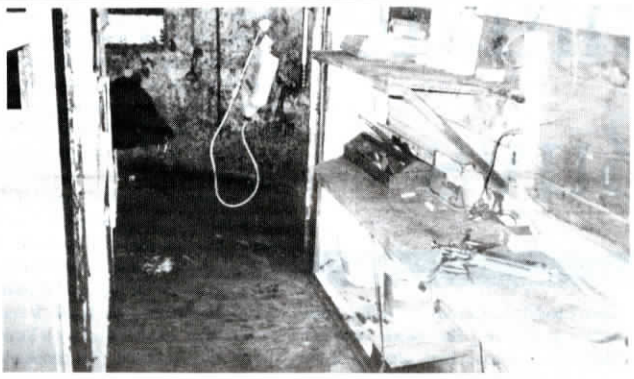
Marinus Muilwyk, Lyons, N.Y., had a problem with the drive chains on his International Cyclo 6-row planter. Stones kept flying up into the chains and either knocked them off or broke them. He solved the problem by bolting a 1/16-in. thick steel disc onto the outside of each gauge wheel.

"It's a common problem on both Deere and IH planters," says Muilwyk. "At first my dealer thought the drive wheels were kicking stones up into the chains so they closed them up with metal discs. That helped a little but didn't solve the problem. I decided to take a close look and discovered that the gauge wheel is the problem. The gauge wheel's rim is so close to the ground that stones get inside the rim and stay there like stones rattling around inside a car's hubcap. After a while the stones get thrown into the drive chain.

"Closing up the gauge wheel keeps stones out and has totally eliminated the problem for me. I spent $10 for each disc and it was worth every penny."

Muilwyk made a pattern from cardboard and had a local machine shop stamp out the discs. They're held on by two bolts.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Marinus Muilwyk, 8790 Klippel Rd., Lyons, N.Y. 14489 (ph 315 946-6204).



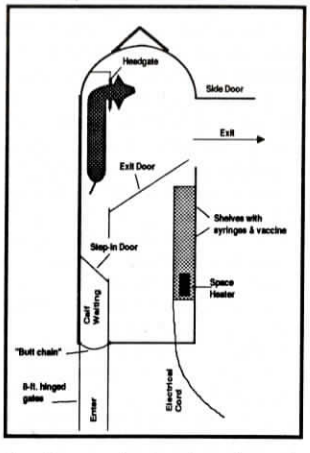
Vet Trailer Built For Working Cattle

"I can work cattle faster using this trailer than with a regular cattle chute," says veterinarian Thomas Stenberg, Volga, S. Dak., about the 16-ft. standard stock trailer he converted into a portable parlor for working cattle.

"I originally built it so I could work cattle out of cold weather to keep vaccines - and myself - from freezing but it works so well I now use it year around for castration, dehorning, worming, vaccinating, pregnancy testing, etc. I've used it for three years and I think I've got all the bugs worked out. It's very workable for both calves and cows," says Stenberg.

To use, Stenberg sets up 8-ft. hinging gates on the back left corner of the trailer to bring animals into the trailer. Cattle walk down a race along the side of the trailer to a headgate up front. A step-in door behind the animal lets the vet do work on the rear end of the animal while the next cow or calf is lined up behind the step-in door. When he's done working an animal, he opens a wide exit door next to the headgate, and leads the animal out a side door on the trailer.

Shelving runs down the right side of the trailer for storage of vaccines, syringes, and other tools and supplies.



There's a space heater to keep the working area warm and lights to maintain excellent visibility, day or night. "As far as I know there's nothing like it on market," says Stenberg, who will draft detailed plans (for a fee) for anyone wanting to build their own based on his design.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dr. Thomas Stenberg, Rt. 1, Box 138, Volga, S. Dak. 57071 (ph 605 627-9491).

Self-Propelled Snowblower

"It's only 4 ft. wide but it moves a lot of snow," says Wayne Bashore, Mifflintown, Penn., about the self-propelled snowblower he built.

Bashore salvaged the rear axle off a 1955 Dodge car and made the front axle out of the Dodge's spindles. A drive shaft runs from the engine through the cab to a differential mounted up front that chain-drives the snowblower auger. Power comes from a 318 cu. in. engine off an old Plymouth car.

"It has plenty of power, hydrostatic transmission for variable speed drive, and dual mufflers," says Bashore. "The cab has a windshield wiper and a heater off an old car that keeps it so warm I can work in shirtsleeves. There are windows all around so I have great visibility. The blower mounts in clear view in front of the operator. The spout turns hydraulically from the cab. A hydraulic cylinder on the spout lets me shoot snow up in the air or keep it down."

The engine powers a hydraulic pump that drives hydraulic motors on the rear wheels.

Bashore built the snowblowing unit himself, making 12-in. high, 1 1/2-wide blades from flat steel. The blades mount on a steel tube with a shaft running through its center. Blades on each half of the auger are slanted in opposite directions. The housing was fashioned out of sheet metal.

Bashore used 4-in. dia. steel pipe to build the tractor's frame, using plywood for the cab doors and plexiglass for the windows except for the front one which is made from glass so it won't scratch.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wayne Bashore, Rt. 2, Box 201, Mifflintown, Penn. 17059 (ph 717 436-2204).