

Here's a simple time-saving idea that works good on my farm. I put a 110-volt receptacle on the back of each of my tractors, wiring them into the tractor's 12-volt system. I then attach plugs to the interchangeable electrical equipment, such as a round baler monitor. Being able to just plug it in lets me move the monitor quickly from one tractor to another. (Ron Romkes, Rt. 3, Caledonia, Ontario N0A 1A0 Canada)

We wish someone would come up with a good way to recycle used cultivator shovels. Does anyone have a good idea? We hate to waste them. (Louis Modic, Hogeland, Mont.)



We use a small tipping calf chute to brand calves with an electric branding iron, which saves us the chore of keeping wood on a fire. Since our calves are born in January and February, they have a lot of thick, heavy hair. One trick we've discovered is that if we clip hair away from the area we're branding with a small hand-held electric clippers, the job goes much easier and quicker. You don't have to burn down through all that hair and you get a neater brand. It's also less painful to the calf and the brand is quicker to heal. When you burn down through hair, it often catches on fire and heats up a larger area of flesh, often giving the calf a deeper and much more serious burn. With the hair clipped off, you just touch the iron briefly to the calf. Even with a short-haired calf, it really helps to clip before branding.

We've found that the same is true when



using a dehorner. to burn and sear horn buds or to sear the area where horns have been scooped out. If you clip the area first, you don't get as much burning hair and damaged tissue around the horn.

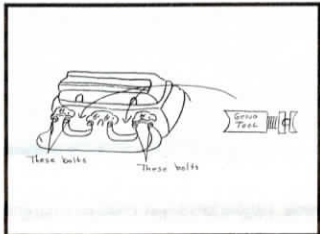
Another idea we discovered is a way to keep a cow from kicking if you have to milk her out or make her suckle a strange calf. We simply tie a rope around the cow's flank area, ahead of the udder and just behind the hip bones. When you tighten it up, it puts pressure on several major nerves and makes it harder for her physically to bring a leg forward to kick. Don't make it too tight or it may actually temporarily paralyze the cow's hindquarters and she might fall over. This is a lot easier than trying to tie up a cow's hind leg. (Heather Smith Thomas, Salmon, Idaho)

I made a corral, crowding pen and alley out of 2 7/8-in. dia. used well pipe and 3/4 and 7/8-in. dia. sucker rod, all welded together. To make the posts, I cut the pipe in 9-ft. sections, leaving 6 ft. above ground and sinking 3 ft. into the ground. To insert the sucker rods through the pipes, I cut holes spaced 6 in. apart with a torch. I run the rod through the pipe and then put a weld on each side of the pipe. I made a 5 by 5-ft. gate in the alley out of 7/8 in. sucker rod that was bent and welded together. Hinges were made out of



3/4 in. sucker rod. I also made gates to the loading ramp, the stock trailer and made a main gate to the corral. Everything is built strong and tough and it was inexpensive. (Roy Krivorichka, Rt. 2, Box 54, Bellfield, N.Dak. 58622)

I have been a Chevrolet mechanic for 26 years. Ever since GM came out with the manifold that goes on their 305, 350 and 400 cu. in. engines on Chevy and GM vehicles, it has been virtually impossible to remove and re-install the same exhaust manifold back on the engine because of warping. The warping problem is particularly bad on 1988 and 89 GM pickups. Usually, we have had to



install a new manifold. My new "Geno Tool" manifold spreader makes it possible to remove the bolts from manifolds without ruining the threads in the head and reinstalling the manifold when you're done working on the engine. One spreader goes between each arm of the manifold. This tool saved me so much time and expense, I started making them for sale. A set of spreaders sells for \$34.95 (\$2 shipping). (Eugene Desair, Geno Tool, HC-01, Box 40, Damar, Kan. 67632 ph 913 839-4305)

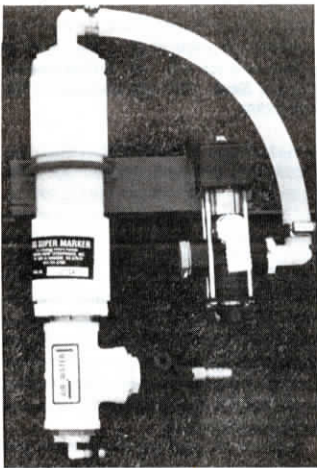


I built this small tractor in my workshop. It's 6 ft. long and 3 ft. wide. The steering wheel is from an H International tractor. The back wheels, axle and 3-speed transmission came from an old David Bradley garden tractor. A 3 1/2-hp. Briggs & Stratton engine provides the power. The frame is made out of angle iron. I mounted a second, 10-in. long transmission (from a 1951 GMC 1/2-ton pickup) crossways ahead of the first transmission. The two transmissions give me power and a variety of speeds. It can be equipped with a sickle bar on front for mowing. I also made a 2-wheel dump cart that I use for odd jobs. I also made a 1-row cultivator for it and a V-shaped snowplow that fits on front. In winter time, I use it to pull a bobsled that children ride in. All my children and grandchildren have learned to drive the tractor. They all say it helped them a lot when they were older

and had to learn to drive a car. (John Harp, Easton, Ill. 62633 ph 309 562-7457)

The Central Illinois Stock Dog Association (CISDA) is a group of herding enthusiasts who got together in May of 1990. CISDA's main goal is to provide opportunities for those who want to train dogs for practical livestock work and/or trial competition. We've already held three herding clinics with experienced instructors brought in from all over the U.S. We also have monthly meetings with herding practice on all types of livestock, including ducks, sheep or goats. We also put on exhibitions, when possible.

We would like to help spread the word about the fast growing sport of herding. The following sources of information may be helpful to readers who'd like to learn more: **The Herdsman** (AKC herding program newsletter), Lori Herbel, Editor, Rt. 1, Box 52A, Putnam, Okla. 73659; **American Herding Breed Association**, Linda C. Rorem, Secretary, 1548 Victoria Way, Pacifica, Calif. 94044; **The North American Cowdog/North American Professional Stockdog Handlers Association** (magazine), 120 West 400 North, Springville, Utah 84663; **Ranch Dog Trainer Magazine**, Kathy Conner, Editor (and secretary of Mid-States Stockdog Association), Rt. 2, Box 333, West Plains, Mo. 65775; **United States Border Collie Club**, Ethel B. Conrad, President, Sunnybrook Farm, Rt. 1, Box 23, White Post, Virg. 22663; **Working Kelpies, Inc.** (national club for Australian Kelpies), Edna Grabow, Secretary, 52 Sunflower Trail, Rt. 1, Douglas, Wyo. 82633; **Australian Shepherd Club of America**, 1706-E East 29th St., Bryan, Tex. 77802; **The Working Border Collie Magazine**, 14933 Kirkwood Rd., Sidney, Ohio 45365 (Phyllis Shaw, CISDA Secretary-Treasurer, Rt. 2, Box 118, Cambridge, Ill. 61238 ph 309 937-2700)



We developed this foam marker system for use on our line of sprayers because we weren't happy with markers already on the market. We kept it very simple and trouble-free, without a lot of valves and rheostats. The secret of the marker is our patented "foam tube" mixing chamber which lets us go as low as 4 gal. of water per hour with an operating cost of just 1 to 3 cents per acre. Air is pumped into the bottom of the chamber and mixes with the foam solution that is pumped into the upper portion of the mixing chamber. Foam doesn't have to be pushed all the way out the length of the boom so the marker starts making foam almost instantly after the switch is turned on. Lets us keep the compressor and pump close to the battery, away from dirt, and put the foam tube out on the boom. We make foamers for anything from small turf sprayers to sprayers with 130-ft. booms that travel at 10 to 20 mph. (Virgil Simpson, Simpson Farm Enterprises, Inc., Rt. 1, Box 41, Ransom, Kan. 67572 (ph 913 731-2700)



I use old round fuel tanks as hay feeders. One 200 gal. tank sitting upright will take care of at least 10 to 12 calves. (Steve Kaiser, 770 Meiring Rd., Fort Recovery, Ohio)



Irontech, the originator of horn-activated gate openers, now offers a conventional push-pull model to augment its present line of popular Horngate automatic gate operators. Many access options are available including key pads, horn and handheld transmitters. All push-pull models have the latest electronic controls and an industrial-quality actuator which opens and closes the gate and is fitted with limit switches and a safety slip clutch built in. The 12-V battery-powered unit can be solar or AC charged. Can be locked for high-security installations.

Available in lengths up to 24 ft. New radio control system has a range of over 1,500 ft. On rough terrain, "jump" gates that lift straight up are available. (Wayne B. Skeem, Irontech, 1742 Targhee, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 ph 208 734-8296)



I made this 2-wheel dolly cart, equipped with a 2-in. ball, to pull between my tractor and 16-ft. tandem axle trailer when hauling big round bales. Lets me carry a bale on the 3-pt. bale fork and still pull the trailer. (Donald R. Miller, Rt. 2, Box 96, Dongola, Ill. 62956)

I'm sending along the name and address of a company in California that custom-produces a wide range of hard-to-get parts for cars, tractors, engines, etc. I had them make a set of pistons for a Cockshutt 50 tractor that were not available anywhere else. The prices were fair and the quality good. Farmers restoring old tractors might find them helpful in getting old parts rebuilt such as water pumps, oil pumps, etc. Contact: Egge Machine Co., 8403 Allport Ave, Santa Fe Springs, Calif. 90670 (ph 213 945-3419). (B. Knott, Rt. 2, St. Pauls, Ontario Canada)

I would like to say that I think FARM SHOW is a super magazine. I sent in an idea a couple years ago about mowing hay with a bush hog-type tractor mower (Vol. 12, No. 5) and I had calls and letters from every state in the U.S. and province in Canada. So I know from first hand experience just how many people you reach. Keep up the good work. (Paul Leavengood, Fresno, Ohio)

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