

Made It Myself

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Buried Tires Stop Erosion

To stop continued erosion through a gully on his farm near Macombe, Ill., Marshall Litchfield and his brother Kendell buried old tractor and truck tires under layers of gravel and rocks.

The Litchfields buried two layers of large tractor tires on the downhill side of the slope and put rows of truck tires along the uphill side.

The tires are filled with crushed rock. The men figure the tires and rocks will hold enough soil to root grass which will even further boost holding power of the inexpensive water stopper.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Marshall & Kendell Litchfield, 15340 N. 700th Rd., Macomb, Ill. 61455 (ph 309 254-3481).

Loader-Mounted "Chop Hopper"

When Earl Priest of Lloydminster, Sask., decided to build a loader-mounted hopper to feed ground barley to his cattle, he found the materials he needed in a scrap pile on his farm. That was where he found the remains of his 1950 Case 6-ft. pull-type combine.

Priest used the hopper and unloading auger off the combine to build what he calls a "chop hopper" (in Canada ground barley is often called chopped barley). He mounted the hopper on an angle iron frame. He uses bale forks on his front-end loader to pick it up. He bolted plywood extensions on top of the hopper to increase capacity to 1,500 lbs., and he shortened the auger by 12 in. to make it easier to direct feed into bunks. The auger is driven by an orbit motor taken off his swather.

"The hopper is always in front of me so I can easily see the auger and what it's doing," says Priest. "My brother Tom and



I built it in one day for less than \$200. I don't have a 3-pt. hitch on my tractor and wouldn't use it for this job if I did."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Earl Priest, RR 2, Lloydminster, Sask., Canada S9V 1E9 (ph 306 825-3223).

Center Pivot Pipe Used To Build Cattle Shed, Corral

Center pivot irrigation pipe can be used to make heavy-duty, low-cost cattle facilities, according to Gregg Young who built a shed and corral out of an old center pivot irrigation system he picked up at a sale for \$250.

It was an old Olson system with the hydraulic drive rusted out. The full-length, 1/4-mile system included 1,300 ft. of 6 5/8-in. dia. pipe. Young towed the 10-section system home to his farm three miles away and cut it up as needed for construction, in some cases leaving nozzles in place.

He built the top rails and main frame for the 120-ft. long, 5 1/2-ft.-high corral panels out of the irrigation pipe, using oil well drill stem and rod for supports and

also for the braces.

He built the main frame for the 25 by 75-ft. shed out of the used pipe. He used conventional wood rafters and covered the roof and sides of the building with barn steel siding. The roof slants from 10 ft. high on the front side down to 6 1/2 ft. in back.

"It works great," Young says. "We can get up to 100 head of cows in the alleyway for working. It's high enough so bulls can't jump out and tough enough so they can't damage it."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gregg Young, 12501 N. 231 St. W., Burton, Kan. 67020 (ph 316 796-1356).



Water Troughs Made Out Of Plastic Barrels

We spotted these low-cost water troughs built out of plastic barrels in the English farm magazine, Practical Farm Ideas.

They were built by Geoff Linkleter, Northumberland, U.K.

"Cut the barrels in half lengthwise. Leave about 8 in. as a cover at one end for the ball float. Mounting the trough in a wooden cradle holds it steady.

"The Linkleters have used these quick and

easy troughs in their lambing shed for several years without problems. They find they are sturdy enough to work with cattle as well. The savings over commercial troughs is significant."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, D. Linkleter, West Farm, Kirkheaton, Northumberland, U.K. (ph 01830 530339). (Practical Farm Ideas)

Manually-Operated "Tripod" Tree Digger

"Nothing about it is fancy but it works great," says Harry Wright, Red Lodge, Mont., about the manually operated "tripod" tree digger he made that allows him to dig up evergreen trees up to 6-ft. tall and wrap the roots in burlap.

Wright used 1-in. dia. galvanized steel pipe to make the 8-ft. high tripod and mounted a hand-operated winch on one of the legs. The legs slip into short lengths of larger diameter pipe welded onto a 1/2-in. thick square steel plate. The plate also supports a pulley. The winch is used to lower an 8-sided steel frame down over the top of the tree.

Wright sets the frame up over a tree, then uses a mall to drive 8 tapered steel "spades" down through slots along each side. The spades angle inward to make a point at the bottom. After raising the tree he places a round 3/4-in. thick sheet of plywood over the hole, then sets an 8-sided wooden basket on top of it. He lays burlap in the basket, lowers the tree into it, and pulls out the spades.

"It requires more work than hydraulic-operated commercial tree diggers but it's also far less expensive. I spent a total of only about \$20," says Wright. "I got the idea because I had planted 400 trees only 6 ft. apart and there wasn't enough room for a tractor or skid steer loader to maneuver between them."

He used 1/8-in. thick flat steel to make the spades, which are 7 1/2 in. wide on top and 2-in. wide at the bottom.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harry Wright, HC 50, Box 5565, Red Lodge, Mont. 59068 (ph 406 446-2832).



Wright uses a mall to drive 8 tapered steel "spades" down through slots along each side. Spades angle inward to make a point at bottom.



After raising the tree, he wraps it using this 8-sided wooden basket. He lays burlap in the basket, lowers tree into it, and pulls the spades out.