

# Reader Letters



**Editor's Note:** A couple of mistakes crept into our story in the last issue on the world's oldest horses. Flicka, the black gelding from Myakka City, Florida, is 53 – a full three years older than we said. The 58-year-old pony from Virginia Beach, Virginia, is a pony – not a horse. So he's being considered by the Guiness Book of World Records as the world's oldest pony, not horse.

I am writing this letter in response to the piece in your last issue entitled "The Controversial Canadian Wheat Board". There are, in fact, a small number of young farmers in Canada who do oppose the Wheat Board system for marketing grain. However, the vast majority of farmers, regardless of their political leaning, favor the orderly marketing of the Wheat Board. We older farmers – I am 72 – worked very hard to put this system in place. If you did a bit more research you would learn why it was worth sacrificing some freedoms for the security of orderly marketing. (*Norman Good, Box 626, Luseland, Sask. S0L 2A0*)

I enjoy reading FARM SHOW but would like to express some concern about spreading the notion expressed in your last issue that getting rid of the Canadian Wheat Board would bring prosperity to grain farmers. No doubt the speculators around Calgary would be gleefully rubbing their hands together in anticipation of buying cheap Canadian wheat and American livestock farmers would be happy since most of our grain gets trucked across the border. Playing farmers against each other would reap the big guys huge profits. (*Hillis Thompson, Box 605, Moose Jaw, Sask. S6H 4Ph Canada*)

You've featured our waste oil heater kit for 55-gal. drums in past issues but we wanted to point out to your readers that we also make bigger units designed to fit a pair of 55-gal. drums.



These make tremendous heaters which costs 1/3 or less than the cost of a similar size commercial waste oil heater of the same capacity. They're easy to operate and maintain. There are four electrical components which are easy to fix yourself. Kit includes a bottom barrel hardware kit, a top barrel hardware kit, a heat exchanger kit for top and bottom barrels, a 3-speed blower, as well as flue pipe and an oil reservoir. Everything is included except for the two 55-gal. barrels.

Our metal shop building measures 70 by 75 ft. with a 20-ft. ceiling and has 2 in. of insulation. At 25° outside, we can

maintain 65° inside on 1 gal. of used oil per hour. Heat output varies from 70,000 to 180,000 btu's, burning 1/2 to 1 1/2 gal. per hour.

What makes our waste oil stoves unique is the burner assembly. No filtering of oil is necessary, other than a 60-mesh screen on top of the oil reservoir. There's no nozzle to plug. In fact, our nozzle is simply a 1/4-in. steel tube. Diesel and solvents can be mixed with 3 to 4 parts regular waste oil, if state regulations allow. The combustion chamber heats up, vaporizing oil so that it burns with little or no smoke after the initial preheat period.

This high-capacity heater requires 10 to 15 hours of assembly time with no welding required. Sells for \$1,595. We also have a kit for 30-gal. drums that sells for \$1,195. Our smaller kit for a single 55-gal. drum sells for \$595. We also sell our burner and other components individually. (*Larry J. Hardin, Harold Electric Co., 811 West Rose St., Walla Walla, Wash. 99362 ph 800 541-8910; fax 509 525-3753*)

Our Cox Row Zone one-trip planting system now features a new axle design that carries most of the fertilizer load on the rear wheels. The frame and planter raise and lower independently. Fertilizer is mixed under the row so only



the plant can use it, boosting yields with only about 1/2 the fertilizer needed when applied over the entire field.

Our Row Zone system also lowers the cost of herbicide and insecticide inputs (up to 50 percent in some cases) because the trash is left in the middle of the rows, mixed with soil in mini ridges. Chemicals are placed in narrow row bands on the dome of the row ridge.

We use "slimline" shanks that require less horsepower. There's also savings from eliminating tillage trips and less inventory. And you get big savings from lower use of fertilizer, chemicals and insecticide because of proper placement of inputs and using just the amount each plant needs. We have machines throughout the Midwest, used for both corn and beans. Both trailing and 3-pt. models are available in 30-in. and 38-in. models with 4, 6, 8 and 12-rows. (*Cox Inc., Van Wert, Iowa 50262 ph 515 445-5165*)

We are now handling U.S. distribution of the Forever Fence Posts made in Canada which were featured in your Vol. 21, No. 6 issue. These self-insulating posts are made from recycled chemical containers. They work great for high-tensile fence, especially in areas where water would rot a wooden post, and in feedlots. They save you about \$1 per post because you don't need insulators. They're very durable and strong. We've replaced less than 10 posts out of the 29,000 we've sold. The posts are 5 in. dia. and available in lengths from 6 1/2

ft. to 10 ft. They can be cut, stapled or nailed like wood. The posts are available in dark grey or white. They will never rot and are heavier than cedar or pres-



sure-treated posts. We have dealers in 9 midwestern states. Price per foot is \$1.20 to \$1.25. (*John Haensel, 46649 263rd St., Sioux Falls, S.Dak. 57107 ph 605 334-0643 or 605 528-3731*)

Our popular Chopper Control for Case-IH combines eliminates the need to climb into the combine to remove the Chopper Bar when harvesting corn.

Now we're introducing our new Chopper Bar Trip which protects the chopper bar sections from damage when a rock or other obstacle goes through the com-



bine. When the rock trap fails to catch a rock, it goes through the cylinder and other threshing mechanisms and into the stubble chopper. The chopper has a rotating drum with rigid or swinging hammers attached to it. The flail hammers pass through a multiple arrangement of U-shaped brackets (or Clever-Tech's sickle section choppers) which are rigidly attached to the chopper bar. Normally, it is U-shaped brackets – or sickle sections - that break.

The Chopper Bar Trip can be adapted to our Chopper Control by interchanging one U-bolt. The spring can be adjusted on the trip mechanism to fit different crops or conditions. Sells for \$69. The Chopper Control unit itself sells for \$290. Available factory direct or from Case-IH dealers. Patent protection filed for at U.S. Patent Office. (*Robert Rottinghaus, Clever-Tech Inc., 4121 South Canfield Rd., Jesup, Iowa 50648 ph 319 827-1311; fax 319 827-2425*)



FARM SHOW is the only magazine I never put down after I pick it up. What a magazine!

Here in Europe, equipment just keeps getting bigger and bigger. Here's a photo of a prototype "Big X" forage harvester from Krone. This totally new machine has a 540 hp. engine but Krone plans to offer a 650 hp. version, too. They have built two prototypes, which are undergoing trials. Krone is also developing a new type of corn header and a self-propelled baler. After the success of its Big M mower in the U.S., the company hopes to find a lot of buyers for the Big X, too.

Claas and Case-IH also have new forage harvesters in the field this year. The prototype Claas unit has a longer frame, a new cab and transmission, and a 605

hp. Daimler-Chrysler engine. The Case-IH machine has a unique "twin flow" cutterhouse for instantly removing and covering the three corncracker rollers. The Case-IH machine is actually in production. (*Martin VanDoorn, Kerckhoek 56, 3214 ER Zuidland, The Netherlands*)

My step ladder container system works better than any tray-type system on the market. Two carriage bolts attach to the step ladder top. The spacing of the bolts



matches two key holes in the tray. The system fits most fiberglass or aluminum ladders with plastic tops. The track is a couple inches deep and can easily be attached or detached in seconds.

I'm currently making them out of sheet metal and selling them to local tradesmen. They could also be made out of plastic. I'm looking for a manufacturer. (*Ladder Container System, P.O. Box 281, Pine, Az. 85544 ph 520 476-3462*)



Our mailbox is 500 ft. away so I often use a bike to get down to the road. To make it easier to ride, I modified the handlebars and brakes and installed a couple pieces of pvc pipe to hold my walking cane. I taped a piece of 1-in. conduit across the top of the handlebars. The straight bar is a lot easier to hold than the original rounded bars. I also taped a piece of bamboo rod across both brake levers. That way, both levers are applied at the same time for better and easier braking. (*Bill Reeks, 7104 US Highway 231 S., Cromwell, Ky. 42333*)

Thank you for your past articles on our work improving operation of Aerway tillage tools. I wanted to let your readers know that our system for mounting improved replacement tines on Aerway aerators has been working flawlessly.



The system has undergone extensive field testing and is now ready for market.

During the next few months, we will begin to make available complete roller assemblies to fit onto existing Aerway frames. These rollers bring back the original Aerway benefits of a smooth surface roller. We have a three tine option as well as the four tine. Mirror image helix is guaranteed. The fracturing action of our modified tines will be in the tradition of the original New Zealand