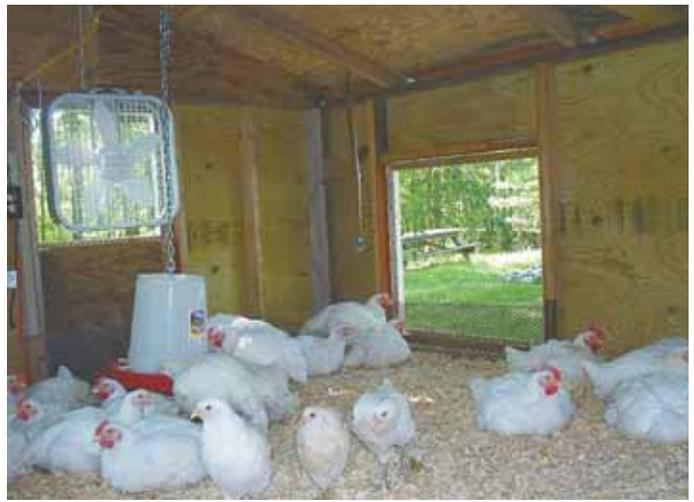




Portable chicken coop was built using the running gear from an old wagon and wood scavenged from an old building.



Coop's interior is wired with lights and an outlet for heaters. There's a feeder at one end and water at the other, with chicken wire on the doors providing ventilation.

Rolling Chicken Coop Can Be Parked Anywhere

"Last spring my wife and I decided to raise some Cornish Cross meat chickens for our own use," says Robert Bedwell, Brazil, Ind.

"We didn't have a good spot for a permanent chicken coop so I decided to build a portable one. It allows us to keep it close by while raising a batch, and then park it out of the way when not in use.

"I had a running gear from an old wagon and used 2 by 12's for the sills and 2 by 10's

for the floor, all of which were scavenged from an old building. Various 2 by 4's, plywood and used metal roofing all found their way from various corners of the farm to our 'Chickenmobile'.

"Chicken wire on the doors gives plenty of ventilation. I made plywood inserts for cold weather protection. The height above the ground makes care much easier and reduces predator problems. I wired it with lights and

an outlet for heat lamps or heaters so it can be used year round and plugged in anywhere. There's a feeder at one end of the 8 by 12-ft. area and water at the other. Birds stay inside at all times although you could rig up a ramp for them to come down to a fenced-in area. However, the 30 Cornish Cross breed we raised are ready for butchering at 6 to 7 weeks so they were fine in litter made from ground corn cobs and wood shavings. I think we

could raise 50 birds in there with no problem.

"All I had to buy were screws, hinges, latches and a little paint so the total cost of the project was less than \$100."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robert Bedwell, 2500 E. County Road 900N, Brazil, Ind. 47834 (ph 812 986-2185; bedwell@ccrct.com).

Rolls Shred Silage To Boost Milk Production

Dairymen can get better fermentation and improved digestibility of silage by replacing OEM rolls with Fiber-Tech rolls from Horning Mfg. The rolls fit most large self-propelled forage harvesters. For pull-type units, Horning makes replacement processors with Fiber-Tech rolls for even better shredding.

"While research is still underway, early numbers suggest a positive payback, and innovative large operators are buying the rolls and processors," says Nathaniel Horning, Horning Mfg. "The longer cut produces better fermentation and improved digestibility."

Horning Mfg. introduced conventional processors for forage harvesters in 2000. They then introduced dual cut rollers with a saw-tooth spiral cut for more ripping action in 2007. The Fiber-Cut rolls are even more

aggressive, with more threading on the cutting surface and an advanced saw-tooth design. The more aggressive rollers tear the stalk lengthwise and pulverize kernels more than a conventional processor will.

Horning reports that milk production can vary from 2 to 3 lbs. per day between corn run through low grade and upper grade conventional processors, depending on crop conditions and the system. He adds that replacing conventional rolls with Fiber-Tech rolls produces a large gain over low-grade rolls and a gain, though less significant, over upper grade processor rolls.

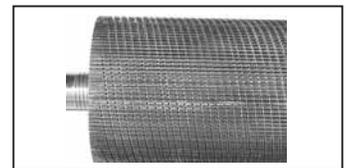
Horning says replacing rolls on current processors with Fiber-Tech rolls enhances shredding. However, for the longest length he recommends the replacement Fiber-Tech processor, now available only for pull-type

harvesters.

"Fiber-Tech processors run at a higher speed differential than conventional processors and have the more aggressive rollers," says Horning. "They're built heavier than standard processors to handle the higher speed," says Horning.

He explains that replacing the rolls alone with Fiber-Tech rolls improves forage processing, but not as much as replacing them and running at a higher speed. The heavy-duty, high-speed processor is made with 3/8-in. steel frames with ductile cast housing and spring-loaded rolls.

Chrome-plated replacement rolls for existing processors are \$2,000 to \$4,800 a pair, depending on make and model. The replacement processor kits with everything included for installation in pull-type



Horning Mfg. says its replacement rollers for forage harvesters are more aggressive than conventional processors.

harvesters run \$6,000 to \$7,000.

Horning also sells conventional processors and rolls. They stock more than 2,000 processor rolls for all makes and models.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Horning Manufacturing LLC, 1647 Union Grove Rd., East Earl, Penn. 17519 (ph 717 229-2206 or 717 445-9317).

"No-Throw" Brush Cutter

The No-Throw brush cutter designed and built by Frank Guest and a former co-worker does it all. Mounted to a backhoe, it cuts brush or chips it in place. The 6 curved knives grab and hold branches and trunks as they are cut.

"The knives grab a branch or sapling and slice it against eight 1-in. thick cutting bars," says Guest. "The head can pass from side to side across the face of a brush stand and from top to bottom, letting the chips fall in place. With it, there's no need to cut brush, run it through a separate chipper and then blow it back in place. And you can stand right alongside the cutting head."

The 36-in. high, 17 1/2-in. wide cutter head was designed for use on Case IH backhoes. It has two hydraulic motors, one geared very low for cutting larger stems and a faster motor for lighter brush. Guest says the low-geared motor easily cuts a 4-in. ash sapling.

The blades feature 10-in. long cutting edges and are spaced 15 in. from blade tip to blade tip. Twin hydraulic cylinders can tilt the head up to 45° to either side for easy trimming of branches.

"We built one unit in 1992," says Guest. "I was doing work for Ontario Hydro at the time and wanted a cutter that wouldn't throw the brush as it cut it."

The No-Throw cutting head never went into production. It has been in storage in the years since until Guest decided to offer it for sale.

"We had about \$60,000 invested in the concept and prototype, but a recession hit, and though various shops looked at it, nobody did anything with it," says Guest. "I'd like to see someone build it. It was designed for a 20-gpm system. With modern, higher power hydraulics it would work even better."

Guest encourages anyone interested in buying the prototype or taking it into production to contact him. He says it's easily scalable and could be made considerably larger.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Frank Guest, 6068 Line 5 North, Victoria Harbour, Ont., Canada L0K 2A0 (ph 705 835-3623; guestlogging@hotmail.com).



Mounted on a backhoe, the No-Throw brush cutter cuts brush or chips it in place. Unit's 6 curved knives grab and hold branches and trunks as they're cut.



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