



## "Indestructible" Mailbox

After losing mailbox after mailbox to vandals, farm wife Emilie Lorenzi, Lancaster, Ohio, finally decided there had to be something better than the tin boxes she could buy at the local farm supply store. So she went down to a nearby library to do some research and read about a special "cross-link" plastic material that bounces back to shape when hit.

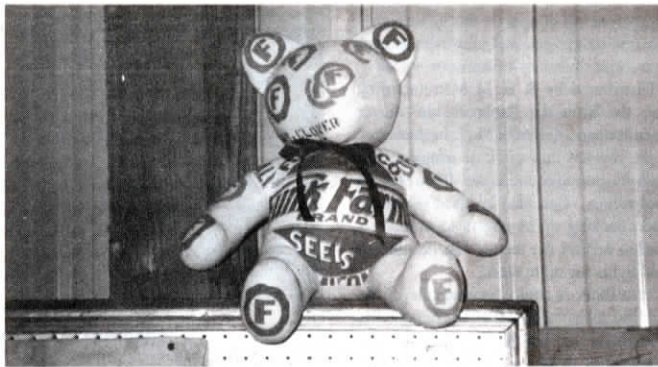
She bought some of the material and built a box by hand, putting an extra door on the back of the mailbox so she could open it up without stepping into the road. Her friends and neighbors liked it so much they asked her to make boxes for them. Soon, Emilie hired a manufacturing plant to custom-make the mailboxes for her.

The box was recently tested by David Horowitz on the consumer TV show "Fight

Back". It was compared against a \$4.00 tin box and a \$200 mailbox, billed as indestructible. Emilie's mailbox was the only one to survive the tests - even after it was run over by an earth mover weighing 100,000 lbs. it bounced back to its original shape.

She has been selling an average of 3,000 mailboxes a month by mail order and recently built a new warehouse on her farm. Two-door model sells for \$44.95; one-door model for \$39.95. Shipping extra. Available in 6 colors. Hand-painted models with pigs, chickens, or other farm animals or crops, cost \$10 extra.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Emilie Lorenzi, Country Wise, 5125 Duffy Road, Lancaster, Ohio 43130 (ph 800 669-0025 or 614 687-4714).



## "Teddy Bears" Made From Seed Corn Sacks

"We've had tremendous interest from families who have fond memories of the days of cloth seed corn sacks," says Lloyd Mitchell, Peru, Ill., who's doing a booming business selling "bears" made out of genuine antique cloth seed corn sacks, complete with colorful company logos in plain sight.

Mitchell started selling the bears two years ago. It was a logical extension of his hobby of collecting corn-related memorabilia. He serves as vice president of the Corn Items Collectors Association (613 North Long St., Shelbyville, Ill. 62565), an organization of mostly farmers who collect virtually any type of item related to corn from machinery to sacks to knick knacks.

The seed corn bears are about 18 in. long and stuffed with a washable poly fill material. They're made out of sacks from a variety of companies or you can custom-order a bear made out of a sack from a particular company.

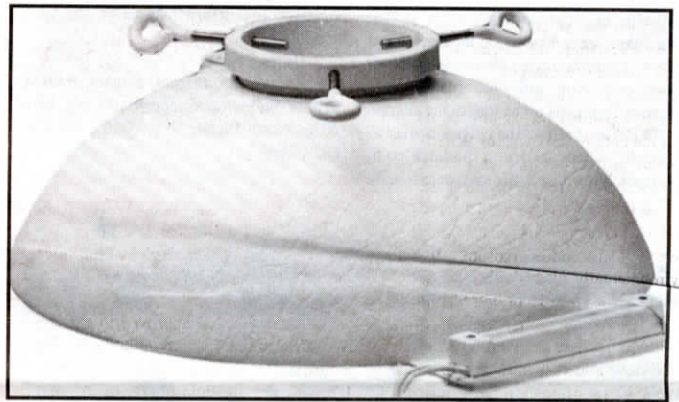
"My husband sold Pioneer seed corn and I got to deliver a lot of it so I ordered each of my granddaughters a Pioneer bear to remember their grandfather by," says Eloise Alton, secretary of Corn Items Collectors.

Mitchell, who has an extensive collection of seed corn sacks, says that even though seed corn companies stopped using the sacks in the 1950's, they're still relatively easy to find on farms across America. "It's amazing how many farmers saved the sacks. They're stuffed away in boxes or up in the corner of the barn. We find them at sales and a growing number of collectors are trading them back and forth," he says.

The sack bears sell for \$30. A more collectable version, with the seed corn sack tag still attached that details the variety that the sack contained, sells for \$35.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mid-State Bears, Box 542, Ladd, Ill. 61329 (ph 815 894-3385 or 223-8935).

## New Products Especially For Women And The Farm, Ranch Home



## New X-Mas Tree Stand

A Kentucky manufacturer took a look at problems with existing Christmas tree stands and tried to correct them with a new unit that's selling like hotcakes.

The heavy-duty plastic "Securitree" tree stand is easy to set up because it has a pop-out 5-in. dia. core at center that fastens first to the base of tree, then slips back into the base with the tree attached. It's got three eye bolts that screw into the sides of the trunk and a spike at the bottom that goes into bottom of the tree. Once installed in the

base, the tree rotates freely, making it easy to install lights and ornaments.

The base has a big 3-gal. water reservoir that provides several days of nourishment. An attached outlet strip accepts 5 strings of lights. A single switch turns them all on or off at the same time.

Sells for \$32.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Speshull Products, Inc., 700 Pennel St., P.O. Box 294, Henderson, Kent. 42420 (ph 502 827-4953).

## Simple Way To Fill Plastic Bags

You'll like this ingenious new device for filling plastic bags with leaves or grass clippings or that even lets you use a garbage bag as a free-standing garbage can.

The "Easy Bagger" consists simply of a flexible sheet of lightweight plastic about 30 by 68 in. in size. The curled-up plastic sheet simply slips inside a plastic garbage bag, holding the top open so you can dump into it with both hands free. Once the bag is full, you just slip out the liner and tie the bag.

Sells for \$6.95 and is available through many retail stores and mail order catalogs.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wilmarc, Inc., 5266 E. 65th St., Indianapolis, Ind. 46220 (ph 317 849-9596).

