

# Reader Letters



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All sales and marketing for the video is being handled by the company that produced it. Contact: AVA/Lum-BR-Jak, 4760 East 65th St., Indianapolis, Ind. 46220. Sells for \$25 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling. (Bill Reeks, 7104 B. U.S. Hwy 231 N., Cromwell, Kent. 42333 ph 502 274-3361)

The ground on my farm in north central Texas gets pretty hard and I kept breaking shanks on my chisel plow, so I decided to build my own. I take shanks off an old John Deere moldboard plow and welded them to an extra heavy frame made out of scrap 6 and 4-in.



dia., heavy-walled pipe. It only has 7 shanks but my 966 International tractor will pull down if I don't hold it up a bit. That's how well it digs in. The only cost was \$28 for 7 backhoe teeth. The shanks are on 16-in. centers and they cover a 10-ft. area in 6-in. strips.

For years I have been building bumpers from 6-in. pipe or square tubing. I use them as emergency air tanks. Works great when you need air in the field or if you get a flat on



the road. I weld airtight plates onto the ends and tap an air valve into the pipe with a quick coupler for an air hose. The welding must be done well and you can't overfill the pipe since air pressure can exert tremendous pressure on the joints. (Pat Kennedy, Rt. 2, Box 204, Bellevue, Texas 76228)

To make a "creek gap" electric fence more visible, we attached foot-long pieces of chain.



Prevents damage by livestock by making a more visible barrier. (Rex Gogerty, Hubbard, Iowa)

A low-slung snowmobile trailer can be converted into a handy feed trailer that makes

calf chores a lot easier when calves are kept in huts. We built a box out of plywood at the center of trailer and added side rails and a toolbox. The trailer sits low enough to the ground that we can reach into the box to grab feed buckets. You can quickly convert it back to a flatbed to haul a snowmobile. (Shirlee Orr, Woodland Farms, Box 238, R-61 South, Story City, Iowa 50248 ph 515 733-2124)

I just wanted to let you know how excited I am that I'm going to be getting FARM SHOW again. I feel like a little boy getting a new toy. I recently turned 75 years old and I quit FARM SHOW when I retired. One of my son-in-laws has a subscription so I would look at his but it's just not the same as getting one in your own mailbox. I'm sure glad you reminded me to get my own subscription again. (Herbert T. Mauland, RR2, Box 53, Hanley Falls, MN 56245)

I'm rebuilding a Case 350 dozer and looking for used or rebuilt parts for the transmission and final drive. I don't want to pay the money for new Case parts which are very expensive. Can anyone help me? (Doug Sundlie, Wandering River, Alberta, Canada T0A 3M0 ph 403 771-2151)

If your old wooden forage box is rotted out and broken down, we can build a new box and put the old hardware - such as the front end and conveyor - back on. It's much less expensive than buying a new unit. We specialize in Dion and New Holland forage boxes but we have patterns for many other name brands. Most of the wagons we repair are 15 to 25 years old and in most cases once they start to rot, they're done for. We build a brand new box and sand blast and repair the conveyor. Most jobs cost \$2,900 to \$3,200 (Canadian). In return the farmer gets a new, painted, ready-to-go wagon box. New self-unloading forage wagons sell for \$8,000 to \$10,000 so you can save a lot of money. (Keith Martin, M.K. Martin Enterprises, Inc., RR 4, Elmira, Ontario, Canada N3B 2Z3 ph 519 664-2752 or 3621; fax 3695)

After I started getting FARM SHOW last year I saw the offer for a CD-ROM containing "20 Years Of FARM SHOW". It lets you look up every single issue and article since FARM SHOW began in 1977. After receiving the CD, I learned that it was everything it was advertised to be. You can scroll to see all the text and all the photos. You can print out any given page of any issue. The CD-ROM comes with the "Acrobat Reader" by Adobe Systems. It's very easy to use. (Keith Meckley, 7418 W. Gorman Rd., Clayton, Mich. 49235)

About 50 years ago my father Art harvested with a 1941 Case model K pull-type combine equipped with a dockage screen on the hopper elevator. When his dockage bin was full, he dumped it in a pile right in the field. I asked him if this caused weeds to spread. He said "A pile of grain in the open will sprout very little. Almost all of it will rot and compost right on the pile." Whenever we spring plowed, I watched for those piles and they were nothing but black rotted material like a pile of cow chips with no surrounding sprouting. I think this concept should be considered as a way to reduce weed regrowth in harvested fields. (Dan Krenzel, 510 Eliza-



I built this portable bale feeder from scratch, modeling it after a commercial model. I use it for both small square bales and big round bales.

The main outer frame is 24 by 8-ft. and the inside frame is 4 ft., 6 in., by 21 ft. The sides of the feeder are 44 in. high. The top and bottom rails are 2 by 4-in. tubing and the rest are 2-in. sq. tubing.

The hay saver pan is 6 in. deep with an 8-in. high "V" in the middle. To bend the 1/8-in. sheet metal for the pan, I had a welding shop use a plasma cutter to make a cut every other couple inches where I wanted it bent. By doing that I could bend it in the angle needed and then weld it back together. I welded pieces of 2 by 2-in. angle iron into the joints for support where the 4 by 8-ft. sheets meet.

The rear axle came out of a 13-ft. Oliver disk which I had to narrow up a little. The front axle came off a Kewanee disk. I had a

beth St. N.E., Cullman, Ala. 35055)

Our new Free Zone RB-276 refrigerant is the ideal replacement for air conditioners equipped with older R-12 refrigerant which normally require expensive retrofitting to R-134a refrigerant. It operates at about the same



pressure-temperature relationship as the old R-12 refrigerant which is no longer being made. It costs more than R-134a but keeps the air conditioner running at a cooler temperature and eliminates the costs of flushing and changing compressors. If you switch to R-134a you have to change the compressor and flush out the R-12. To use Free Zone you simply add the new refrigerant. The product contains a high performance lubricant/rust inhibitor that enhances the lubricating properties of the existing R-12. The product is non-toxic, non-flammable, and contains no CFC's. A 30-lb. container sells for about \$270. (Harold Electric Co., 811 West Rose St., Walla Walla, Wash. 99362 ph 800 541-8910 or 509 525-5070; fax 3753)

Our new combine toolbox mounts on the frame of any combine, eliminating the need to climb up into the cab every time you need a tool. Made from heavy gauge, no-rust Brite-Tread aluminum, the toolbox measures 24



welding shop make the spindle and used 3-in. sq. tubing for the spindle and the hitch.

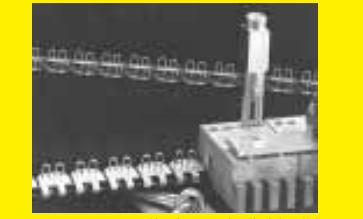
I used about 20 lbs. of welding rod on the project. When I was done I gave it two coats of paint. I figure I saved about one third of the cost of buying a new one if you don't count my time so I'm not sure if I would do it again. It turned into quite a lengthy project. (Tim Lynn, 2353 135th St., Spirit lake, Iowa 51360 ph 712 336-5004)

in. sq. and 12 in. high and bolts onto the combine using adjustable brackets that allow it to be used on any combine brand or model.



A 40-lb. gas shock makes the lid easy to open and close. Heavy foam lines the inside of the lid to keep moisture and dust out. Comes with a key lock. Sells for \$199.50. (Jamie Webb, Dee Zee, Box 3090, Des Moines, Iowa 50316 ph 800 779-2102; fax 515 265-7926).

Our Alligator belt fasteners reduce installation time by eliminating the need to insert staples one at a time. Our one-piece fastener strips come with staples pre-inserted. As a result, you never need to load a staple dis-



penser or manually insert individual loose staples into an installation tool. Simply fit the fastener strip onto the belt ends and secure in our special installation tool, then drive and set the staples for a strong, long-lasting splice. Installation tool holds belt and fasteners - a hammer is used to drive in two staples to complete the splice. (Flexible Steel Lacing Co., 2525 Wisconsin Ave., Downers Grove, Ill. 60515 (ph 630 971-0150; fax 1180)