



Gate opener built from a conventional garage door opener is used to open and close a 16-ft. steel gate across Wilson's driveway.

## Remote-Controlled Gate Works Off Garage Door Opener

"It works as good as any commercial automatic gate opener but didn't cost much to build," says Don Wilson, Merkel, Texas, who uses a conventional garage door opener to open and close a 16-ft. long steel gate across his driveway.

The door opener's chain and track are positioned away from the gate. It pushes and pulls on a 10-ft. long, 5/8-in. dia. steel rod that's fastened to the gate. The opener mounts about 2 ft. off the ground on a pair of steel pipes. Electricity for it is supplied by underground wiring. A short length of chain is used to attach the 10-ft. steel rod to the chain on

the door opener.

"I spent less than \$50 to build it. Commercial units sell for as much as \$2,000," says Wilson. "I put switches on posts on each side of the gate so visitors can reach out from their vehicle's window to open or close the gate.

"The hardest part was figuring out exactly where to mount the opener so the rod will run true without binding on the door opener track."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Don R. Wilson, 502 CR 351, Merkel, Texas 79536 (ph 915 846-4422).



Opener pushes and pulls on a 10-ft. rod to open and close gate.



Opener mounts about 2 ft. off the ground on a pair of steel pipes.



Front bale mover uses an extension designed for a rear-mount 3-pt. A heavy-duty frame that supports the bale spear.

## Front-Mount 3-Pt. Makes Great Bale Hauler

When Joseph Parker, Mesquite, Texas, traded off his Farmall MD tractor, he kept the 3-pt. hitch and mounted it on front of his 1969 Ford 5000 tractor. He then attached an extension designed for a rear-mount 3-pt. A steel frame that supports a long bale spear and two shorter ones is bolted onto the attachment, allowing him to haul and stack round bales.

"It lets me load bales onto a trailer. A conventional 3-pt. can't lift bales that high," says Parker.

Parker bolted a 6-ft. long, 4-in. dia. steel pipe "bumper" on front of the tractor, then welded lengths of angle iron to the bumper and mounted the 3-pt. on it. A hydraulic cylinder raises and lowers the 3-pt. and another

cylinder works the controls. A third cylinder mounted on the attachment is used to keep the bale level.

"By loading a bale on the tractor's rear 3-pt. I can haul two bales at a time," says Parker. "I paid \$500 for the 3-pt. A new commercial front-end bale hauler sells for almost \$3,000.

"I remove the attachment whenever I don't have to load or unload bales. One disadvantage is that the bale extends out in front of the tractor a long ways, so if I haul a bale on front I always have to haul one on back, too."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Joseph W. Parker, 285 Longzreekro, Mesquite, Texas 75149 (ph 972 285-0452).

## "No Hassle" Motorcycle Hauler

One person can safely load or unload any size motorcycle in minutes using this compact new motorcycle hauler that completely eliminates the need for a trailer, says the manufacturer.

The motorcycle hauler attaches to a trailer hitch. It's designed to cradle the front wheel while the bike rolls on its rear tire. It hooks up to any class 2 receiver trailer hitch (class 4 adapters are available).

To load a cycle you roll the front wheel onto the ramp and hook nylon straps on between the hitch and the motorcycle. Pumping a hydraulic jack mounted under the hitch pivots the ramp upward and pulls the straps

tight at the same time, causing the motorcycle to roll forward into position.

The kit includes a signal light bar that attaches to the license plate at the back of the motorcycle and plugs into any trailer light plug. All the components for the cycle hitch fit into a small case that can be stored behind a pickup seat or in a tractor cab. It comes with a lifetime warranty. Sells for \$469 plus \$29.95 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bike C.A.T.T., Suite 218, 1335A NW St. Lucie West Blvd., Port St. Lucie, Fla. 34986 (ph 800 608-3353; fax 561-878-2026).

## High-Tech Hen House

More and more people are going back to the old days of having a few chickens wander around the farmyard. The problem is they're easy prey for predators.

Arnold Gorneau, West Chester, Penn., solved the problem by creating a "chicken coop for the 21st century". The high-tech hen house is equipped with an automatic door opener that's operated by a photo cell and timer.

The door opens with the sun in the morning to let the birds out and closes them in at dusk. A 1/4-in. thick plexiglass door slides up and down in grooves, powered by a geared down, reversible motor connected to a 120-volt photo cell that mounts on the chicken house roof. A wire runs from the photo cell to a relay and from there to the motor. He attached a 2-in. dia. pulley to the motor, which runs at just 8 rpm's. A cord runs over the pulley to a metal clip on the door.

"It really works slick," says Gorneau. "The photo cell catches the first rays of the sun and is the kind that's used to operate night security lights. The entire structure that supports the door, photo cell, and timer is about 4 ft. high. The door itself goes up and down about 14 in."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Arnold



Door operates by photo cell and timer to let hens in at dusk and out in the morning.

Gorneau, 150 Dilworthtown Rd., West Chester, Penn. 19382 (ph 610 399-1263).



Cycle hauler completely eliminates the need for a trailer. It fits over existing trailer hitch.