



“Back-up guide” is made from 10 ft. of 4-in. dia. white PVC pipe, making it as easy to see at night as it is in broad daylight.

## Easy-To-See PVC “Back-Up Guide”

Backing up to auger hoppers at grain bins is easier with this “back-up guide” made out of white PVC pipe that’s as easy to see at night as it is during the day.

Stewart Lorenz of Lawton, N. Dak., used 10 ft. of 4-in. dia. PVC pipe that he got for 50 cents per ft. He used four 90-degree elbows to make a 3 by 5-ft. rectangular frame.

“Because it’s 4 in. high and white, it’s visible in both minimum light and grassy conditions around bins,” he says. “Because it’s

not glued together, you can take it apart, put it in the back of the pickup and take it from place to place. It flexes at the corners to conform to uneven terrain - all you do is step on it. When it’s not too grassy around the bin, it even slides out of the way of the wheels if you get too close.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Stewart Lorenz, 9953 60th St. NE, Lawton, N.Dak. 58345 (ph 701 655-3585).



Bale pusher on front is powered by a 36-in. long, 3 1/2-in. dia. hydraulic cylinder.

## Square Bale Bagger Built By Students

FARM SHOW reader Randy Woodruff teaches shop at Fox Valley High School in Milton, Iowa. He recently sent us photos of a pull-type square bale bagger built by two of his students as a senior project.

The “Green Machine” was designed and built by Travis Duncan and Sam Huff, both 18, to put 8-ft. long square bales into 150-ft. long tube-type plastic silage bags.

“There’s only one other square bale bagger we’re aware of on the market, but it’s a much more elaborate, self-propelled unit,” notes Duncan. “Ours is so different, we’re in the process of patenting it, with hopes of going into full production early next year.”

Weighing 2,140 lbs., the bagger measures 92-in. wide by 15-ft. long.

The frame of the machine is built out of 4-in. sq. tubing, with a bale table made out of 7 ga. steel.

It features a 7-ft. high upright support on the rear with two lift arms to hold the 150-ft. long plastic forage bags. A bale pusher on front is powered by a 36-in. long, 3 1/2-in. dia. hydraulic cylinder. The pusher is fitted



Bagger features a 7-ft. high upright support with two lift arms to hold 150-ft. long plastic forage bags.

with two 6-in. dia. castor wheels to smoothly push bales along the table and into the bag.

After more testing this summer, the two young men hope to begin full production early in 1999. They also hope to find a manufacturer to make special bags for the square bale bagger, as they’re currently using bags designed for round bales.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Travis Duncan, 109 N. Van Buren, Milton, Iowa 52570 (ph 515 656-4475) or Sam Huff, 405 E. Delaware, Milton, Iowa 52570 (ph 515 656-4244).



Borrowing an idea from the computer industry, “Patriot” skid steers can now be purchased direct from the factory.

## “Low-Cost” Skid Steer Sold Factory Direct

A South Dakota manufacturer recently began selling its “Patriot” skid steer loaders factory direct, with no middle man and no agent markup, in an effort to lower the machine’s cost to customers.

“As far as I know we’re the only skid steer manufacturer that sells factory direct without using any distributors or dealers. We now have the lowest priced quality-built skid steer on the market,” says Rod Osterloh of Hecla Industries.

The “Patriot” brand name was introduced last December. However, the loader itself has been manufactured for at least 20 years by Lahman Mfg., also of South Dakota. “The company went through a reorganization in the early 1980s and didn’t have the money to market the loader through dealers. My brothers and I bought the company last year and decided that selling factory direct would be a way to jump start the marketing process,” says Osterloh. “The concept of selling factory direct is relatively new to skid steer loaders, and some people question whether it’ll work. However, a few years ago no one

thought that selling computers by phone would work, either. So far, we’ve been getting a good response at farm equipment shows.

“Patriots are built with the same well-known engines and hydraulics that many of the larger and more expensive machines use. As a result, local farm service centers probably often have the parts for repair. If not, we can deliver most service parts to your door overnight.”

A wide assortment of attachments are available including dirt, snow, and manure buckets, trenchers, grapple forks, post hole augers, snowblowers, pallet forks, rototillers, backhoes, and brooms.

The hydrostatic skid-steer is available in five different models with gas or diesel engines from 20 to 65 hp and lift capacities from 600 to 1,800 lbs. Model 400, equipped with a 40 hp diesel engine, sells for \$14,795.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hecla Industries, LLP, Box 128, Hecla, S. Dak. 57446 (ph 888 470-2244; fax 218 587-8178).

## Portable “Corral Kit” Is Easy To Set Up

This portable “corral kit” lets you quickly and easily set up a 50-ft. sq. corral anywhere you need to temporarily contain an animal.

The kit includes everything needed to set up the corral, including a powerful, battery-operated fence charger, wire, posts, insulators, grounding rod with connectors, tie-downs for corners, a fence tester, gate handles, and all connections needed to make the gate. All components fit into a 2-ft. long cloth bag that can be snapped onto any horse saddle.

“It’s the most complete portable corral kit on the market. You don’t need to take anything else with you,” says the company. “It’s ideal for containing animals at horse shows, for pasture rotation, crop protection, around gardens - any situation where temporary containment is needed.

“The fence charger will last up to 30 days.” Sells for \$150 plus S&H.



Components fit into a 2-ft. long cloth bag.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Darc Products, Inc., Box 157 - 860 Betterly Rd., Battle Creek, Mich. 49016 (ph 616 965-2307; fax 3261).