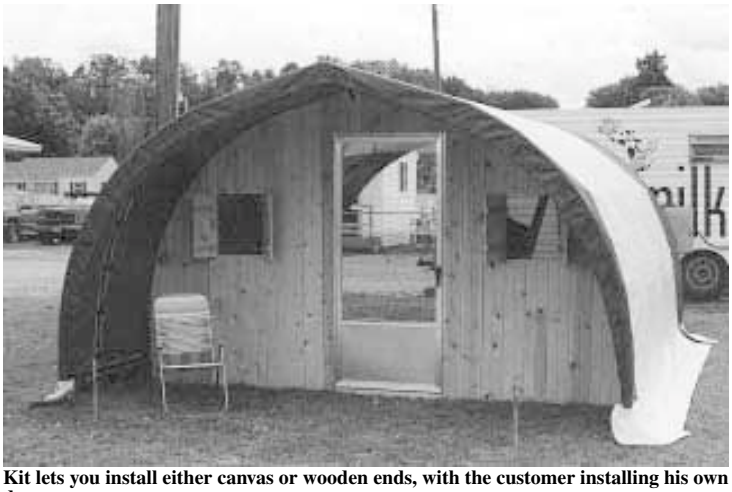

Kit lets you install either canvas or wooden ends, with the customer installing his own doors.

Door Kit Seals Ends Off Low-Cost Canvas Shelters

"Our new door kit lets people use our low-cost canvas shelters for everything from garages to greenhouses," says James Grantz of High Pointe Coverings, Harmony, Minnesota.

The company's shelters consist of polyethylene canvas stretched over a galvanized steel frame. The door kit lets you install either canvas or wooden ends. The customer installs his own doors, screens, and windows. A 5-ft. overhang provides a sort of "porch".

"It lets you put up temporary housing without spending a lot of money," says Grantz. "By installing a blanket of insulation and putting in a heater these shelters can even be kept warm during winter. Some customers have used them as hunting camps, and a snowmobile club recently set one up for its members."

The tarp fastens to the frame by lacing nylon rope through D-rings attached to the tarp with 2-in. seat belt webbing. A wide selection of color combinations are available, including translucent for a greenhouse effect. Soil skirts are standard and provide a weathertight seal between the ground and the base of the building.

Buildings are available in 10, 12, and 14-ft. widths. Lengths increase in 5-ft. increments. A 10-ft. sq. building sells for $440 and a 12 by 20-ft. building sells for $804 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, High Pointe Coverings, 720 N. Main St., Harmony, Minn. 55939 (ph 507 886-2864; fax 2865).

Gravity Wagon Auger Converted To Portable Drill Fill

"It beats handling soybean seed by hand," says Larry Coutant who converted a hydraulic-powered grain auger into a portable unit that he uses to fill his 20-ft. Great Plains drill.

The Charleston, Ill., farmer started with a 6-in. dia., 12-ft. long Parker auger, which was originally designed to attach to the side of a gravity flow wagon. He extended the length by 7 ft. with old auger tubing and flighting for increased reach.

He built a support frame out of scrap angle iron and pipe and fitted it with two 10 in. dia. wheels. The wheels are hinged on the axle so, in addition to running lengthwise for transport, they can be turned sideways so the auger pivots to cover entire length of the drill.

A 1,000-lb. winch mounted on the side of the frame raises and lowers the auger with a pulley mounted on top of a 7-ft. vertical brace on front of the frame.

Coutant equipped the hopper with a metal tongue so he can pull the auger behind his pickup or grain wagons.

"It's ideal for switching varieties which are loaded in several different wagons," he says. "The biggest expense was the $250 I paid for the auger at a sale."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry W. Coutant, 1612 Reynolds Dr., Charleston, Ill. 61920 (ph 217 345-3328).

Auger was originally designed to attach to side of gravity flow wagon. Coutant mounted it on wheels and equipped hopper with a metal tongue so he can pull it behind his pickup or wagon.

Wheels are hinged on axle so they can be turned sideways, allowing auger to pivot and cover the entire length of the drill.

"No Filter" Dust Mask Lasts Forever

Alan Kennedy set out to design a mask that would help his youngest daughter breathe comfortably during her frigid Nordic ski races.

The mask did what he wanted but he soon learned it had another purpose: It works great as a dust mask even though it has no filter element to be replaced. It not only warms cold air before it enters the lungs, but collects airborne particles such as soil, grain dust, ash, pollen and molds as well.

It consists of a series of thin aluminum plates, 1 3/8 in. wide by 3 3/4 in. long, that are arranged in an S-shape cell below the chin and leading to the mouth. The plates provide a total of 50 sq. in. of collection surface to trap dirt, dust, ash, pollen and molds. The aluminum cell attaches to a standard plastic face mask, like those used to administer oxygen.

"Basically, the design mimics Mother Nature," says Kennedy. "Nasal passages make a similar 180 degree turns before going into the lungs, too, and there are hairs that collect dust particles."

Kennedy first tested his mask for cold weather effectiveness and found that at 25 degrees below zero F the lowest temperature inside the mask was 40 degrees above zero F.

Soon after he discovered a 6-in. layer of mold in the top of one of his grain bins, he decided to see if the mask would protect him.

"I thought the shape of the mask might trap dust so I tried it out," he says. "I climbed into the bin and shoveled for about 10 minutes, anticipating the bitter taste you usually experience when you inhale moldy grain dust. I took a break outside, blew my nose and could not detect any dust. I worked for another 1 3/4 hours and when I went into the house, I noticed my overalls had a coating of gray green mold on them. I removed the cell from the mask and ran a cup of hot water through it into a cup. I was astonished at the amount of dirty greenish sludge that washed out, while I had absolutely no ill effects or symptoms normally associated with handling dusty grain without a mask."

Metal filter consists of an S-shaped "cell' fitted with thin metal plates.

Kennedy designed the mask to help his daughter breathe more comfortably in cold weather. However, he soon learned it was also effective against dust and mold.

Since then, about 10 other farmers have tried the mask with equally impressive results, but there have been no scientific or lab tests on it, Kennedy says.

"However, my guesstimate is that it traps at least 98 percent of airborne solids," he says.

Kennedy would like to find a manufacturer to bring his mask to market.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alan Kennedy, Box 10, Miami, Manitoba, Canada R0G 1H0 (ph 204 435-2101).

Mill is equipped with 16-in. dia. rollers that can process up to 2 tons a minute.

Silo Blower Has Built-In Roller Mill

"Our new silage blower mill is designed to crack corn kernels as silage is blown into the silo," says Doug Hilsabeck, Renn Mill Center, Lacombe, Alberta.

The company's original corn cracking silage roller (Vol. 21, No. 3) was designed to process corn silage coming out of upright silos. The new model - mounted on an 8-bladed, 59-in. blower - is equipped with 16-in. dia. rollers that can process up to 2 tons per minute.

Sells for about $26,000 (Canadian).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Renn Mill Center, Inc., RR 4, Lacombe, Alberta, Canada T0C 1S0 (ph 403 784-3518; fax 2060).