



lengths to get attention. Here they cut apart a school bus to illustrate how they are "tearing apart high prices". (C.F. Marley, Nokomis, Ill.)

I'm retired and enjoy mowing my lawn and three other family lawns with my Deere riding mower. It has a grass



catcher on back. When the two bags fill up, they weigh 65 lbs. each, or 170 lbs. I noticed that there would be wheel tracks in the yard for two days after mowing, due in part to the extra weight from the cut grass. I decided to build a little trailer



that would help carry part of the load. It worked so well I now use it all of the time on the four yards, which total about 59,000 sq. ft.

I made the trailer out of 1 1/4 by 1/8-in. angle iron, and 1 1/2 by 3/16-in. strap iron. It's fitted with a pair of 8-in. pneumatic caster wheels. It bolts to the back of the tractor and is offset so the wheels run to the side of the tractor wheels. The bags just sit on the trailer. (Leonard A. Anderson, 554 S. Webster St., Minden, Neb. 68959)

We've sold tile plows to many FARM SHOW readers and thought they might be interested in an idea one of our cus-



tomers recently came up with to boost performance of his plow. Mike Toussaint bought a plow with a set of wheels and tiled going across bean rows. The problem was that his laser went up and down.

Over the winter, he got to thinking that he had a walking beam on an old manure spreader that he was going to scrap. He mounted the walking beam on his plow and went over the same ground again. This time the laser was much more stable.

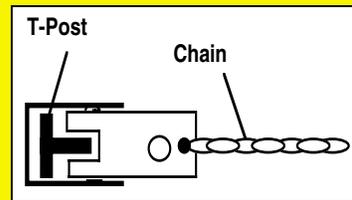
When we heard about what he did,

we decided to offer a walking beam as an option on our plow. Each beam works independent of the other, allowing the boot to stay on grade and "walking" over uneven ground. There are four new spindles and hubs, and the size tires they use are 18.4 by 26. The walking beam is made so it will bolt onto the original dolly.

Everyone who has tried our tile plow this way with lasers says they can lay tile precisely on grade. (Don Wurdinger, Farm Drainage Plows, Inc., 909 4th St. N.W., Waverly, Iowa 50677 ph 319 352-3911).

This is not a new idea but more guys should try it. I protect big round bales of hay from bottom damage by setting them onto old rear tractor tires. Just set them on the tires, spaced about 1 ft. apart. The bales stay perfectly dry and nutritious. It's cheap, too, because tire stores are happy to get rid of old tractor tires. (Harold L. Williams, 3048 Greens Chapel Rd., White Plains, Ky. 42464 ph 270 338-5853)

Here's a post puller I made in my shop to pull T posts. It consists of two pieces of metal welded together. The first piece is a flat piece of hard steel. I used part of an old car spring. Cut a notch in one end



that will fit over the back side of a post. Then bend a second piece of steel into a U shape to fit around the front side of the post. It should be long enough to weld about 1 in. on each side to the first part of the puller. There should be enough space to fit down over a standard T post.

Bolt a length of chain to the first part and put a hook on the chain. You just drop the puller down over the post and pull up. When you lift up, it'll lock into the post. Works great. (David M. Love, 107 Idletime Dr., Greeneville, Tenn. 37743 ph 423 638-3539)

I made a dump trailer out of an old oil tank. I split the tank in half and made a

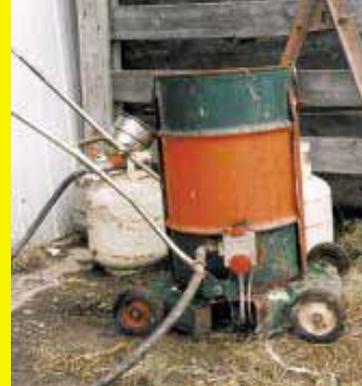


tailgate on back that can be opened and closed. The trailer dumps to the back, pivoting on the axle. You can dump it manually or I also use a small boom that mounts above the trailer tongue to dump it. I use the other half of the tank to mix concrete and motor. I've even used it as a boat in my pond. (Bill Reeks, 7104 U.S. Hwy 231 N, Cromwell, Ky. 42333)

I've got an idea for a new gadget. It's called a "finger flashlight" and it's a light, small but powerful flashlight that slips

onto your finger for working in close quarters. Often when working on machinery, there's only enough room to get your hand or finger in. If you had a light right there, it would be a big help. If someone would make something like this, I think it would end up in every mechanic's toolbox. It's just an idea - I have no plans to make it myself. (Ed Guran, Box 1106, Rosetown, Sask. S0L 2V0 Canada ph 306 882-3167)

We butcher chickens and I recently built a scalding tank that consists of a small barrel mounted on the deck of an old lawn mower with the motor removed. A heat-



ing element from a gas water heater mounts in the bottom of the barrel. I converted it from natural gas to propane by drilling out the orifice (or you can buy a new fitting). The water heater thermostat keeps the water right at 140 to 145°, which is perfect for scalding birds. (W.K. Rynsburger, RR2, Site 23, Box 7, Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 2Z9 Canada ph 780 532-6566)

I have muscular dystrophy, which makes my arms and legs weaker than normal. That's why I came up with a way to engage and disengage the clutch on my Dad's 2510 Deere tractor. I had brackets made to bolt to the side of the lift arm and a small bracket bolted onto the clutch, then I ran a rod between the two brackets. When the lift arms are down, the clutch is disengaged. When the lift arms are up, the clutch is engaged. I use the tractor to rake hay. (Matt Tucker, 3999 County Rd. 203, Fulton, Mo. 65251)

These lights, mounted down low on the side of a Deere 4440, make it a lot easier



to see where you're going. Besides seeing auger hoppers or front-mounted equipment, you can also see disk marks and obstacles in the field. Almost any kind of light can be mounted on the side of the tractor on almost any kind of bracket.

This 4440 has an extra light just above the front axle and a couple feet behind the axle. (Mark Mahlow, 71573 120th St., Zearing, Iowa 50278 ph 515 487-7708)

This utility trailer was custom-built to haul dirt, rock, mulch and even small tractors. It needed to dump yet be small enough



to pull comfortably with a van, pickup, or car. I hired Lloyd Meffert of Meffert Small Engines, Hettick, Ill., to build it.

The chassis and box were built from scratch. The toolbox houses a 12-volt wet cell battery and charger. It is located



just above a combination starter motor and hydraulic pump which serves to raise the bed into dump position. There is a button on the underside of the box which activates the motor.

The trailer box is 9 ft. long and 5.5 ft. wide. Aside from its more conventional loads, the trailer can handle the intermediate size tractor in the background. Also, to make the trailer heavy enough but not too heavy, conventional house deck planking was used instead of 2-in. thick lumber. (Robert Standerfer, Oak, Forest, Godfrey, Ill. Ph 618 466-7652)

A hatchet makes a good hoof trimmer. Make it real sharp so it penetrates easily. Hold it with one hand where you want to cut and strike it with a heavy hammer. It's easy and quick. (Norman Kaibel, 1088 Hwy 52E, Drake, S.Dak. 58736)

This doesn't have much to do with farming but it's something most families face



at one time or another. I set up a swing set for my three granddaughters and it didn't take long for it to start digging into the soft ground. This loosened the anchor rods and allowed the whole framework to sway back and forth. If left unchecked, the moisture in the ground would have corroded the legs.

I solved the problem by putting a 15-

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