



Yarbrough's 30-ft. long feeder is designed to feed big round bales as well as silage or grain. Cattle are held by self-locking gates on the sides, front and rear of wagon.

## Self-Locking Feed Wagon Equipped With Automatic Head Catchers

Automatic head catchers on this home-built feed wagon let Texas cattleman Mike Yarbrough work on up to 28 animals at a time as they feed.

The 7-ft. wide, 30-ft. long feeder is designed to feed big round bales as well as silage or grain. Cattle feed through self-locking gates on the sides, front and rear of the wagon.

Controls at the front and rear of the wagon allow him to catch and release all animals simultaneously on each side of the wagon. Each gate can also be set to catch individual animals. Yarbrough can easily climb inside to work on the animals through a front opening. The back opens up to allow loading up to 5 big round bales.

"It speeds up veterinary work because we can work on up to 28 full-grown cattle at a time," says Yarbrough. "It works a lot better than chasing animals one at a time into a chute because the cattle are calmer and less stressed, and so is the operator. Also, catching them is easy and virtually hassle-free. When we want to work on the animals, we simply set the gate controls so cattle lock themselves in as they reach through to eat. Cattle aren't even aware that they're caught so there's no bucking or ramming. It sure beats chasing cattle and it's easier on the fences, too.

"We've used it to treat sick cows, put calves on heifers, artificially inseminate bred cows and heifers, draw blood for disease testing, milk out cows, apply fly tags, and to



Back side opens up to allow loading up to five round bales. Controls at front and rear of wagon allow Yarbrough to catch and release all animals simultaneously on each side of wagon. Each gate can also be set to catch individual animals.

apply pour-on wormer and injectible wormers. We've also used it to vaccinate and sort animals that we want to move or sell. We can individually release the ones we don't want and then use a portable panel and the gate on back to load the cows we want.

"The sides of the feed troughs are sloped to ensure that cows get all of the feed. There's very little waste."

The wagon is mounted on springs and pulls better than many livestock trailers, says Yarbrough. Drop legs on front hold it stationary when in use. "Even 1,600-lb. Simmental cows haven't been able to move it," notes Yarbrough.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike Yarbrough, Rt. 1, Box 267, Honey Grove, Texas 75446 (ph 903 378-7291).

## Spring-Loaded Back Support

A new back support from Australia takes the weight off back muscles but still allows freedom of movement.

The aluminum "Bendezy" weighs just 4 lbs. Straps wrap around the shoulders, waist, and legs. Springs extend from a counterweight lever that extends out from a pressure plate at the lower back. As you bend forward these help support part of your weight.

The device adjusts easily to any wearer, and it has a range of tension settings for different work loads.

The Bendezy can be used for any kind of work but is especially popular for gardening, sheep shearing, and other such tasks.

The company is looking for a North American distributor.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tim & Vi Mitchel,



Made from aluminum, the "Bendezy" weighs just 4 lbs. Springs extend from a counterweight lever that extends out from a pressure plate at the lower back.

Bendezy Lite Top, P.O. Box 285, Mount Barker, Western Australia 6324 (ph 011 61 08 9851 1722; 011 61 08 9851 1822; E-mail: bendezy@omninet.net.au; Web site: www.bendezy.com.au)



Wire roller bolts to truck flatbed. It consists of a car rear end with a wheel and rim attached to one of the hubs. Lengths of 6-in. rebar are welded to each side of rim.

## Truck-Mounted Wire Winder Made From Truck Rear End

When Eric McCalla had to tear out a big section of barbed wire fence, he dreaded rolling up the 300 to 500-ft. strands of wire by hand. He started looking for an alternative way to handle the job.

"We made a wire winder that's different from any I've seen," says McCalla. "I bought a car rear end and several car and truck rims from a salvage yard.

"We welded supports made out of 2-in. sq. tubing to the shackle area at each end of the axle so the rear end rests flat on the bed of my flatbed truck. One side of the rear end hangs off the passenger's side of the truck.

"We welded six pieces of 6-in. rebar to each side of the wheel rims for rolling up the wire. Then we attached a wheel to the hub. The side of the rear end we used had only three lug studs so we could pretty much use any rim on there. If necessary, we just use a torch to enlarge the existing holes. Once mounted, each rim spins freely.

"I made a crank out of a piece of 1-in. solid square metal and welded it onto the yoke out of the front of the rear end. Then we welded a short length of rebar to the end of the rear end that we were not using to roll up wire. That locked it in place so turning the crank



A crank welded onto the rear end's input shaft is used to turn the wheel.

rotates the other end fitted with a wheel/spool.

"We fastened the wire roller to the flatbed with two large U-bolts that extend down through four holes that we drilled in the bed. With one person cranking the handle and the other guiding the wire, we can put 750 to 1,200 ft. of wire on a single truck wheel, wrapped nice and tight. It pulls 400 ft. of wire through heavy grass with no problem."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Eric McCalla, 803 West St., Shambaugh, Iowa 51651 (ph 712 542-3770).



Loader's 4-ft. long push-off arm is operated by a big hydraulic cylinder. With cylinder in retracted position the arm is straight down.



Extending the cylinder causes arm to push bale off. Unit can be used on a front-end loader or 3-pt. to load bales into feeder rings.

## Bale Loader Equipped With "Push-Off" Arm

"It's a simple addition to a bale loader that makes it easier to stack bales and drop them into feeders," says Larry Runyon, Hillsboro, Iowa, about the bale loader he built that's equipped with a hydraulic-operated steel push-off arm.

The bale loader is equipped with a pair of 5-ft. long forks that slide under the bale. The 4-ft. long push-off arm is operated by a big steel cylinder (the hoist off an old flare box wagon). In the retracted position the arm is straight down.

"It works great on a front-end loader for stacking bales," says Runyon. "We had been

using a loader equipped with forks to stack bales three high in the barn, but it couldn't always reach quite high enough to tilt the bale off and there was always the danger that the bale could roll back onto the loader arms. The push-off arm on our bale loader adds just enough extra 'reach' to stack bales three high. However, we usually use it on the 3-pt. of our Allis-Chalmers tractor to load bales into feeder rings. All it cost to build was our time and effort and some welder wire."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry Runyon, Box 1, Hillsboro, Iowa 52630 (ph 319 253-4105).