Reader Letters

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up, chips tops off, and loads them into bins. It's better than anything on the market and has saved us a lot of time and money. ***(Richard Calak, 1531 County Rt. 1, Wosttown, N.Y. 10998 ph 914 726-3562)***

We invented this Power Rotary Sweeper and now build it for sale in our farm shop.

It's self-propelled with a 36-in. wide broom powered by a 4 hp. Honda engine. Works great for cleaning poultry barns, paved lots, driveways, etc. It's a real time saver and is built simple for easy maintenance. Rides on three pneumatic tires. We sell them for $1,550 U.S. ***(Edgar Friesen, Box 38, RR 1, Ste. Anne, Manitoba R5H 1R1 Canada ph 204 355-4667; fax 204 355-4131)***

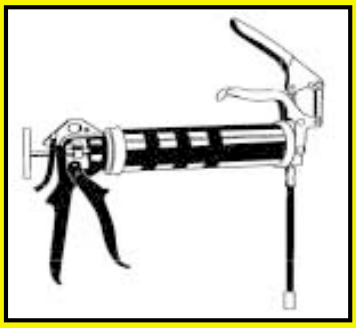
I've always had a problem getting hay to my bison. After I take the first bale in, the younger animals wait at the gate for

me to come in with a second bale, making it much harder to re-open the gate to get in. I solved the problem by converting my bale spear to take two bales at a time instead of one. I moved the existing center spear over to the side and bought a second spear and bushings to mount on the other side. The two small spears at center still provide extra support. I bought the bushings and second spear from ATI Corp., 325 West Amin St., New Holland, Penn. 17557. ***(Stephen Fitzpatrick, 1435 Pontiac Rd., Angola, N.Y. 14006)***

Thank you for including our products in the recent 2000 Edition of the "Best of FARM SHOW". We're proud of our new

"Y-Not Split-It" for liquid application of fertilizer. This hose splitter is a simple, clear plastic Y-shaped tube that's designed to be used with our popular Rebounder attachments for planters. The splitter delivers fertilizer simultaneously to both side walls of the seed trench without drenching the seed.

Unfortunately, several farmers have called to say they could not see the flow of fertilizer very clearly on the photo you used. Could you please run the enclosed photo showing the Y-Not Split-It version for Deere, Kinze and White planters. We can also fit Case-IH planters. ***(Paul Schaffert Mfg. Co., Inc., Rt. 1, Box 157, Indianola, Neb. 69034 ph toll-free 1-800-383-2607)***



It's hard to believe how much better my new grease gun works than a conventional gun. It has a second trigger to release air build-up in the cartridge. Eliminates air problems, and problems with heavy grease in cold weather. When you make it easier to grease, you're much more likely to do it on a regular basis, keeping machinery in better working order. I recently received a patent on the design.

Cartridges load normally into the gun by releasing the shaft at the back of the gun. The pump handle is at the output end of the gun. When you get an air block - or if use the back handle to force the plunger into the grease. It works like a caulking gun. The increased pressure will pop the grease right out.

I'm looking for a manufacturer. I've been making a few individually for $85 apiece but it'll be a lot cheaper when mass-produced. ***(Norman Campbell, General Delivery, Lac La Biche, Alberta T0A 2C0 Canada ph 780 623-2759)***

My home-built variable seeding rate unit is much simpler and less expensive than any GPS system. There's no computer, no GPS annual fee, and no maps. It lets

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We made this forklift from an old New Holland 975 combine. We call it our Forkbine.

After stripping the machine down to the frame, we used two old plow beams for a frame and then remounted the cab, engine, and variable speed drive. We used the original cowling over the engine, filling in between the engine and cab with sheet metal.

It works great as an all-terrain forklift. Our business involves rebuilding fertilizer spreaders. The Forkbine makes it easy to move spreaders and frames around outside of the shop.

Our total cash outlay was only about $700. ***(Gary O. Truesdale, Bengar, Inc., 21830 Briggs Rd., Spencerville, Ohio 45887 ph 419 647-4343)***

I read with interest the story in the last issue of FARM SHOW about do-it-yourself drain tiling machines. I am a civil engineer specializing in soils engineering. I have studied drainage of highway subgrades and worked on a number of jobs that involved installing drainage in saturated soils that were causing roads to frost heave and banks to slip.

The main thing I've learned is that the US Corps of Engineers determined long ago that perforated drain tiles installed without a filter over them will plug up in time. Most highway drainage I've looked at eventually plugs, even when gravel is used to backfill. What the Corps of Engineers determined is that using coarse sand - the kind used to mix concrete - as a surrounding filter can prevent plugging. Gravel or small rocks let too much silt and dirt flow through. But I have seen plastic drain tile that was installed 30 years ago with sand around it that is just as good as new.

It appears from your article that the farmers installing their own tile are not using any kind of filter. I would like to know if any of the companies promoting tilers have done any long-term studies on the success or failure rate of their tile installations.

In my opinion, just installing miles of drainage tile doesn't necessarily result in a drain field that will work for a long time. It might make the installer lots of bucks but does it provide a long-term benefit for the farmer? ***(Cliff Lawson, Professional Engineer, 14760 Eagle Ridge Rd., Ferryville, Wis. 54628)***

We were disappointed that more information about our tile plow was not included in your report on do-it-yourself drain tiling in the last issue of FARM SHOW. Our Yield Master "dual link" plow is built like ones used by commercial contractors but scaled down in size and it costs a lot less. It holds the grade better than most conventional tile plows and lets you easily change tile depth anywhere from 4 to 6 ft.

It's available as a pull-type or mounted. At 11 ft. long, it's much longer than conventional tile plows so it can hold the grade much better.

The vertical steel beam that supports the pusher plate has notches in it spaced 6 in. apart, allowing the knife to be hydraulically raised or lowered 6 to 12 in. at a time and locked into a new setting. You can use this feature to compensate for changing terrain or to keep from plugging up on corn stalks. It lets you plow at a 4-ft. depth and yet have the knife locked in at a 5 or 6-ft. depth.

Our plow is competitively priced with other tile plows. It weighs 8,000 lbs. and can be handled by a 4-WD tractor. ***(Roger Pint, Winthrop Welding Works, Box 87, Winthrop, Iowa 50682 ph 319 935-3385)***