



In event of a fall, spring-loaded stirrup opens up, releasing foot.



Stirrup fits all Western saddles and comes in eight colors.

## Safety Stirrup Designed To Prevent Dragging Deaths

A traumatic experience fueled Jimmie Simmons' desire to invent a safer stirrup for riding horses. He witnessed a 17-year-old girl get dragged to her death, and he decided right then and there that his own daughters wouldn't ride again until he found a safer stirrup.

Since he could not find one on the market, Simmons set to work designing his own. After four years of extensive testing and many prototypes, he came up with the "Side Step Safety Stirrup".

In addition to being safer, the new stirrup is more comfortable. The stirrup doesn't cause twisting of stirrup leathers and places much less stress on knees and ankles. It won't swivel away from your foot while mounting and is made from slightly flexible plastic which absorbs more of the shock when riding.

In the event of a fall, a re-positioning safety arm with a stainless steel torsion spring releases your foot and simply goes back to the "closed" position. When in the closed position, there are 2 in. of vertical clearance for your foot. Even if you have a large foot or thick-soled boot, the arm will only "rest" on the top of your foot, not putting any pressure

on it. The top end of the safety arm is "ball shaped" because this discourages anything from getting caught on the stirrup (i.e. your pant leg or branches). Another added advantage to the new stirrup is that there are no break-away parts to lose or replace.

It fits all Western saddles and comes in eight colors (dark brown, medium Brown, golden brown, black, dark grey, burgundy, tan or rawhide). Later this year Simmons will be releasing an English style safety stirrup as well.

Spring Creek Marketing provides a 30 day money back "total satisfaction guarantee" to ensure that customers won't be disappointed. "Ride in them, get them scratched up or dirty - we don't care. If you don't like them, send 'em back," Cohorst says.

The Side Step Safety Stirrup sells for \$129.95 per pair plus \$10 for S&H. Checks, money orders, Visa, MC, AmEx and Discover are accepted.

Contact: FARM SHOW Follow-up, Amy Cohorst, Spring Creek Marketing, 1107 Pony Express Hwy., Marysville, Kan. 66508 (ph 800 758-2632; fax 785 562-2990; E-mail: info@surerider.com; Website: www.surerider.com)



Bale feeder measures 9 by 8 1/2 ft. and can also be used for silage and mixed rations.

## Lifetime Feeder Fitted With 3-Pt. Hitch

"This is a feeder built by farmers for farmers. It's strong enough for the biggest bulls and largest cow and is easier to move around than any other feeder of its kind on the market," says Dale Slayton of Slayton Manufacturing about his new big bale feeder which can also be used for silage and mixed rations.

The 9 by 8 1/2-ft. feeder is fitted with 3-pt. fittings to hitch to a tractor, making it easy to move around. One side of the feeder is

hinged so you can open it to load in bales. The bottom is ridged to move loose hay to the outside where cattle can reach it.

"It's built heavy and comes with a 10-year warranty. All tubing is equipped with drain holes," says Slayton, who has been building hay handling equipment since 1972.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dale Slayton, Slayton Manufacturing, RR2, Box 11, Casey, Iowa 50048 (ph 515 746-3987).



Equipped with motion sensors and electric motors, fake owl moves and also makes realistic sounds.



Whirly Bird is a helicopter-like device that spins constantly.

## Motion-Activated Owl Chases Birds Away

California inventor Steve Luft got the idea for his new motion-activated moving scarecrow when he put in a large vegetable garden and pest birds dug out the seeds almost as quickly as he could get them into the ground.

He tried plastic owls, homemade scarecrows, blow up snakes, and other bird-scaring devices. "None of them worked. I knew birds were afraid of the things but they got used to them for some reason. I decided to try to put some movement into them and see what happened," says Luft.

He created a remote-controlled owl by connecting a rotating device to the neck of one of his plastic owls. It made a huge difference in scaring birds. The only problem was that someone had to be there to run the remote control.

Luft is not an electronic engineer but he found someone to incorporate motion sensors and small electric motors into a fake owl. He also designed what he calls a "Whirly Bird".

In addition to moving, the owl also makes

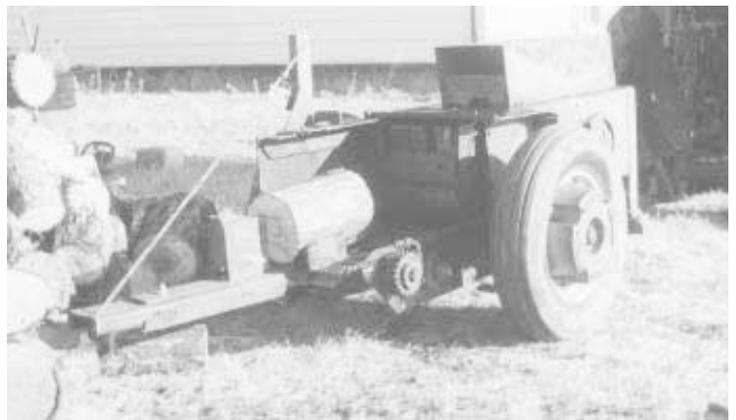
realistic sounds. And it has glow-in-the-dark eyes.

The Whirly Bird consists of a device with a helicopter-like propeller on top that can be extended out to 5 ft. in dia. The solar-powered device spins constantly and is particularly effective on top of signs, or any particular ledge that you want to keep free of birds.

"We just started marketing these birds. They're not available in any store or from any other company. Some people have confused us with a cheap fake owl that makes noises but does not work. Our motion-activated owls do work and are different from anything ever developed," notes Luft.

The motion-activated owl sells for \$39.95. The Whirly Bird sells for \$49.95. Add \$6.95 S&H for each.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Steve Luft, Motion Scarecrows, Inc., Box 1966 Ventura, Calif. 93002 (ph 805 388-1770; Web site: www.nobirds.net).



Byski welded two pieces of grader blade crossways to baler plunger. It pushes wood into home-built axe head, which mounts stationary on the frame.

## Wood Splitter Built From Massey Baler

"My wood splitter started out as a Massey Ferguson baler that had been sitting in my junk pile for about 10 years. I took it to the shop and removed the hay pickup, the twine box, needles, axle and the slide where the bale comes out," says Dennis Byski, Goodeve, Sask.

"The plunger was rusted from not being used so I had to use a sledge hammer to loosen it. I welded two pieces of grader blade to the plunger crossways. This is what pushes the wood into the axe head, which mounts stationary on the frame.

The axe head is made from two pieces of 8 by 8-in. plate steel 1/4 in. thick. The two pieces are welded together to a point and tilted upward about 10 degrees.

"The log to be split is held in a cradle made from a pair of 3-ft. long, 1-in. dia. pipes spaced 8 in. apart. They angle downward into the axe head. I can split logs from 4 in. dia. to 20 in. dia. and I can move the axe forward or back 4 in. as needed.

"I pull the splitter behind a tractor with a 540 pto. I use the original shear pins from the baler but I have to heat treat them, otherwise they will snap.

"I only spent about \$100. It only takes me 1/2 hr. to split a 1/2-ton truck full. And some of it I split into four pieces. If two people are working, it goes even faster."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dennis Byski, Box 91, Goodeve, Sask. S0A 1C0 Canada (ph 306 795-2906).