



Richard Godbout used thirty 265-gal. fuel oil tanks to make a portable corral. Tanks are held together in groups of three, with each group supported by wooden legs.

“Moveable” Fuel Tank Corral

“It was cheap to set up and should last a lifetime,” says Richard Godbout, Cromwell, Minn., who made a portable corral out of thirty old 265-gal. fuel oil tanks.

The tanks are held together in groups of three, with each group supported by wooden legs. A steel carrying cradle quick-taches to his front-end loader to move tanks around.

“I needed a corral to work my cows and calves every spring and fall. I already had a permanent fence in place and wanted an L-shaped portable fence that I could attach to it,” says Godbout.

He put an advertisement in a local newspaper asking anyone with old fuel tanks to contact him. Then he hauled the tanks home in his pickup.

All the tanks measure 5-ft. long, 2 1/2 ft. wide, and 3 1/2 ft. tall. He placed three tanks end to end, then used 14-ga. strap metal and self-tapping screws to connect the tanks together in 15-ft. long groups. The two outside tanks are supported by treated landscape timber legs. The wooden legs hold the tanks 1 1/2 ft. off the ground to make a 5-ft. high fence.

“It’s not fancy but it does the job and at a very low cost,” says Godbout. “I paid up to \$15 apiece for some of the tanks while others



He uses this steel carrying cradle, which quick-taches to his front-end loader, to move tanks around.

were given to me. My total cost per group was about \$50 which includes the cost of the tanks, legs, screws, and strap steel. That’s a lot less than I would’ve paid for self-standing commercial gates that are designed to make a portable corral.

“Each section weighs about 300 lbs. I use my Belarus 85 hp tractor to move the tanks around. The cradle is curved. I grab the middle tank and lift all three tanks together at the same time.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Richard Godbout, 5145 Lindholm Rd., Cromwell, Minn. 55726 (ph 218 644-3962).



Boom consists of a single arm that’s hinged to a steel frame which bolts to tractor. “Works great for moving round bale feeders,” he says.

High-Reach Front-End Boom

“It lets me move round bale feeders around without leaving the tractor seat. It also works great for lifting engines out of cars and pulling fence posts,” says Wayne Richards, Hope, N. Dak., about the front-end boom he built out of scrap steel for his David Brown 1210 tractor.

The boom consists of a single arm that’s hinged to a steel frame by a single 3/4-in. dia. steel pin. The frame, which bolts onto the tractor, is made from 3 by 5-in. tubing. The boom is made from the hitch off an old

junked Oliver baler and is raised or lowered by a 12-in. stroke, 2-in. dia. cylinder off a junked Case 1060 combine. The end of the boom is equipped with a pair of hooks 32 in. apart to lift round bale feeders.

“It has an amazing amount of power and saves a lot of work,” says Richards. “I’ve used it for eight years now with no problems. My son Dale helped me build it.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wayne Richards, RR 1, Box 124, Hope, N. Dak. 58046 (ph 701 945-2317).

Air-Powered Post Driver Handles Steel And Wood

Designed like a jackhammer, but weighing only about half as much, Marchant Engineering’s Picket Post Driver uses air pressure to quickly drive steel posts. The company says it has so much power it will drive posts through asphalt.

In addition to steel posts, the driver can also drive pipe and wooden posts up to about 3 in. in diameter. It will handle even larger posts if a pilot posthole is dug an inch or two smaller in diameter than the post to be driven.

Marchant Engineering, located near Sydney, Australia, also has three optional tools that can replace the striking dolly on the driver, making it more useful around the farm. A chisel point allows it to function as a jackhammer. A bead breaker allows it to be used to work on large farm tires. And there’s a tamping bar to firm soil around posts or before pouring concrete.

The unit requires an airflow of about 17 cu. ft. per minute for general farm use. For commercial fence builders, though, the company suggests 25 cfm will give better performance. For continuous operation, as in tamping or jackhammer use, it needs at least a 50 cfm air supply. It uses 1/2 in. or 12 mm air hose.

The driver with striking dolly weighs about 40 lbs. compared with about 80 lbs. for a normal jackhammer, the company says.

Company owner Ross Marchant says he has been making the picket post driver 12



Air-powered post driver is designed like a jackhammer but weighs only about half as much.

years and has 2,500 in service. While he has not actively sought international sales in the past, he would welcome inquiries from buyers and dealers in other countries.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ross Marchant, Marchant Engineering Pty. Ltd., 2-24 Toohey Road, Wetherill Park, New South Wales, Australia 2164 (ph 02 9756 2112; fax: 02 9756 2114).



“My 12-ft. long wood lathe can do everything a small lathe can do,” says inventor Owen Vaaler.

Lathe Handles Wood Up To 10 Ft. Long

Conventional wood lathes use knives to shape wood and spin at high speeds. As a result, they can handle stock only up to about 4 ft. long. A new 12-ft. long wood lathe uses a power cutter and can handle stock up to 10 ft. long and 15 in. in diameter.

“It can do everything a small lathe can do, but it will also handle very large objects,” says inventor Owen Vaaler.

The lathe mounts on four castor wheels and is powered by a 1 1/2 hp electric motor. The power cutter is a Makita offset grinder equipped with a special blade for carpentry work. The grinder is supported by a specially designed metal holder.

“Conventional lathes work great for making small chairs, spindles, etc. My lathe can also be used to make porch posts, yard light posts, wood columns, bed posts, etc.,” says Vaaler. “It’s easy to operate, and if I want I can use a pattern board to duplicate the piece



Lathe is equipped with a Makita offset grinder fitted with a special blade.

as many times as I want. A metal point attached to the cutter follows a pattern that I cut out of a 1-in. thick board. The board is laid out underneath the stock and can be moved anywhere along the lathe.”

Sells for \$2,950.
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vaaler Co., Box 117, Spring Grove, Minn. 55974 (ph 507 498-5577).