

Reader Letters



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the trap thrower on my ATV makes it easy to transport my gun, clay pigeons, and ammunition to the field with ease. (Mick Stewart, P.O. Box 594, Graettinger, Iowa 51342 ph 712 859-3609)

Thank you for the service you render to the world of agriculture, helping to get new ideas and technologies out into the marketplace.

Here in Uganda, the peasants in rural areas are still using traditional methods of farming and really need to acquire modern ways of farming. I'm excited about reading FARM SHOW and hope to bring many of the ideas here to help change our traditional ways. (Nyozami Johnnie, P.O. Box 33947, Kampala, Uganda, East Africa)

Four-stroke outboard motors are very quiet so there's no need for a trolling motor, except that you can't gear the motors down slow enough for trolling.

That's why I came up with a new invention called the "Trophy Troller", a



trolling plate that attaches to the back of any outboard. When you want to troll, you lower the plate behind the propeller and it slows you down to 1/2 mph, which is an ideal trolling speed. I have a 50 hp. Honda 4-stroke and have been testing this new device for four years with great success.

A heavy-duty electric gear motor controls the plate from a switch on your dash. You can go from trolling speed to full cruising speed with the flip of a switch. No more need for an expensive second motor.

It's easy to install yourself. Comes with full instructions. Shipping weight is 28 lbs. It's made from precision laser cut stainless steel so all parts are rust-proof. Sells for \$649. (Robert Rottinghaus, Clever Tech, Inc., 4121 S. Canfield Rd., Jesup, Iowa 50648 ph 319 827-1311; fax 319 827-2425)

I use a Dremel mini grinder with a small drum to smooth and thin the skin around the corners of my fingers. Works great to eliminate painful cracking of skin. (William D. Luebbe, Utica, Neb.)

was disappointed to see that you think it's a newsworthy idea to completely cover a horse with the chemicals found in textile dyes and shoe polish. (Howard Waterman, Halifax, Mass.)

I was given a flat belt pulley from a Ford 8N with an angle shaft and decided to



use it to power my 1920's grist corn mill. The pulley's angle shaft bolts up to the pto shaft on the rear of my older Ford tractor. I mounted it on a 3-pt. hitch system and used a pto shaft assembly from a small fertilizer spreader. I use the top link on the 3-pt. to adjust the flat belt tension. (Wayne A Beggs, 3378 Augusta Hwy., Lincolnnton, Mass. 30817 ph 306 359-1240)

I've discovered that an ordinary bale hook works great for handling or stacking chunks of firewood. It saves a lot of bending over and makes the work a lot easier. We use the hook the same way you would use it on hay. If you're strong or ambitious, you could use a hook in each hand and handle twice the wood in the same amount of time. But using a hook is especially handy for a one-armed man, which I am. (Loren Lee, Georgetown, Minn. 56546)

A local machine shop helped me build markers for our air seeder. To control the markers, I made up a box with two



indicator lights that wire to a toggle switch. The switch bolts to a hydraulic lever that I use to control the markers. To work the markers, a main power switch is turned on, then the toggle switch is turned up and the left indicator light comes on. The hydraulic lever is pulled back and the marker is extended. To operate the other marker, you just flip the toggle switch the other way and activate the lever. (Brian Lesiuk, RR1, Gilbert Plains, Manitoba, Canada R0L 0X0 ph 204 548-2695)



As regards the woman who painted a flag on the side of a horse (Vol. 25, No. 6), I

Here's an idea we came up with for when we go away in winter. We have a



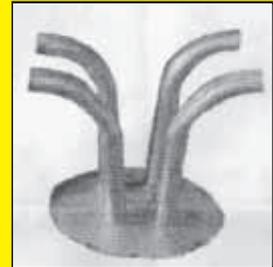
Being 75 plus years of age, I've now reached the point that it's time to use mechanical and other means to substitute for muscle power. My 19 hp Kubota 4-WVD tractor had dealer-installed hydraulics for lifting a snowblower. I simply rerouted the hoses so I could operate a custom-built, hydraulic dump bucket that mounts on the tractor's 3-pt. hitch.

The bucket is 48 in. wide. A metal shop

shared the steel for the top, back and bottom of the bucket. The front, bottom edge of the bucket is faced with 1 1/2-in. hardened steel ground to a cutting edge. The lift cylinder has a 13-in. extension. It saves a lot of time and effort in moving gravel and dirt. My total cost for this project was less than \$200. (T.E. Salsman, Southern Tool and Engineering, 124 Jolly Ridge Road, Richmond, Ky. 40475 ph 859 624-1145)

neighbor watch our house. To save him from having to check the house to make sure the furnace is working, I wired a spare mercury thermostat to a strobe light, that I mounted on the peak of the house. The 12-volt light is powered by a pair of 6-volt batteries hooked in series. It's easily visible by my neighbor if it goes off. I set the thermostat at 40°. If the temperature falls below that, the light goes on and he can tell at a glance that something is wrong.

This idea would work on any farm building - barn, greenhouse, etc. (A.E. Allan, Box 155A, RR6, Edmonton, Alberta T5B 4K3 Canada)



I came up with this boot dryer for my own use and it worked so well, I put it on the market. It's made from an old disc blade and muffler-gauge pipe. You simply place it over a floor heating vent. It works great, is maintenance-free and costs nothing to operate.

I sell the boot dryer for just \$29.95. (Gary Krehbiel, 3461 SE 120th St., Spivey, Kan. 67142 ph 620 532-3317)

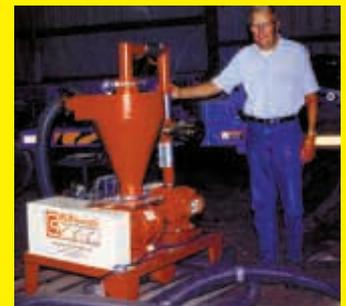
We've had the same problem as the farmer in your last issue who had a mower fire. Here's how I solved the problem.

Cut the skirt off the trailing edge of the mower. This lets the cut material exit sooner and reduces the power used. Never put oil in the gearboxes. Fill the gearboxes full of the same grease that you use in other parts of the tractor or mower. With this program my gearboxes do not even get warm.

The result is that I can cut 4-ft. CRP grass at about 8 mph using a 13-ft. Bush Hog mower and a 100 hp tractor with no more fires. (L. Simpson, P.O. Box 97, Amsterdam, Mo. 64723 ph 660 267-3622)



Thanks for your article in the 2002 Best of FARM SHOW on my "Grabatube" grease cartridge dispenser and my air filter for Gleaner cabs. Unfortunately, the Website listed was wrong. The correct Website address for our company is: www.JerryBrandonFarms.com. (Jerry Brandon, 2254 FM 2363, Quanah, Tex. 79252 ph 940 674-2457; E-mail: jbranon@srcaccess.net)



Our new remote control for seed vacs makes it much easier to load and unload seed. Called the "Touch & Blow Seed Stop", the control unit attaches to existing seed vacs. It lets you start and stop the flow of seed from wherever you stand, with no need for switches and wires. Just the hand-held remote. It works from a distance of up to 250 ft. Currently available on Brunematic Seed Conveyors but is available for other seed vacs as well. (Seed Stop, Inc., 20664 190th St., Allison, Iowa 50602 ph 319 267-2530 or 267-2495)