

With a little training, cattle eventually associate siren with food and come running when called.



## “Cow Siren” Calls Cattle In To Feed

If you feed cattle on pasture, you'll be interested in this new cow siren that can be used to call cattle in from far away. It operates off your pickup's battery and comes with mounting brackets that let you mount it on the head-ache rack behind the cab.

The siren is made from stainless steel and measures about 8 in. in diameter. It's activated by simply flipping a toggle switch in the cab.

"It works like a whelper on a police car and makes a pretty loud noise that your cattle will eventually come to associate with food," says Ronald Clark, Longhorn Trailer & Body

Co., Wichita Falls, Texas. "It works a lot better than rolling down the window or getting out of your pickup to yell to the animals."

How far the sound travels depends on how much wind there is and which way it's blowing, says Clark. "If there's no wind, you can hear the siren a long way off," he notes.

Sells for \$65 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Longhorn Trailer & Body Co., 1141 Sheppard Access Rd., Wichita Falls, Texas 76304 (ph 800 772-0855 or 940 322-5259; website: www.longhorntrailer.com).

## Truck Snowplow Mounts On Deere 4240

Ken Allison used to rent a snowplow truck to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. That's how he ended up with an 11-ft. snowplow blade. One day he decided to see if he could mount it on his Deere 4240.

"It probably weighs half a ton, so I was concerned about the weight of it, but then realized it wasn't any heavier than putting a front-end loader on the tractor and carrying round bales," Allison explains. "It took about four hours to mount the snowplow frame on the tractor, and the only thing I had to buy was a longer hydraulic hose for the snowplow lift cylinder. I also had to do some welding to brace it up to the frame of the tractor.

"I've since used the tractor to plow snow for the township and they say I do as good a job as a grader."

Allison also has a 3-pt.-hitch "back blade" that he uses mostly for weight and traction. However, he says it's very handy for plowing around buildings where you can back in and pull snow away from the building.

"I'm happy with the way the truck blade works on my tractor, but if I was to change something it would be to have a front wheel

assist tractor – right now, I have to run with chains all the time," he says. "I'd also prefer a power angle plow so I could push snow in either direction. Right now, I can only push it to the right."

Allison knew that when the blade was taken off for the summer, he would want to move round bales, so he set about making modifications that would accommodate this. Because the snowplow frame's cylinder was only single action (for lifting), Allison added a spring to pull the lift arm down.

"Then, I bolted on a bracket for a commercially pre-made 4-ft. spear attachment. The spear itself is easily removable by loosening one big nut," he says. "I also welded a piece of pipe on the side of the snowplow frame to carry the spear when it's not in use."

Using the same basic design as a commercial unit, Allison built a carrier on the back of his tractor so he could also transport two more bales there.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Allison, 3020 Pumptown Rd., Fairmount City, Penn. 16224 (ph 814 275-3762; email: kanddallison@yahoo.com).

## Cheap Combine Snowplow

A New York farmer came up with an inexpensive snowplow by mounting the 10-ft. wide wing off a state highway truck plow on front of an old New Holland 975 combine.

Stephen Childs, of Bliss, made the conversion last summer. "It's big and heavy and walks right through deep snow," he says.

Bliss bought the plow wing from a neighbor who had been using it on front of his tractor. He modified the brackets already made by that farmer to fit the combine's feederhouse brackets.

"It was a cheap way to get a snowplow," says Childs. "We live east of Lake Erie where we get a lot of lake-effect snow, so we use it a lot. I paid \$50 for the wing. I bought the combine for \$200 from another neighboring

farmer who I had worked for in the past. I had operated the combine many times so I knew it would be a good fit. I had to replace the wheels and also gave the engine a tune-up. One thing I don't like is that the wing mounts solidly to the feederhouse mounting brackets, so if I catch it on a rock it won't give. I may remount the wing so that it's spring mounted. I also plan to mount a flatbed on back of the combine.

"I had been using a Case-IH 255 4-WD tractor equipped with a 3-pt. mounted, 5-ft. blade. It's a lot nicer to have the blade in front of me and to ride in a nice cab."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Stephen Childs, 6207 Horton Rd., Bliss, N.Y. 14024 (ph 585 322-7615 or 585 786-2251).

## Solar Shelter Keeps Cats Cozy

Duane and Betty Stewart of Busby, Alberta, have some of the most comfortable cats around.

Their solar cat shelter stays warm in winter, thanks to their "hot house" idea of incorporating a slanted glass face into the front of the shelter, which also features a "secret under-floor passageway" for getting in and out.

The animal enters through a hole covered by a rubber flap at the back of one side, walks diagonally across the ground level "basement," and enters the solar-heated area through a hole in the corner of the upper level floor. Inside, they are treated to a "pet bed" and a big dish of food. The "room with a view" protects them from wind, rain, snow, etc., and yet allows them to see what's going on in the yard.

The back side of the angled roof is shingled. The whole unit measures 28 by 24 in. deep by 37 in. high.

The hinged window panel lifts up for easy access.

During the summer the Stewarts just turn the shelter sideways to get the glass out of the direct sun, and prop a piece of wood under that panel to allow air circulation.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Duane and Betty Stewart, Box 97, Busby, Alberta, Canada T0G 0H0 (ph 780 939-6730).



Back side of angled roof is shingled. Whole unit measures 28 by 24 in. deep by 37 in. high.



Because of shelter's glass face, cats remain warm in winter yet can see out into the yard.



In addition to front blade, Allison's 4240 also has a back blade that's used to pull snow away from buildings.

Allison attaches spear to snowplow bracket during summer to transport bales.



Entire combine snowplow cost owner Stephen Childs only \$250.