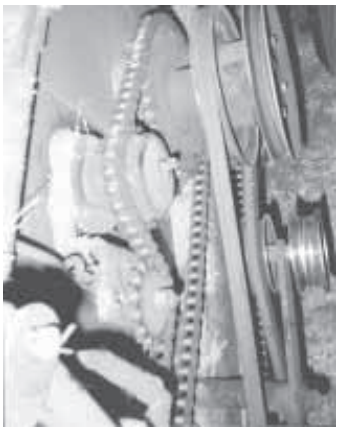


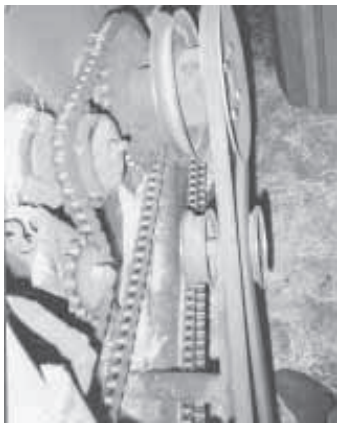


Photo at left shows normal belt operation. When baling short straw, Storch moves belt to add-on pulley and idler, right.

Pulley Change Lets Him Roll Up Short Straw

Baling short small grain straw has been a problem for Edward Storch, Mannville, Alberta, especially the last couple of years when his crops have been stunted by drought.

"We bale straw with a Case IH 8460 big round baler. When the windrows are light and the straw is short, the belts throw the straw back out again and you can't get a bale started," he says.

Storch solved the problem by slowing down the belt speed in relationship to the speed of the baler pickup.

He says making the change wasn't a huge problem. "I bolted on pulleys of a different size to the drive pulleys that run the belts," he says.

He says the hardest part was determining the size of pulleys he needed in order to slow down the baler belts, while maintaining the proper pickup speed by using a lower pto speed.

Changing the drive belt from one set of pulleys to another takes less than a minute, since the baler has a belt tightener pulley on a spring that can be released with a wrench or even your foot.

"I was able to bale barley straw that was only 5 or 6 in. long after I made the change," he says. "I'd never been able to do that before."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Edward Storch, R.R.4, Mannville, Alberta, Canada T0B 2W0 (ph 780 763-2214; email: storchkn@telusplanet.net).

CB Radio Irrigation Alert System

"It saves me a lot of trips to the field in the middle of the night," says Eldon Ekins, who recently called FARM SHOW to tell us about a CB radio alert system he rigged up that automatically lets him know when one of his flood irrigated fields has enough water.

Ekins notes that the watering time for each field varies with stream size, soil conditions, weather, etc. He wanted to reduce the number of trips he had to make to the field while irrigating.

The CB radio system consists of three components: a CB radio at home; another CB radio in the field; and a float/switch unit that activates the radio in the field. The field radio is powered by a small 12-volt battery. The radio, battery, antennae, and alarm are all housed inside a waterproof container. The battery is wired to the float/switch, which is housed inside a 2-ft. length of 4-in. dia. PVC pipe.

The radio in the field is set to transmit full time and is without power until water elevates the float to the point where it completes a circuit that supplies power to the radio.

Ekins made the float from a small aluminum rod with a sealed empty pop can affixed to the bottom and guided vertically by two eyelets. He drilled a 1/16-in. dia. hole in the top of the pop can so it fills with water and settles back down, shutting off the radio after a few minutes. "It works as well as I had hoped it would and eliminates the need to keep constant vigil on the field," says Ekins.

"Before I came up with this system I shopped around for electronic gadgetry for the components, but I found that high tech materials would've cost $1,000 to $3,000. The total investment for my homemade version was about $250."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Delta Egg Farm, LLC, 9246 North 4000 South, Delta, Utah 84624 (ph 435 864-4991; fax 435 864-4994).

"No Drill" Spare Tire Carrier

There's no need to crawl under your pickup to get a spare tire with this new spare tire carrier that's designed to stand the tire up against one side of the bed.

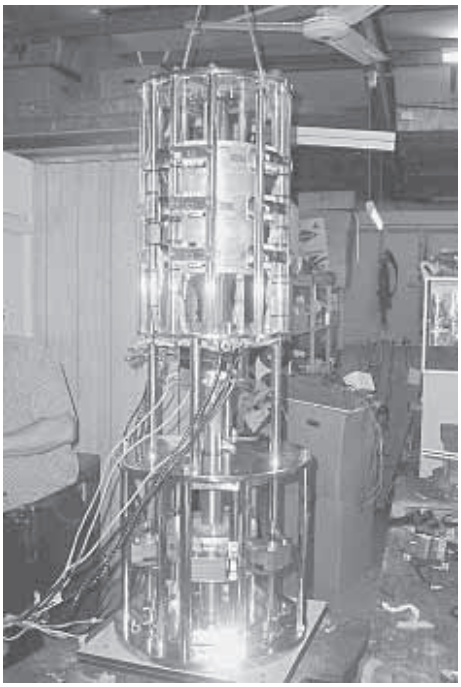
No drilling is required to install the unit, which clamps in place along the side of the box. It can be positioned in front or back of the wheel well. "There are other tire carriers designed to hold the tire in the bed, but you have to drill holes in the bed to install them," says inventor Don Brown.

Sells for $24.95 plus $7.50 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Two Hills Limited, 500 4th St., Box 214, Elliott, Iowa 51532 (ph 712 767-2420; email: twohills@netins.net).

Carrier is designed to stand spare tire up against one side of pickup bed.

Revolutionary new Lutec 1000 electrical generating unit is based on a combination of electromagnets and permanent magnets. It reportedly produces about 1,000 watts per hour more than it uses. The power of the permanent magnets and the copper windings are the keys to its efficiency, inventors say.



Make Your Own Electricity For Free?

A couple of Australian inventors are creating an international sensation with a revolutionary new electrical generating unit that they say produces more power than it consumes, something physicists say is not possible but which tests appear to confirm.

Called the Lutec 1000, this is not a Rube Goldberg contraption. Inventors Lou Brits, an electrician, and John Christie, a mechanical engineer, came up with the concept more than six years ago. Based on a combination of electromagnets and permanent magnets, their fifth and latest version of the motor/generator operates continuously, producing about 1,000 watts per hour more than it uses, or 24 kW per day. The power of the permanent magnets and the copper windings are the keys to its efficiency, they say.

The coil magnets use a mild laminated cool core wound with copper in such a way that they become temporary magnets with a like polarity to the permanent magnets at a crucial moment, so allowing the permanent magnet to be repulsed. Therefore they have a natural magnetic attraction and a natural magnetic repulsion. The stator is made of anon-magnetic material. They use 24 permanent magnets and 12 coil magnets. This arrangement allows the magnets to be repelled by the natural magnetic repulsion to generate power.

The magnets create a ping pong effect that allows less energy to be used in producing power. The coil magnets that are pulsed for just a micro second do not allow repulsion with the permanent magnets. The electricity is produced by induction. There's no heat, harmful emissions or airborne matter involved in the transmission of electricity from the generation system. The magnets have a life of 1,300 years and the small battery pack has a life of about five years.

The Lutec 1000 runs cool, creates no exhaust or other pollution, and the permanent magnets have a life expectancy of more than 1,000 years. Brits and Christie use it to charge a battery pack. DC current from the batteries is converted to AC current with an inverter, so no changes are required to current wiring.

The pair were recently granted patents in the U.S. Their patent is also recognized in most of Asia and Aftrica. They are now negotiating with a U.S. company to produce and market their machine. Christie reports that if all goes according to plan, the Lutec 1000 should be available in North America within the next year or so.

Brits and Christie, who hail from small towns near Cairns (along Australia's northeast coastal area) figure their generating unit will sell for under $5,000, making it affordable to most homeowners. Because it will produce more power than most domestic electricity users can consume, they figure Lutec 1000 owners will be able to help pay for their machines by selling electricity back to the power grid.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Lutec 1000, Box 2288, Cairns, Queensland, 4870 Australia (email: info@lutec.com.au; website: www.lutec.com.au).

"How I Keep Birds Out Of My Shed"

"We've had problems with birds in our pole-type machine shed ever since it was built over 20 years ago. At dusk every evening, scads of sparrows would fly in, resulting in layer upon layer of bird droppings on machinery and other stuff stored inside.

"So we were interested in the report in FARM SHOW's Vol. 26, No. 5 about a farmer who started feeding his cat up in the rafters of his machine shed in order to scare birds away.

"We're happy to report that this idea is working in our shed, too. We placed 12-in. wide strips of plywood along the full length of our shed in the upper part of the rafters and a suitable ladder-type scaffold on one end for our cat to easily climb up.

"To get our cats to go up into the rafters, we put meat scraps all along scaffolding that leads up to the top of the rafters. Our two cats soon had the courage to reach the top for more feed.

"Now our two cats are up there every afternoon waiting for dusk when we feed them. Only two or three sparrows ever show up any more and they take off in a hurry. So no more spotted machinery.

"We're now looking for a self-feeder because we have to climb 20 ft. up to fill the feed dish."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, L. Little, Box 112, Carrot River, Sask., Canada S0E 0L0.