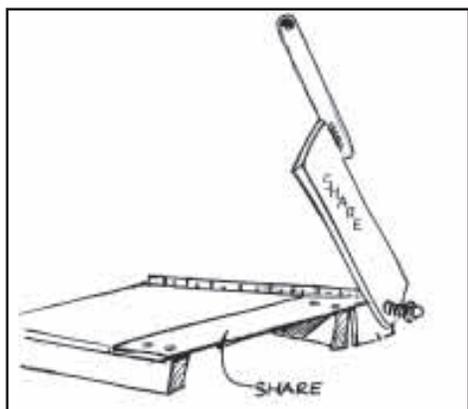


"It works much like a paper shear except that it's much more heavy duty. It makes nice, clean cuts," says West.



Plow Share Shingle Shear

Kevin West, Covington, Ohio, used the shares off an old moldboard plow to build a shear for trimming asphalt shingles.

West does handyman jobs for people in his area, including re-roofing jobs. He uses his homemade shingle shear when working on top of a roof.

"It works much like a paper shear except that it's much more heavy duty. It makes nice, clean cuts," says West.

The cutting table is made from a pair of 2 by 4's spaced about 20 in. apart and covered by a piece of 1/2-in. thick plywood. One plow share forms the cutting edge, while another share is brought down against it to trim the shingle. A metal pipe welded to the top of this share acts as a handle. A small piece of

steel plate is welded to the bottom back end of the "cutting edge" share. A bolt with a stiff spring attached to it goes through both pieces to form a pivot point.

"It works a lot better than using a utility knife. Commercial asphalt cutting shears aren't built as heavy and sell for \$300 or more," says West. "The only limitation is that it's a little heavy when climbing a ladder to get the unit up onto a roof. If I were to build another one, I'd cut the shares in half lengthwise to reduce the weight."

West is willing to make plans available for a small fee.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kevin West, 1915 Leonard Rd., Covington, Ohio 45318 (ph 937 676-3434).



Scaffold stands about 8 ft. above the loader bucket, which means a person standing in it can reach up to about 27 ft.



Loader-Mounted Scaffold Made From Truck Lift Cage

A loader-mounted scaffold built from an old truck lift cage saves a lot of time for John Swanson of Cedar Point, Iowa.

"It's a lot safer than a ladder, and I have a lot of room to work. I can have everything with me," says Swanson, who says his brother Ron and father-in-law David Karr helped with the project.

The scaffold measures 3 ft. wide by 5 ft. long and 42 in. high and stands about 8 ft. above the loader bucket. It bolts to the bucket and can be easily removed for storage. There's a safety railing around the top.

The cage came complete with floor, sides and door. The cage bolts onto steel legs via metal plates welded to both the cage and legs. There are four bolts in each plate. A pair of steel reinforcement bars extend at an angle from the top of the loader bucket to the cage for added strength. Holes were drilled in the bucket floor so the legs could be bolted on.

The men also welded rungs on front of the legs to form a ladder.

"We can get two or three men in the basket, along with all the tools we need. If we need something extra we have a bucket on a rope that we can send down for additional tools," says John. "The bucket can reach about 12 ft. high so a man standing in the scaffold can safely reach up about 27 ft."

"We've used it for a variety of jobs. When a tornado came through causing trees to fall onto our home, we used the scaffold to reach the roof. We had a steel roof put on about a year ago, and the roofers used the man lift to do much of the work. It also works great for trimming and topping trees. My wife has even used the scaffold to paint our two-story farm house."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Swanson, 5681 32nd Ave., Center Point, Iowa 52213 (ph 319 443-2540).

Rebuilt Moisture Meter 5 Times More Accurate

For more than 50 years, farmers and grain buyers have relied on the Model 919 Moisture Meter, and been frustrated by it at the same time. A new retrofit promises to improve accuracy and eliminate user frustration.

"We take out the meter movement and chassis and replace it with a digital board and a new set of electronics with digital readouts to replace the meter movement," explains Bill Fraser, Quantum Electronics. "You used to have to play with the drum dial to find the low point. This resulted in needle error. Our digital readout centers automatically on zero and is five times more accurate."

Quantum introduced the retrofit in November this past year with a postcard campaign and was inundated with orders. Demand remains high at \$395 plus tax for a retrofit versus \$4,000 for an all-new competitive digital meter.

This is the only available digital upgrade for the Model 919, which was first introduced in 1951. The upgrade fits both Labtronics and Motomco versions of the meter.

"There are hundreds of thousands of old Model 919's still in use," says Fraser. "We



Digital upgrade for Model 919 moisture testers fits Labtronics and Motomco versions of the meter.

are also in the process of building our own digital version of a new one."

In the meantime, Quantum offers a 100 percent guarantee of satisfaction on the retrofit. Try it for a year, and if you don't like it, they promise to refund your money.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bill Fraser, Quantum Electronics 90, 715 10th St. Brandon, Manitoba, Canada R7A 4G7 (ph 204 727-7828 or 866 919-4919; email: info@919.ca; website: www.919.ca).

"Tornado Turtle" Provides Emergency Shelter

Most people worry about whether their tornado shelter will stand up to cyclone-forming winds, but not Bruce Carmichael of Lebanon, Mo. His Tornado Turtle has already been tested at Texas Tech University's Wind Science Department. It passed the government's tests, including being hit by 2 by 4's shot from something akin to a 250 mph ground speed tornado. Carmichael says the 2 by 4's exploded when they hit the shelter, which is made from 12-ga. galvanized steel molded into a dome shape with a steel bottom.

The windowless 1/4-in. spring loaded steel plate door locks from the inside or outside. It's 32 in. high and 5 ft. wide. The 8-ft. long shelter weighs 680 lbs. and holds approximately 6 adults, four children and a dog.

Ground augers anchor the shelter. Or it can be covered with dirt.

"The Tornado Turtle has no lift even during an F-4 tornado. You would be unaffected by the storm if you were inside," Carmichael says.



Carmichael's shelter passed government tests which means it could withstand an F-4 tornado.

Sells for \$2,500 plus shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Starlite Enterprises, 750 W Madison St., Lebanon, Mo. 65536 (ph 417 532-5094; fax 417 532-8486; website: www.tornadoturtle.com).

Cutterbar Slides Easier On New Roller Guides

A new Roller Guide system designed for the popular SCH EasyCut cutting system replaces the spacer bars that normally support the knifeback in cutter bars. The new guides are designed to extend the working life of the cutterbar.

"Switching to Roller Guides reduces knifeback wear and breakage, allows the knife to slide between guards easier with less friction, requires less power, and reduces platform vibration," says Dave Burgei, president.

The all-steel construction Roller Guides are made with a hardened roller, sealed bearings and a cap to keep dirt out. Roller Guards are priced at \$14.50 each and installed every 18 in. Installation is a simple matter of removing two knife guards and the spacer bars, which are held in place with the guard bolts. The roller guards are then secured when the



Rollerguards sell for \$14.50 apiece, installed every 18 in. on cutterbar.

knife guards are reinstalled.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, S.I. Distributing Inc., 03221 Barber Werner Road, St. Marys, Ohio 45885 (ph 419 394-2989 or 800 368-7773; email: info@sidist.com; website: www.sidist.com).