



Converted hospital gurney can be used to haul "just about anything" says Earl Klase.

Hospital Gurney Trailer

"My wife Arlene is a registered nurse and she tipped me off that the hospital where she worked was having a medical garage sale. We ended up buying an old hospital gurney and I used it to make a large yard wagon that will haul just about anything," says Earl Klase, Galena, Mo.

He attached a set of lawn mower wheels to a plywood flatbed and then attached the gurney frame to the plywood the same way it was originally attached to the bed. The

head and foot rails lift on and off and both sides slide down to the ground for easy loading and unloading. Everything locks into place for hauling.

"This wagon is safe, stable and mighty handy. Folks have graciously volunteered to take it off my hands, but I think I'll hang onto it," says Klase.

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Walking Plow Drains Pond

When Dave Hayes of Zeoring, Iowa, decided to drain a boggy patch of ground near his house, he called on a couple of innovative neighbors, Ray Obrecht and Charlie Fee.

Obrecht owns a vintage walking plow and they decided to use it to bury a length of 5-in. dia. plastic drain pipe.

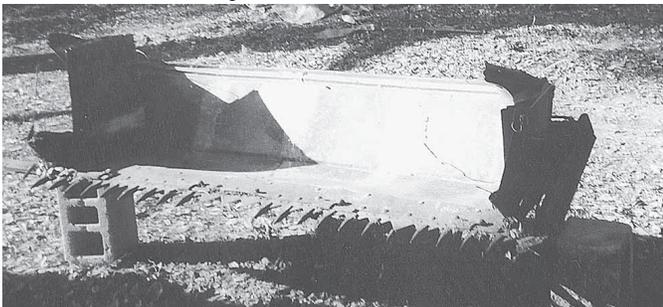
They hooked the plow up to a backhoe bucket on back of a tractor and guided it for 200 ft. to a small stream that the boggy area now drains into.

Fee, who grew up working behind a walking plow in the hills of eastern Kentucky, said Obrecht laid out a much straighter furrow



Walking plow hooks up to backhoe bucket on back of a tractor.

than his old mule used to. After laying pipe in the furrow, they covered it back up by turning the furrow back.



To harvest hair indigo - a coarse legume that can grow to 5 ft. tall - Bernard Boston built a seed stripper that bolts to the front of his tractor.

Simple Stripper Grabs Tough-To-Harvest Seed

Hairy indigo - a coarse legume that can grow to 5 ft. tall - makes great feed for cattle thanks to its 16 percent protein stems. Growing it is easy, too, but the seed is expensive at \$85 for a 50-lb. bag. The seed can be harvested and saved before the crop is cut, but it's murder on combines.

"I couldn't get anybody to combine it," says Bernard Boston, a north central Florida cattle producer. "It grows like a bush with stems the size of your finger. It blooms, and then seeds grow up and down the stem. It will beat a combine to pieces."

If he wanted to save seed, Boston realized he needed to build his own seed stripper. His solution was a simple framework of 2 by 4's that he could bolt to the front of his tractor in place of weights. Attached to the framework is a rounded galvanized tin bucket to catch seed, stripped off by an old combine cutterbar that's attached to the front edge of the bucket. The entire unit is about 8 ft. wide.

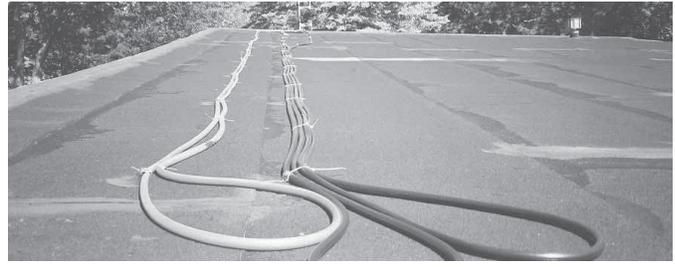
"The tin seed catcher and the cutter bar are mounted at about a 45° upward angle," explains Boston. "As the stems slip through the sickle bar, the seeds are simply stripped off."

The system is simple and requires a little hand labor. At the end of each row, Boston scoops the seed into a sack. A simple 4-sided platform on the tractor's 3-pt. hitch stores sacks until the field is finished.

Boston used to interplant the indigo in cornfields. After the corn was picked, he would cut the indigo and bale it along with the corn stalks.

"Cows loved it and would eat the indigo stalks," says Boston. "Now I plant it with rye. The rye comes up first, and I turn the cows in to eat it. Then the indigo comes up, and I harvest the seed before cutting the field."

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About 300 ft. of black garden hose is laid out across Denise Mendenhall's roof, where it heats up under the sun.

Simple Way To Solar Heat A Pool

Denise Mendenhall of Fort Dodge, Iowa found an inexpensive, easy way to keep her swimming pool at a comfortable temperature at virtually no cost.

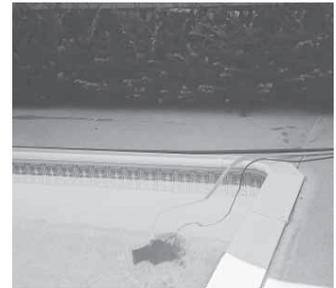
She spotted the tip in an online newsletter, "Dollar Stretcher for Parents."

"We use 300 feet of black garden hose laid out across our roof. A spray nozzle on the end of the hose restricts the flow so the water has time to heat up in the sun," says Mendenhall.

To fill the pool or to top it off, Mendenhall simply attaches the hose to the faucet on her house. Water heats up to 85 or 90 degrees, depending on the day. The end of the hose that's in the pool slowly releases water through the spray nozzle.

To warm existing pool water, Mendenhall attaches one end of the hose to a pond pump, which sits in a corner of the pool and pumps water up to the roof and then back into the pool.

This system can also work well for small, portable children's pools, according to



A submerged pump circulates water through the solar heated hose.

Mendenhall.

"We fill our grandchildren's plastic kiddie pool with warm water on a moment's notice as their parents drive them to our home," she says.

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Bucket-Mounted "Chain Box"

This new "Chain Box" keeps chains neatly stored out of the way on back of a loader bucket.

"It provides the convenience of always having chain with you and also allows you to use only the amount of chain your job requires," says Brian MacKenzie, R. M. Wade & Co., Beaverton, Oregon.

The Chain Box comes with two 8-ft. long, 1/4-in. dia. chains with zinc-plated clevis hooks. It consists of two separate pieces - a rectangular metal box and a top "comb" that welds onto the back of the bucket. A series of slots in the comb allow you to pull out only as much chain as you need and lock it in place.

To install, you weld the comb to the bucket and then bolt the box to the comb. Lay the chain in the box through the top of the comb and then attach the chain hooks to either end of the box in the notches provided.

"It eliminates the need to carry chains on the tractor and there's no worry about losing them," says MacKenzie. "The chain box is rated at 1,400 lbs. lift capacity so you can wrap the chain around big objects and lift with the loader."

The chain box sells for \$169.95 plus S&H.



"Chain Box" on back of loader bucket provides the convenience of always having chain with you.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, R. M. Wade & Co., 10025 SW Allen Blvd., Beaverton, Oregon 97005 (ph 800 547-8311; cell phone 971 409-8175; bmackenzie@rmwade.com).

How To Burn A Tree Stump

Getting rid of big tree stumps is easy, but you have to have patience, says Roger Ford, Cosby, Mo.

"First, the stump should be good and dry and it helps if the weather has been dry so the ground and roots are also dry. You need a metal livestock water tank about 7 ft. in dia. Put some brush around the stump and a couple small straw bales. Pour on a bit of diesel fuel to get the fire started, drop the tank over the top, and block up one side of the tank 3 to 4 in. to keep air flowing in.

The fire may smolder for weeks. Last spring we burned a 30-in. dia. elm stump and it smoldered for 31 days. When we took the tank away, it has burned 2 ft. into the ground and into the root cavities about 2 ft. additional back into the ground. We've had several other stumps also burn for three weeks or more."

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