"Grain Buggy" Feeds Corn Burning Stoves

"It works great for fueling corn burning stoves and to haul feed to livestock. And it's light enough to pull behind any small pickup or small SUV," says Neil Junkin, Hock Farm Supply, Bertrand, Neb., about his 2-wheeled Grain Buggy.

The 8-ft. high unit can hold up to 65 bu. of corn and has an easy-to-fill, large top opening. It comes with a 2-in. ball receiver, a ladder on front, and a treated wood trailer floor for storing bags, etc. Corn gravity feeds out an opening on back. Grain discharges through a 9-in. high slide gate, which has a smaller 3-in. gate within it for reduced volume.

"It's big enough to supply a good month's supply for a corn stove. Most users dump the corn into 5-gal. buckets to carry into the house," says Junkin. "Small farmers with only a few head of livestock like it because they can hand feed their animals and buy in bulk to save money."

Sells for $1,750.

Two-wheeled Grain Buggy can hold up to 65 bu. of corn.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hock Farm Supply, P.O. Box 158, Bertrand, Neb. 68927 (ph 800 658-3175 or 308 472-3451; Neilj@hockfarmsupply.com; www.hockfarmsupply.com).

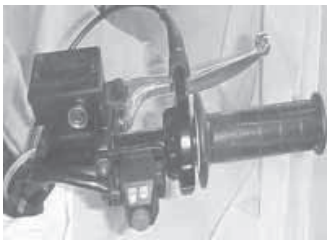
Foot Throttle Kit For ATV's

"Our new foot throttle kit for ATVs eliminates thumb fatigue, and also frees up your right hand for other uses like operating a hand gun sprayer while driving," says Arlen Mickelsen, Superior Industries, Superior, Neb.

The kit consists of an L-shaped metal bracket that bolts onto the ATV frame. A cable runs under the machine and up to the handlebars to hook onto the factory thumb throttle.

"It allows you to operate the throttle with your foot or thumb, whichever you choose, at any time," says Mickelsen. "You don't have to use your hand all the time in order to accelerate. However, you can still accelerate with your hand if you want. Customers tell us they really like it for spraying because they're able to maintain a constant speed without their thumb getting tired. They can go all day long using a foot throttle whereas with a thumb throttle, they might be able to last only an hour or so before needing a break.

"The foot throttle is adjustable up and down to fit the height of your shoe. You just loosen two screws on a metal clamp that fastens onto a small tube on the back side of the ATV's front fender. Loosening the clamp allows you to slide the foot throttle up or down the tube. It lets you set the pedal at the height you want so your foot doesn't get tired."



A cable runs from foot throttle up to ATV handlebars to control twist grip throttle.

The mounting kit and components sell for $249 to $289 plus S&H depending on ATV model. "We can custom design the kit to fit all popular 4-wheeler ATV's," notes Mickelsen.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Superior Industries, LLC, 1135 E. 3rd St., Superior, Neb. 68978 (ph 800 333-5161 or 402 879-4786; fax 402 879-4787; sopc@alltel.net).

Kramer added 1 ft. to each side of his 7-ft., 3-pt. mounted blade. Add-on hydraulic cylinder lets him easily adjust blade direction from tractor seat.

Hydraulically-Operated, 3-Pt. Mounted Blade

"My 7-ft. medium duty King Kutter 3-pt. mounted blade worked fine until I upgraded to a bigger tractor. I didn't want to spend the money for a new 9-ft. heavy duty blade so I added 1 ft. to each side of the blade, making it 9 ft. wide. I also added a 2-in. hydraulic cylinder that lets me easily adjust blade direction from the tractor seat," says Doug Kramer, Elroy, Wis.

The welded-on 1-ft. extensions are made from 1/4-in. thick steel plate and are reinforced by strips of 4-in. channel iron. He welded a length of 3/8-in. thick steel plate onto the blade's spindle to make a bracket that supports the cylinder.

"My only regret is that I didn't do this years ago," says Kramer. "I already had the cylinder and spent less than $50 to build it. A new 9-ft. blade would have cost about $1,500.

"Whether I'm using the blade for snow or gravel, the blade extensions don't bend. I added the cylinder because I got tired of climbing off the tractor to manually change the blade direction. I had to make sure that I matched the stroke of the cylinder to the blade so I don't accidentally run the blade into one of the tractor tires."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Doug Kramer, S131 Overbrook Ave., Elroy, Wis. 53929 (ph 609 462-5632 or 609 890-5435).

Adjustable palpation gate is easy to fix if any part of the system gets jostled out of position by cattle.

Adjustable Palpation Gate Is Convenient

By modifying the panels that form the alleyway behind his cattle squeeze, Steve Kenyon of Pickardville, Alberta, made a handy, adjustable palpation cage that's easy to fix if any part of the system gets jostled out of position by the cattle.

Kenyon's whole cattle handling system is portable. Because nothing is anchored solidly to the ground, the panels or squeeze sometimes get bumped out of alignment a few inches.

"Even on a permanent system, the cows can sometimes jar the squeeze, moving it a bit, and then the palpation gate no longer lines up and it doesn't hook anymore," he notes.

With Kenyon's adjustable gate, it only takes a minute and a crescent wrench to fix. "You just loosen four bolts on the back side of an angle iron catch I made, and then slide it any direction you need to, until it lines up with the spring-loaded gate handle," Kenyon says.

Directly behind the squeeze, Kenyon's handling alley consists of two 25-ft. portable steel panels. When he had them built, his builder included a 2 1/2-ft. gate on one end of one panel (which cost him only $25 extra). Kenyon placed this panel so that the "little gate end" of the panel is closest to the back of the squeeze.

On the opposite panel, he installed a two-piece angle iron catch. It has holes down the flat side which allow four bolts to be positioned so that they rest on each of the sucker rod bars in the panel, and hold the catch in place.

In the other panel, the door can be left closed and remain part of the panel itself, leaving the alleyway free and clear for cattle passage, or it can be opened into the alley and locked there solidly, using the adjustable latch Kenyon built from angle iron on the opposite panel. When it's across the alleyway, the gate forms a 2 1/2-ft. workspace (in lieu of a commercial palpation cage) behind the squeeze. Here, the operator is protected from other cows, so he can perform pregnancy checks or AI on the cow that's restrained in the squeeze.

"It's nothing too fancy, but it's fast, easy, safe, and my vet really likes it," Kenyon summarizes.

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Mark Newhall, Editor

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