



Tanks are made with zinc/aluminum coated steel and are available in sizes from 5,000 to 700,000 gal.

Water Storage Tanks

A water storage system from Australia, the driest continent on earth, is now available in North America.

Common applications include rainwater harvesting, well water storage and fire fighting water storage.

"Pioneer Water Tanks fill a need for rural, domestic, commercial, mining, fire, aquaculture, and winery businesses," says the company's U.S. manager Colin Chatfield, in Houston, Texas.

Assembled on site, tank sizes range from 5,000 to 700,000 gallons and they come with a 10-yr. limited warranty. Installation is faster than with traditional concrete tanks and they're much less likely to leak because they're able to shift with the movement of the earth.

The tanks are made with zinc/aluminum coated steel, and all components, including

bolts, are galvanized to ensure a long life.

"Wind girts" (bolt covers) are used to hide protruding bolt ends, and make the tank stronger and tamper proof.

Pioneer Water Tanks come with a dome roof design, with other options available for heavy snow and wind conditions. Foundation options include a sand pad or concrete ring beam. For tank access, customers can choose between a roof hatch, a sliding hatch, a platform, or ladders.

Pioneer Water Tanks also offers accessories such as level indicators, whirly birds, filter baskets, and tank stands.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pioneer Water Tanks, Houston Office, 650 Century Plaza Drive (Suite D100), Houston, Texas 77073 (ph 866 984-4040 or 281 784-1360; fax 281 784-1362; sales@pwtusa.com; www.pwtusa.com).



Aerator was built by welding teeth to an old 50-gal. water heater tank.

Lawn Aerator

"I had an old 50-gal. water heater tank laying around so I turned it into a lawn aerator," says Mark Peterson, Dresser, Wis. "It works great."

He punched out aerator teeth on a metal press and welded them to the water tank in alternating rows of 4 and 5. "There's about 60 pieces on it," he says. A 1-in. piece of pipe runs through the center of the tank. There

aren't any bearings on the ends. "I have to keep it greased really good," Peterson says.

He puts water in the tank for extra weight. He made the frame and hitch out of scrap metal.

Peterson pulls the aerator behind his ATV. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mark Peterson, 783 190th St., Dresser, Wis. 54009 (ph 715 755-2802).

No Sweat Fencing With Speed Brace

You don't have to dig a hole to put up a strong corner post thanks to the new Speed Brace from New Farm Products. It locks an angled T-post to any upright T-post to form a strong brace.

"Customers wanted a quicker, easier way to put up quality fence," says company representative Steve Jensen.

To install, simply drive in a heavy-duty T-post where the fence line is to end. The connector is attached to the upright by tightening a wing screw. A second T-post is placed at an angle to the upright and attached to the connector with a second wing screw.

"The connector merely holds the two posts in place," says Jensen. "The strength of the brace comes from the two posts butted against each other."

One brace is recommended for a four-line conventional barbwire fence, or up to five hi-tension electric wires. A second brace post and Speed Brace connector is suggested for five line fences and heavier duty fence lines.

Whether one brace or two, the installer attaches a length of wire near the bottom of the upright and the bottom tip of the angled post and hand tightens it. The final step is to place a block of some sort under each angle/brace post.

"You can use any kind of support from a flat rock to a piece of concrete slab," explains Jensen. "Simply picking the end of the post up even a couple of inches secures the brace post to the set post."

Speed Brace connectors are available from farm supply and hardware stores in packs of

Simple Gate Traps "Wild" Cattle

"I got tired of sneaking around trying to catch semi-wild cows," says Linda May, who solved the problem by inventing a gate that lets skittish cows in but won't let them out.

The patented gate is 7 ft. tall and 63 in. wide and chains to any type of corral. The bottom part of the gate is bent inward so cows can easily push it open.

Just put some feed on the other side of the gate and leave. "They always come and when you show up the next day, they'll be laying around waiting for you," she says.

The problem she had was that there were always one or two cows on every pasture that wouldn't come in with the rest of the herd. "Anything would scare them," May says. "But as soon as you left, they'd come out so we just set up a small section of corral with this gate to catch them."

Sells for \$195 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, May Cattle Trap, 1318 Broadway, Marlow, Okla. 73055 (ph 580 658-1414; amay@texhoma.net).



Gate chains to any type of corral. Bottom part of gate is bent inward so cows can easily push it open but can't get back out.

"Bait Stick" Drops Poison Into Vole Holes

Voiles, or meadow mice, are a big problem in the Pacific Northwest where they can devastate high value specialty crops. The most effective poison has to be dispensed hole by hole.

"Our specialty crops here in Oregon lend themselves to massive infestations," says Ron Rohde, who invented a "bait stick" poison application that makes the job easier. "A year ago our grass seed growers figured voles (which nibble on the young seed heads), cost them \$35 million in lost production."

Voiles also cause problems for Christmas tree plantations, grape vineyards and other specialty crop acres. Their populations tend to explode periodically, especially following several easy winters. With this latest spike, Rohde's bait dispenser has exploded in popularity, too. He first developed it in response to a mouse outbreak in the 1960's.

"People were putting bait in mouse holes a teaspoon at a time, and I figured there had to be a better way," says Rohde.

After a lot of experimenting, he designed a tube about 44 in. long made from metal conduit that serves as the bait reservoir. A spring-loaded base with a hole in it meters out the correct amount of bait as the base is pushed against a hole or tapped over the hole. Two setscrews in the base can be adjusted to increase or decrease the dose.

"The holes go straight down for about 1/



"Bait stick" tube has a spring-loaded base. It meters out bait as base is pushed against a hole.

2 in. and then make a right turn to the nest," explains Rohde. "The dispenser puts the bait in the hole where it needs to go."

The retired farmer makes the dispensers by hand and sells them for \$35 each plus shipping or \$30 each for larger orders. Each one will hold about 105 doses. Rohde estimates one person can treat about 1/2 to 1 1/2 acres per hour depending on the infestation.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ron Rohde, 8340 Oak Grove Road, Rickreall, Oregon 97371 (ph 503 835-3313).



Speed Brace locks an angled T-post to any upright T-post to form a strong brace.

four for around \$17. To find a retailer near you, contact New Farm Products.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, New Farm Products, Inc., 233 Hwy 151 South, P.O. Box 289, Mineral Point, Wis. 53565 (ph 608 987-2822 or 800 752-3045; nfp@farmproducts.com; www.farmproducts.com).



Connector holds the two posts in place.