

## Low-Cost Acrylic Cabs For Skid Steers

Acrylic cabs for winter from beReady Cabs keep operators warmer without chilling the bottom line. Whether four hard sides or the new design with three soft vinyl sides and one hard front panel with a windshield wiper, the after-market cabs are easy to install, and the price is right.

"Our soft sided cab with a hard front panel has a suggested retail price of \$549, while cabs with four hard sides run from \$587 to \$798," says Fred Griffin, president and owner of beReady Cabs. "Factory installed cabs can run \$1,500 to \$2,400. Plus, acrylic is clearer and more break resistant than a glass cab."

The company makes cabs for 28 different skid steer and backhoe models. The cabs install quickly with four self-tapping screws for the front door panel and bolts or Velcro for the sides.

The front panels are 1/4-in. thick acrylic, and the sides are 0.08-in. thick acrylic.

"All our cabs are available direct sale," says Griffin.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, beReady Cabs, 1636-44 Route 38,



Acrylic cab is clearer and more break resistant than a glass cab, says company.

Lumberton, N.J. (ph 866 327-3239; readyprotection@hotmail.com; www.breadyproducts.com).

## Simple Solar Firewood Dryer

Phil Jergenson's solar-powered wood dryer was a "natural development" for him.

"I've been a solar designer of all kinds of equipment for about 30 years, and lived with a wood stove for that period, too, so harnessing the sun to dry firewood was a natural combination," explains the Willits, Calif., man.

The "Jergenson Wood Drier" is a 4 by 8 by 1-ft. plywood box with a corrugated fiberglass lid set at a 30-degree angle. By facing the unit to the south, Willits says the temperature inside the solar dryer can get up to 160 degrees F, quickly drying bundles of firewood and kindling.

"The box is 32 cu. feet and holds about 1/4 of a cord. In the summer, it will completely dry the wood (from green to bone dry), in two months, depending on the thickness of the material," Jergenson says.

The wood is easy to load or unload from the dryer because he uses "Uline"-taped bundles. This special adhesive tape is made from UV-resistant material, which adheres



Plywood box has a corrugated fiberglass lid set at a 30-degree angle. Temperature inside dryer can reach 160 degrees, enough to quickly dry firewood.

strongly to itself and to the wood.

Jergenson also sells 30-yrd. rolls of Uline tape for \$3 per roll (plus shipping). He's been selling pre-built dryers locally for \$300, but he can also supply detailed plans.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jergenson Design, Phil Jergenson, Box 1029, Willits, Calif. 95490 (ph 707 459-4240; pjergenson@saber.net).

## Nifty Way To Drive T-Posts

"I hated using a hammer to drive in T-posts," says John Gipson, Gilmer, Texas. He wanted to use a front-end loader bucket to push them in but it was hard to drive them evenly.

So Gipson made a measuring pipe out of a 50-in. piece of 2 1/4-in. dia. pipe. He put a 12-in. dia. donut-shaped plate at the bottom end.

He simply slides the guide pipe over the post and has someone on the tractor push the T-post into the ground. With the ring as a guide, all the posts are the same height.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John W. Gipson, 4784 Gipson Rd., Gilmer, Texas 75644 (ph 903 762-2189).

Guide pipe slips over post and is then pushed down by loader bucket.



## Front-End Mower Chops Down Bushes

David Heisley, Creswell, Ore., needed a way to cut down an overgrown blackberry hedge that had reached over 10 ft. tall. He came up with the idea of attaching his old DR brush mower to the front-end loader of his Deere 770 and lifting it up to cut.

Heisley mounted a wood platform in the bucket, supported by metal braces that attach to the top of the bucket.

"With a little practice, I had very high berry plants down to three to four inches off the ground," he says. "It makes mincemeat out of them."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David S. Heisley, 33939 E. Heisley, Creswell, Ore.



DR brush mower attaches to front-end loader, which is lifted up to cut.

97426 (ph 541 895-3226; heis1361e@msn.com).



Pleasant Hill Farm Supply displayed some of its replacement gauges at a recent farm equipment show.

## Replacement Gauges For Antique Tractors

"We offer a wide variety of replacement gauges for antique and newer tractors. If we don't have what you need on hand, we can probably get it for you," says Tracy Carpenter, Pleasant Hill Farm Supply, Pleasureville, Ky.

The replacement gauges are designed for tractors built from the 1940's through the 1990's with some being exact reproductions of the originals.

"We carry gauges for Oliver, Fiat, Allis Chalmers, Ford, Massey Ferguson, John Deere, David Brown, International Harvester, and Case-IH tractors. We also carry tempera-

ture, oil pressure, hydraulic pressure, amperage, tachometers, and hour meters. Some are authorized factory reproductions, some are universals, but all are OEM replacement quality," says Carpenter.

Tachometers range in price from \$65 to \$200 plus S&H. Oil, temperature, amperage, etc., gauges range from \$12.50 to \$75 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pleasant Hill Farm Supply, Inc., 4968 Point Pleasant Road, Pleasureville, Ky. 40057 (ph 800 928-4467; phfsupply@aol.com; www.pleasanthillfarmsupply.com).



"Sink on wheels" is complete with a mini hot water heater. It can be moved around cattle processing barn as needed.

## Rolling Sink Has Its Own Hot Water

For only about \$475, Marc Epp and Brian Barnhardt built a handy portable sink complete with a mini hot water heater that they can move around their beef barn as needed.

Epp and Barnhardt say the sink-on-wheels works great in a cattle processing barn, but would also be ideal in a shop.

They call the unit the "Sanitizer 3000," and say it was pretty simple to build. It's 6 ft. long, 2 ft. wide and 3 ft. tall from the bottom of the cabinet to the top of the counter.

"We made the frame with 2 by 4's, 2 by 6's and Torx-head screws, before building the plywood shelves and cupboard doors," Barnhardt explains. "We used Liquid Nails to attach a pre-made countertop that we had purchased. After cutting a hole for the sink and installing it, we plumbed in the sink, faucet and water heater."

The unit receives and discharges water through garden hoses.

The mini hot water heater is a 2 1/2-gal. unit made by GE that runs off a 110-volt power cord. The amount of hot water it supplies is adequate for washing hands and cleaning up syringes, etc.

"We have the thermostat set fairly high. It seems to recharge quickly, and we're rarely without hot water when we need it," he explains. "After using it for almost a year, we're very pleased with the performance of the unit."

Epp and Barnhardt are graduate students of Kansas State University. They work in the university's Beef Stocker Unit.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Marc Epp and Brian Barnhardt, Research Assistant/Graduate Students, Kansas State University, Beef Stocker Unit, Manhattan, Kan. 66506 (ph 785 564-0302 (Marc's cell) or 785 587-7400 (Brian's cell); mepp@k-state.edu or bbb3333@k-state.edu).