

Truck Rack Converts To Tough Little Shed

By C. F. Marley, Contributing Editor,

When one of our sons no longer needed his pickup's livestock racks, he dropped them off at our place. We didn't have a use for them, either, but after looking at them for a long time it occurred to me that covering the racks with plywood would give us a tight little shed to store lawn mowers and tools.

Covering the racks with plywood was an easy job. We cut up some 2 by 6's for uprights and then sandwiched them to the rack siding, using 1 by 4's on the inside. We used 3/8-in. bolts to secure the uprights. Then we nailed the plywood to the 2 by 6's.

The roof has a 6-in. slope and is covered with roll roofing (not shown in photo).

To move the shed around we nailed on some treated 2 by 6 runners, which are angled both on front and back so that we can push the building in either direction.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, C. F. Marley, 26288 Oconee Ave. East, Nokomis, Ill. 62075 (ph 217 563-2588).



Covering a pickup livestock rack with plywood resulted in a tight little shed for storing lawn mowers and tools, says C.F. Marley.

"Squirt-On" Mouse Trap Bait

Baiting a mouse trap can be as easy as squeezing a plastic bottle, says Philip Owen, New Providence, Penn. He recently developed a new mouse trap bait that consists of liquified peanut butter in a 6-oz. plastic squirt bottle.

"Just snap off the cap and squirt the peanut butter onto the trap's trigger. One little squirt is all it takes. When you're done, just snap the cap back on and store it in your refrigerator. There's nothing to clean up afterward," says Owen. "A lot of people don't like having to contaminate a knife or spoon by using it to smear the peanut butter onto the trigger."

To make the product, Owen mixes peanut butter with vegetable oil until it's the right consistency to squirt out of a bottle.

Another advantage to liquefied peanut butter, says Owen, is that the trigger can be set lighter so it's more likely to snap. "If the trap is set too tight, mice can eat a chunk of peanut butter without setting it off."

Owen also sells liquified cheese bait, which he makes by mixing vegetable oil with Cheese Whiz. Normally, it's harder to get cheese to stay on a trap's trigger than peanut butter. Liquified cheese works much better, says Owen.



Mouse trap bait consists of liquified peanut butter in a 6-oz. plastic squirt bottle.

A 6-oz. bottle of either peanut butter or cheese bait sells for \$1.99 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Owen-Gibson, Eight Kimberley Ave., New Providence, Penn. 17560 (ph 717 786-1829; geneandphilowen@netzero.net).

Lone Howler Coyote Decoy Looks Real

Flambeau Outdoor's newest predator decoy, Lone Howler, fools coyotes - and often fools humans, too.

"It has unbelievable realism," says Zack Rednour, marketing coordinator for Flambeau, a manufacturer of products for hunters and fishermen. Wildlife sculptor Charlie Norton sculpted a life-size coyote to create the mold for Lone Howler, and the plastic bodies are realistically painted. A faux fur tail blows in the wind.

Besides looking realistic, the decoy can sound and smell like a coyote. Scent pads and an electronic predator call (sold by Flambeau) can be placed on the right, rear leg to lure in other coyotes.

"Coyotes are very territorial, and the Lone Howler, coupled with prey calls, draws them in," Rednour says. "The Lone Howler also works as a distraction to give the hunter time to get into a shooting position."

The Lone Howler is lightweight, but stable with a bungee leg locking system, which allows it to be positioned standing, sitting or laying down. The legs can be folded and secured for easy transport.



Life-size coyote has a plastic body and is realistically painted. It can even be made to sound and smell like a coyote.

The Lone Howler sells for \$99.99 and is available through Flambeau's website or through nationwide dealers. Dealership inquiries welcome.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Flambeau Outdoors, 15981 Valplast Rd., Middlefield, Ohio 44062 (ph 800 232-3474; www.flambeaoutdoors.com).

Automatic Wheel Balancers Save Money, Extend Tire Life

Centramatic Continuous Wheel Balancers have been on the market since 1985 but many people still don't know about this unique, permanent method for keeping wheels in perfect balance.

"We have a balancer on display in our offices that was used for 1.4 million miles, and we've had reports of some with even more miles on them," says Lee Quick of Centramatic. "We also display a 24.5-in. steer tire with 221,325 miles and four drive tires with 436,235 miles on them, all on the original tread."

For scientific proof, the company relies on Auburn University and their mile and a half test track. Auburn runs trucks five days a week, 24 hours a day.

"They were getting 40,000 to 42,000 miles on their tires," says Quick. "With our balancers, they went to 85,000 to 92,000 miles, depending on the type of truck."

The company makes balancers for a wide range of vehicles from light duty jeeps, pickups and Hummers to recreational vehicles, motor coaches and school buses. Of course, over-the-road semis are also a big market. The pellets are made from a combination of three different metals so they don't magnetize at high speed. The fluid lubricates the pellets, dampens vibration and helps provide balance at lower speeds.

The balancer consists of a bolt-on steel disc with a closed metal loop around the perimeter that's filled with metal pellets and fluid.

"You can balance a wheel with weights, but 20 miles down the road, you hit a hole, and you have to do it all over again," says Quick. "Our balancers have a five year, unlimited miles warranty."

The key is the free movement of the pel-



Centramatic Wheel Balancer consists of a bolt-on steel disc with a closed metal loop around the perimeter that's filled with metal pellets and fluid.

lets. Centrifugal force distributes the pellets as needed to balance the wheel and to compensate for out-of-balance conditions as they occur.

Keeping wheels in balance doesn't just extend tire life, adds Quick. It also reduces vibration, and that is important to the life of the vehicle and the driver. He says fleets that have installed Centramatic balancers have reduced maintenance costs by 25 percent. "Many of our customers get far above that," he says. "We have a customer in Florida that has a fleet that averages 225,000 miles per steer tire. Of course, they also have a good fleet manager, and they monitor air pressure closely."

Centramatic balancers fit from 14-in. to 24.5-in. wheel applications. Balancers for duals fit between the dual wheels. Prices range from \$199 to \$279.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Centramatic, 5345 South I-35W, Alvarado, Texas 76009 (ph 817 783-6396 or 800 523-8473; fax 817 783-3267; www.centramatic.com).

Turbo Burn Furnace Burns "Anything"

You can burn almost anything in a Turbo Burn outdoor furnace. This little known furnace burns anything from waste oil to corn cobs, grain, wood or coal and burns completely with almost no smoke.

"The Turbo Burn fire can reach 3,000 degrees without any damage to the steel," says Charlotte Dean. "In one two-hour burn, our TB1 model will store 750,000 btu's in the water tank and hold it for up to five days, depending on use."

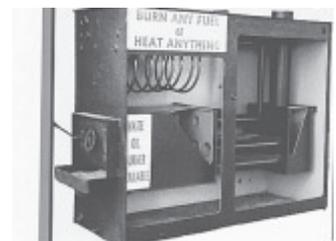
The high temperature burn is achieved by a forced draft. An insulated water jacket surrounds the firebox, flues, smoke collector and heat exchange chamber. Multiple flues carry the heat from the firebox to the smoke collector and heat exchange chamber.

The 6-ft. tall TB1, the smallest of four models at 3 by 7 ft., holds 750 gal. of water. The firebox is 12 cu. ft. It's sized to supply hot water and heat for a home of up to 4,000 sq. ft. Copper coils in the storage tank serve as heat exchangers, with one 60-ft. coil heating water for each application. A control system and pump integrated with a home thermostat circulates water through a closed loop to heat homes and other buildings.

"The Turbo Burn can be used to heat a home, hot water, pool, hot tub, greenhouse and other structures," says Dean. "It can be used in existing homes as well as in new construction, and one unit can serve multiple buildings."

The TB1 is priced at \$9,755 and includes one copper coil. Each additional coil is another \$700. The forced air furnace adapter package is \$925, and a domestic hot water package is \$495.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Turbo



Multiple flues carry heat from firebox to smoke collector. Copper coils serve as heat exchangers.

Burn, Inc., 4225 E. Joseph, Spokane, Wash. 99217 (ph 509 487-3609; fax 509 483-0148; sales@turboburn.net; www.turboburn.net).