



Electric winch mounts on side of tractor, making raising or lowering tractor's lift system as simple as pressing a button on a remote control.

## Electric Winch Operates Farmall Lift System

"When the lift system on my 1941 Farmall A tractor quit working, I solved the problem by mounting an electric winch on one side of the tractor. Now raising or lowering the lift system is as simple as pressing a button on a remote control," says Kenneth Hoppert, Plymouth, Wis.

The original lift system used the tractor's exhaust to operate a 2-ft. long cylinder mounted on one side of the tractor that lifted using air from the exhaust. The cylinder was connected to the bottom of a vertical metal bar that was part of the lift system. However, a gasket inside the cylinder became pitted and started leaking so it wouldn't work any more.

"They wanted \$70 for a new gasket, which I thought was too much," says Hoppert.

To solve the problem, he removed the cylinder and then bought a small electric winch from Harbor Freight for \$49. The winch mounts on 2 steel plates and a length of angle iron that bolt to the side of the tractor. Cable runs back to a clevis that Hoppert mounted on top of the vertical bar. "I use the tractor to plow my garden. I didn't use the plow for 2 years because I couldn't lift the plow out of the ground, but now it works perfect," says Hoppert.

The winch operates on 12 volts but the



Cable runs from winch back to a clevis mounted on top of a vertical metal bar that's part of tractor's lift system.

Farmall has a 6-volt ignition system so Hoppert replaced the tractor's original battery with the 12-volt battery from a 1993 Ford escort. "To start the tractor I either crank start it or jump the starter. I don't use the tractor often enough to justify switching to a 12-volt ignition system," notes Hoppert.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kenneth E. Hoppert, W5182 County Rd. U, Plymouth, Wis. 53073 (ph 920 893-5516).

## Oddly-Shaped Hive Is Bee-Friendly

In recent years, colony collapse disorder (CCD) has become a big problem for honeybee producers. Ron Breland, an organic beekeeper in Australia, says his new "dodecahedron" bee hive design fits the nature of bees better than conventional hives, reducing stress on them.

Breland lost all his bees in 1996, so he went looking for the cause of bee swarm losses. He says two factors were subjecting bees to unnatural conditions: widespread use of the conventional, square-cornered Langstroth bee hive and the stresses involved in transferring commercial hives to different areas, as well as feeding bees high fructose corn syrup.

He says his dodecahedron design is the kind of hive that bees would build if they could use power tools. It's a 5-sided hive built strictly for bee comfort and not for honey production. Beekeepers around the U.S. have been testing his hives and harvesting honey from them.

Breland says bees shouldn't be forced into cramming honeycombs into unnaturally square shapes, as with conventional beehive designs. His hives allow honeycombs with naturally rounded edges. The unusually shaped hives also allow bees to gather and move around in the hive in a more natural

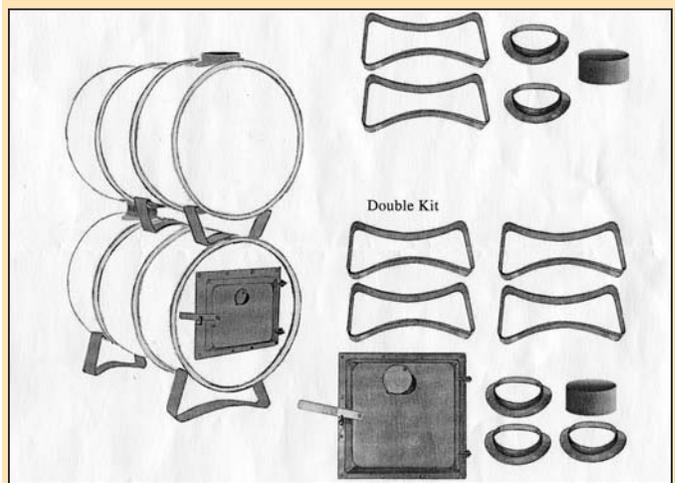


Ron Breland says his new 5-sided bee hive design fits the nature of bees better than conventional hives, reducing stress on them.

manner.

To view videos of Breland explaining the benefits of his hives, search up his name at YouTube.com.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ron Breland, 323 Strawtown Rd., West Nyack, N.Y. 10994 (ph 845 353-0513).



Do-it-yourself barrel stove kit turns two 50-gal. barrels into a high capacity wood burning stove.

## Do-It-Yourself Double Barrel Stove Kit

If you want to heat a garage, shop or other outbuilding with a wood stove but don't want to spend money on a commercial unit, you may want to check out this new do-it-yourself barrel stove kit that'll turn two 50-gal. barrels into a high-capacity wood-burning stove.

Critter Blankets Ltd.'s kit makes it easy to convert an ordinary steel barrel into an economical, high-output wood-burning stove.

"Barrel stoves have been around for some time, and provide a lot of heat. But the problem is finding good, sturdy parts to use for the door, legs and pipe connections," says Ivan Miller about his kit.

Instructions tell how to drill or cut holes to install the legs, door and the flue collar

assembly in place. All the parts except the barrel itself are supplied, including screws and bolts. "Once all the parts are in place, all you need to do is connect the stove to your flue pipe or chimney system," says Miller.

The second barrel stacked on top of the first captures heat before it goes out the chimney.

Double-barrel kit sells for \$108 plus \$18 S&H. If you have an existing single-barrel stove and want to add a top barrel, you can order a top-only kit for \$35 plus \$11 S&H. A single barrel kit is available for \$73 plus \$15 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ivan Miller, Critter Blankets Ltd., 8240 T.R. 654, Fredericksburg, Ohio 44627.

## How To "Label" Your Farm

It's a simple idea but these "storage plates" make it easy to identify bins, sheds, and containers, and eliminate confusion about what's inside them.

The pressed aluminum plates measure 11 1/2 in. long by 4 1/2 in. high and feature black-embossed letters.

"You name the sign, and we make it," says Hank Storm, CanBo Enterprises, Emerson, Man. "The signs make it easy to identify what's inside bins, fuel tanks, chemical containers, and so forth. They're especially helpful for hired help. Also, when you call the fuel company to have fuel delivered the signs eliminate any chance for confusion.

"Instead of using duct tape or cardboard, you can reuse these signs year after year."

Price per plate is \$14.50 plus S&H; signs with magnets or plastic mounting frames sell for \$22.50 plus S&H. Storm also makes "no hunting" and "no trespassing" signs with black letters on a yellow background.

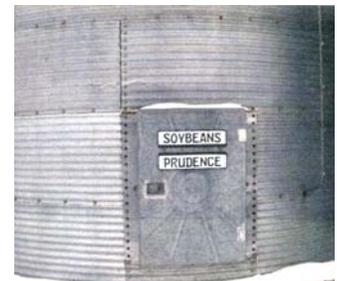
Storm also sells "driver plates" that mount on a truck's windshield or dashboard. The plates measure 20 1/2 in. long by 4 1/2 in. high and can have up to 9 characters (letters, numbers and spaces only). A clear suction-cup mounting system is included with each plate.

"Driver plates let you introduce yourself to others by letting them know who's behind the wheel," says Storm, who farms and is also a long haul truck driver. "I grew up in Germany, where these kind of plates are common. Most of the drivers are connected by 2-way radio, and they like using first names as they talk to each other. After moving to North America, I missed that sense of camaraderie."

Driver plates sell for \$15 plus \$6.50 S&H. Price includes mounting hardware. Driver plates are also available with LED illuminated letters. A plate with 4 letters sells



Signs are available with magnets or plastic mounting frames. Black-embossed letters make it easy to identify what's inside bins, fuel tanks, chemical containers, etc.



for \$70 to \$80.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hank Storm, CanBo Enterprises, P.O. Box 339, Emerson, Man., Canada R0A 0L0 (ph 204 373-2985 or cell 204 324-4352; Hanks@wiband.ca; www.driverplates.com).