

Dear Reader:

Welcome to our 33rd Anniversary "Best of FARM SHOW" issue. It's a dandy - a collection of most popular products and ideas featured in previous issues of FARM SHOW. Our first Best of FARM SHOW was published back in 1980 - three years after FARM SHOW Magazine was launched.

We've inserted handy "Reader Inquiry Cards" which you can use to order free literature and follow-up information on many of the products featured in this special issue. If you're in a hurry and need instant "where to buy" and other information, just call or write. You'll find addresses, phone numbers and websites at the end of each story.

Sincerely,

Mark Newhall

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Tractor Cab Made Into Mobile Chicken Coop

Matthew Bauer, 9, raises Rhode Island Red chickens that earned him two blue ribbons at the county fair last year. Along the way, the St. Charles, Mo., 4-H'er learned a lesson about making creative use of materials on hand.

"Matthew wanted to separate his Rhode Island Reds from the rest of the flock so he could tame them down," his father, Doug Bauer, explains.

Matthew only needed space for three hens so the old cab from a 5020 Deere tractor was plenty big enough to house them. Along with scrap 10-ft. timbers, some wire, and tires off a flail mower frame, the Bauers built a

mobile coop that rolls easily enough to move to a new spot every day.

Bauer installed screen in the cab windows so they could be opened on hot days, and a roost across the fenders. With access through the cab door, Matthew had plenty of room in the chicken tractor to spend time with the chickens so they were used to being handled.

Bauer admits he enjoyed working on the project with his son and had the opportunity to teach him something many FARM SHOW readers can appreciate.

His father taught him how to make something from nothing, Bauer says, and the project was a practical way to pass that



lesson on to his son.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Doug Bauer, 5729 Black Walnut Rd., St. Charles, Mo. 63301 (ph 636 250-3576).

Predator Eats Through Logs In A Second

Powered by a Buick V-8 engine, the giant Predator chainsaw once cut through a 30-in. log in .088 seconds.

So far, that's a record, says Robert Andrews, owner and builder of the 509-lb., 300-plus hp, 200-mph cutting monster.

The Enumclaw, Wash., resident built the saw after his wife asked him why he didn't have an engine-powered saw to use at lumberjack competitions. "About \$20,000 later she wondered why she said it," Andrews laughs.

Employed as a machinist, Andrews was up to the task. He chose a 1963 Buick V-8 215 cubic inch engine because it was the lightest weight V-8.

"It was a short block all in pieces. It all

had to be machined, so I custom-built it like a full-blown race engine."

The driving mechanism is a jackshaft off a tractor. Pulleys from a dragster's super charger drive the chain.

He purchased the biggest chainsaw chain he could – an Oregon 11H Harvester chain used in mechanized logging – and custom-built the 4-ft. bar. Running at 8,000 to 9,000 rpm's the biggest concern is breaking a chain during a cut. "When they break they act like a bullwhip," Andrews says. "At a Canadian competition, a 12-in. piece of chain flew 1 1/2 miles."

Fascination with the Predator led to a four-page spread in Hot Rod magazine. As far as Andrews knows it's the only time a chain-



saw has ever been featured in the magazine.

"I'm going to keep it forever and get young strong kids to run it," he laughs.

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