

“Lawn Chaps” Protect Legs From Weed Eaters

Anyone who has ever used a weed eater knows that sticks, rocks and other objects often fly up and hit your legs. And grass stains can ruin your shoes and socks.

Lawn Chaps are designed to solve the problem. Made from durable Marine fabric, they slip over your shoes and come with four straps. Three of the straps are adjustable and go around the back of the leg, while the fourth strap is fixed and goes under your foot between the heel and sole.

“It lets you do your weed eating in shorts without the fear of cuts or scrapes,” says inventor Don Miller. “I even have friends and customers who use Lawn Chaps for leg protection while 4-wheeling or riding a motorcycle.”

Available in brown, black, pink, and blue.



“Lawn Chaps” slip over your shoes and lower legs.

Sells for \$29.99 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Don Miller, 6540 Hill Rd., Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110 (ph 614 348-8718; info@lawn-chaps.com; www.lawn-chaps.com).

Above-Ground Round Storm Shelter

Built for strength, price and to save your life – that’s the purpose of the above ground storm shelter made by Mid America Shelters.

“Being round, it’s stronger and dissipates 40 percent of the wind. Plus, we can build it for less cost,” says Don Bundy, who partnered with Ken Lord to develop and manufacture the shelter.

Currently they sell it around their area in Sapulpa, Okla., for \$1,800, plus \$300 for installation. But with the positive response they’ve been getting, they plan to establish dealers in other parts of the country.

People are surprised by the room in the 48-in. dia. shelter. It can hold up to 6 adults standing or a couple of people on folding chairs and two people standing.

The partners have years of experience manufacturing metal, and they kept the design simple – a 3/16-in. steel shell with ribs and a cone-shaped roof. It weighs 700 lbs. and is designed to be anchored to a concrete garage floor with wedge anchor bolts.

It meets FEMA and ICC-500 standards, withstanding a 15-lb. projectile at 100 mph, comparable to a 250 mph ground speed tornado.

“Also, we have the best latching system (inside and outside) according to Texas Tech,” Bundy says. “It’s a double gravity lock slide system. Nothing can knock it open.”

Being round and above ground has several advantages, Bundy says. Many people, especially older people, don’t like to go into underground shelters. By placing it in a garage, it’s easily accessible. If it’s buried in



Mid America’s 48-in. dia. above-ground storm shelter can hold up to 6 standing adults.

debris from a tornado, people inside can bang on the metal to be heard by rescuers – or use a cell phone. There are two small, covered vents and air coming in from around the door to provide adequate ventilation.

Bundy says firefighters at a trade show remarked that it was the best design they had seen.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mid America Shelters, P.O. Box 406, Sapulpa, Okla. 74067 (ph 918 227-1919; www.midamericashelters.com).



Eddie Rowland uses a hollow pvc “cane” to deliver poison bait into mole tunnels.

Bait Cane Injector Controls Moles

Eddie Rowland used pvc pipe and poison bait to help a neighbor eliminate moles. The hollow “cane” he made for her delivers bait pellets into the tunnel with only minor disturbance of the tunnel.

“I’ve since made bait canes for others. They work great with a granular bait like Ramik rat and mouse bait,” says Rowland.

The poison delivery cane shaft is a 3 to 4-ft. length of 3/4-in. pvc pipe with one end cut at a 45° angle. Rowland installs a T-end on the other end of the shaft with one opening in

the T facing up and the other perpendicular to the shaft.

“I stick a 6-in. length of pvc pipe in the horizontal opening of the T to act as a handle and leave the vertical hole open,” says Rowland. “The user just jabs the pointed end into the tunnel and drops a couple of pellets of poison bait into the tunnel.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Eddie Rowland, 15029 Mill Swamp Rd., Smithfield, Va. 23430 (ph 757 650-7606).

Protective Sleeves For Gardeners

You can protect your arms against scratches from stickers and thorns while doing gardening work, with these new flexible, lightweight protective sleeves.

The one-size-fits-all Armed Gardener sleeves are made of 95 percent nylon and 5 percent spandex and provide a snug fit from the wrist to above the elbow. Instead of having to wear a long-sleeved shirt for protection, you can wear comfortable tank tops or tee-shirts. The sleeves are machine washable.

Armed Gardener protective sleeves come with two sets in a package and sell for \$19.95 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Armed Gardener (ph 800 803-4370 or 417 887-2980; marlene@gnvdirect.com; www.ArmedGardener.com).



Flexible, lightweight sleeves protect your arms against scratches from stickers and thorns.

Simple Idea Keeps Flies Away

Instead of spraying an entire horse with fly repellent, FARM SHOW reader Mark Davis suggests a simple idea to protect the most vulnerable place – the horse’s eyes.

He mixes a capful of an oil-base pyrethrin concentrate into a 1/2-in. thick layer of petroleum jelly.

“It’s just a little less thick than the jelly,” he says. “Then I take a generous amount and make a line under each eye and on top of the eyelids. It’s like how football players put black paint under their eyes.”

Last year he applied his concoction daily when he fed his 28-year-old black Tennessee Walker gelding and his 11-year-old white paint Tennessee Walker mare.

“I didn’t see them shaking their heads,” Davis notes, the way horses do when flies

are after them. Flies landed on other parts of their bodies, but the horses didn’t seem to be overly bothered by them.

With the right consistency, the application lasts all day, even in West Virginia’s heat and humidity. Davis says one of his goals was to reduce the use of insecticides, and he only used about 8 or 10 capfuls of the pyrethrin (a natural, plant-based insecticide) and half a jar of petroleum jelly all year.

“Make sure the pyrethrin is oil-based,” he says. “It really seems to keep the flies from congregating in the corner of their eyes, and I assume it would work on cattle or any livestock.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mark Davis, Rt. 1, Box 127A, Fisher Ridge Rd., Liberty, W. Va. 25124 (ph 304 421-1440).



Up to 9 ft. tall with leaves as wide as 5 ft., Thailand Giant Elephant Ear plants produce fragrant calla lily-like blooms.

Gardening Challenge: Giant Elephant Ear

With just one plant, you can create a mini “jungle” in your garden or backyard. Up to 9 ft. tall with leaves as wide as 5 ft., Thailand Giant Elephant Ear plants can be found in many catalogs, on websites and in nurseries. Hardy in Zones 8 to 10, they survive over winter in the warmest regions, but ambitious gardeners in colder climates can dig the plant’s tubers in the fall to plant again the following spring. Some growers plant them in pots so they can bring the whole thing inside during the winter.

Giant Elephant Ear adapts to most garden soils and thrives in hot, humid climate similar to its Southeast Asia heritage. It should be planted in sun or partial shade and given plenty of water and fertilizer. Some growers suggest planting Giant Elephant Ears in bog or water gardens.

Though best known for its giant foliage, the plant also produces fragrant calla lily-like blooms. Sells for \$12 to \$20 per plant.

Here’s one of many sources: (ph 309 834-7200; www.4seasonsnurseries.com).