



Pickup-mounted cake feeder was built from an old grain drill box. Burrell installed a 6-in. dia. auger just above drill's sloped floor and uses a car starter and a belt to drive it.



Cake feeder sets on pickup's bed rails and is about even with top of cab, allowing Burrell to park pickup in his low-ceiling garage.

Cake Feeder Built From Old Grain Drill Box

Mark Burrell, who operates a salvage yard that specializes in grain drill parts (Vol. 34, No. 6), recently sent FARM SHOW photos of a low-cost, pickup-mounted cattle cake feeder built by his friend Davis Webb and son Brock. Webb uses it to unload cake as he drives along his feed bunks.

"Webb got the idea while driving by my salvage yard and looking at the thousands of grain drills we've got on hand. He decided to make a cake feeder from an old grain drill box," says Burrell.

He says Webb wanted a cake feeder that wouldn't stick above the pickup's cab so he could park the feeder in his low-ceiling garage. "Most cake feeders are mounted on a flatbed pickup, which puts their overall height about even with the top of the cab. But if the same feeder is mounted on a pickup bed it sticks up several feet above the cab, which makes it too high to fit into most garages.

"Webb found a Deere 8300 grain drill box

in my salvage yard that he thought would be just the right height to set on the pickup's bed rails and still be even with the top of the cab. By mounting the feeder on the rails he gets full use of the 8-ft. bed to haul things underneath the feeder."

Webb didn't need any gears, shafts, feed cups, axles, and so forth so he and Burrell found a drill that Burrell had already stripped down. "It was just a bare shell when he started the project," says Burrell.

Webb cut the drill box off to fit the width of the pickup bed, then reattached the end plate and sheet metal. He then installed an old 6-in. dia. auger just above the drill's sloped floor, welding 2 short lengths of 6-in. dia. pipe inside the box ends to support the auger. An angled metal plate mounted above the auger keeps feed cubes away from the spinning auger.

Webb then installed the only new parts that he bought for the project - a car starter and a

belt to drive the auger. He cut the cast nose piece off the starter and then installed an old pulley on the starter and another one on the auger.

"The belt is twisted so that it turns the auger in the correct direction. Webb says this also gives the belt more traction, because it has more 'wrap' on the pulleys than a straight belt. He uses a switch in the cab to start and stop the flow of cake," says Burrell.

Webb's son Brock, a junior high school student, contributed several design ideas for the project. He remounted the drill's original clear sight glass to face the cab so the driver can see how much feed is left in the box. He also used his math skills, and the grain tables from the drill's operator manual, to determine the box will hold exactly 303 lbs. of feed.

Webb paid \$62 for the car starter and belt, which was his only cost. "He saved thousands of dollars on a new cake feeder that wouldn't have fit his pickup bed anyway,

while recycling old materials," says Burrell.

"Being an old Deere man I begged him not to paint the feeder, or at least to paint it Deere green, but he had to paint it black to match his pickup. In the end, his wife Christy chose the black color, since she's the one who's going to drive the pickup to the co-op to fill it up, and it will be stored in her garage."

Burrell says he still has a lot of used and new parts for old grain drills on hand. "We don't know anything about GPS, monitors, or auto steer, so don't call about that kind of stuff. Also, I still sell the popular rivet splice HD belt tools and lace for round baler belts that can be used to make repairs in the field," he notes.

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A 25-ft. long garden hose, equipped with a sprinkler attachment, hooks up to a 12-volt pump on one side of tote. A 12-volt battery is mounted on the other side.

Liquid Tote Garden Waterer

Ron Zehner needed an easier way to water his garden, which is located about 150 ft. from his house, without having to move hoses around all the time. So the Oshkosh, Wis., farmer converted a used 300-gal. liquid tote into a "watering cart" that mounts on a small trailer that he pulls behind his Deere Gator.

He shortened an old boat trailer by a few feet and mounted a 49 by 62-in. wooden deck on it. The deck boards screw down to 2 by 4 cross members that rest on top of the trailer's frame. The tote is held down by a pair of ratchet straps.

A 25-ft. long garden hose, equipped with a sprinkler attachment, hooks up to a 12-volt pump that mounts on a wooden shelf attached to one side of the tank. A 12-volt battery is strapped onto a shelf attached to the other

side of the tank.

Zehner attached a reducer to the original valve to connect to a short hose that, runs from the reducer valve to the pump, and from there up to the 25-ft. hose at the top of the tote. An adapter connects the 2 hoses together.

"It's easy to use and didn't cost much to build," says Zehner. I just park the trailer at the end of the garden and flip a switch to operate the pump. I painted the trailer and deck Deere green and yellow to match my tractors. I think the same idea could be used to water trees and to do a lot of other jobs."

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Photo shows a 26-in. bike wheel rim zip-tied to the rim of a Rubbermaid trash barrel.

Wheel Rim "Toughens Up" Plastic Trash Barrel

Kenneth Oden of Venice, Fla., recently sent FARM SHOW photos of how he reinforces the tops of plastic trash barrels using old bicycle wheel rims.

"The idea is to repair and strengthen the barrel where its top edge and handle have become either cracked or broken," he says. "It's a simple, inexpensive and strong solution to the problem."

He starts with either the bike's front or rear

wheel. He removes the tire and tube as well as the spokes and wheel hub, leaving only the bare rim. Then he force fits the rim around the top edge of the barrel and drills a half dozen or so holes through the rim and plastic barrel, securing the rim to the barrel with zip ties.

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