

Reader Letters



When weather conditions become icy and walking treacherous, I pull on a pair of used rubber boots fitted with metal ice gripper cleats that I added to the soles. It lets me walk with more confidence on ice.

I pounded 1 1/2-in. roofing nails in 3 rows into the boot heel from the inside, and 18 to 20 roofing nails in 6 or 7 rows into the front part of the boot, spacing the nails about 1 1/2 in. apart. A staple puller was used to cut off the excess length. I make sure to wear shoes with smooth soles inside the boots so they don't catch on the protruding nail heads.

As the nails wear down I replace them with new ones. The boots shown in the photo are on their third set of cleats, and I avoid walking on cement to help keep them from wearing down. I got the idea from my growing up years in the 1950's and 60's, when it was still legal for Minnesotans to put studs on car tires. **(John Lubinski, Plainview, Minn.; jilubinski@yahoo.com)**

I didn't like looking back when operating my Bobcat 763 skid loader so I installed an aftermarket backup camera. Problem solved. **(John Quinlan, 300 Curry Rd., Burgettstown, Penn. 15021 ph 724 947-3997)**

I spray the inside of my snowblower chute, auger and impellor with wax in order to keep the machine from plugging up. Another advantage of using wax this way is that the machine cleans up easier. **(Hugo Bach, 3030 33rd St., Osoyoos, B.C. Canada V0H 1V6 ph 250 498-9041; chbuba@telus.net)**

It was time to clean our KitchenAid barbecue grill for the winter in order to get rid of all the baked-on grease and drippings. So when my wife went to operate the self-cleaning cycle on our electric oven, I loaded all our grill racks and heat shields inside it. I didn't have to do any rubbing or scrubbing at all, and the grill came out squeaky clean. **(Al Cavasin, 13997 Cornell Rd., Concord, Mich. 49237 ph 517 524-6228; acavasin@frontiernet.net)**

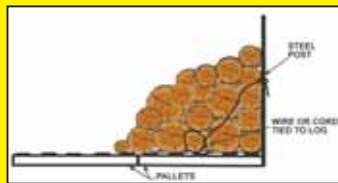


I made a "cant hook" for turning over big logs. It consists of a piece of pipe with angled bracket fitted to it. The bracket came off a garage door, with a hook attached at one end. It cost basically nothing and works great when cutting up a log with a chainsaw so you can cut half way through and then roll the log over. You can get full do-it-yourself details at this website: <https://www.instructables.com/id/Homemade-Cant-Hook-and-Optional-Log-Lifter/> **(Andy Koslowski, Califon, N.J.)**

www.instructables.com/id/Homemade-Cant-Hook-and-Optional-Log-Lifter/ **(Andy Koslowski, Califon, N.J.)**



To keep landscape bushes from freezing, we wrap them with C7 or C9 incandescent Christmas lights – the big old fashioned bulbs. The lights keep the plants from freezing and also help decorate for the holidays so they serve a dual purpose. **(Russell Spears, Magnolia, Texas)**



Here's a handy way to stack firewood on pallets with a T-post at one end. To keep the post from bending over, just tie a cord or wire to the post and connect it to a log that's buried under the stack of wood. It'll keep the post upright so you can stack as high as you need. **(Dave Linstad, Porterfield, Wis.)**



I like to build stuff in the shop. This past fall I built some replica Civil War cannons out of some old metal wheels, discarded pipe, and miscellaneous steel. They make good lawn ornaments. **(Don Perrion, P.O. Box 457, Ipswich, S. Dak. 57451)**



Thank you for featuring our low-cost Bin Buster drop pan for combines that collects chaff and straw coming out of the combine to measure grain loss. It's made from a tarp stretched over fiberglass rods, which makes it flexible so the combine wheel can run over it. There are two videos showing how it works at farmshow.com or on FARM SHOW's YouTube channel. If you're interested in buying one, get your order in early

because I'm a one-man operation. The Bin Buster sells for \$120 plus shipping. **(David J. Hofer, Baildon Colony, Box 968, Moose Jaw, Sask. Canada S6H 4P6; ph 306 693-3046, ext 509; baildonshoes@gmail.com)**

I made this lamp using the pre-cleaner off a Deere 4020 tractor. I had to remove a wasp nest when I cleaned it out. I cut out the center bolt to make room for a bulb and added a wing nut to make it easier to remove the lid. The base for the amp is a pto power shaft tube from a fertilizer spreader. A pipe runs up the center of the pre-cleaner and I used a cord from another lamp to power it. I started with a 25-watt bulb but it got too hot so I switched to a 60-watt LED bulb, which worked much better. The paint (and rust) is original so it looks great and throws out quite a bit of light. **(David Erwin, Crystal Springs, Miss.)**



I welded this nozzle holder together using an old tractor steering wheel, a length of 1/2-in. dia. steel pipe, and a 3/4-in. washer. It's so handy I made two, one for the front yard and one for the back. The flowers benefit from the showers and the rainbows they make seem to attract hummingbirds. It's a nice way to spot spray the gardens around my home. **(Rich Peterson, Plymouth, Wis.)**

I was tired of dealing with frost on my windshield. So I filled a spray bottle with a half and half mixture of Peak De-icer and Rain-Off. Now I just spray that on the frost and the wipers do the rest. Works great! **(Thomas Yacko, Catawissa, Penn.)**



Washing 300 chick feed trays that have been in a poultry barn for weeks is a big job. You have to soak them first, then scrub them clean. My new Poultry Tray Washer gets the job done in a fraction of the time.

A pressure washer hooks up to an inlet valve and sprays the trays as they pass upside down through an enclosed wash chamber. A garden hose feeds three wide angle nozzles that wash off the bottom of each tray. It's so fast you can clean hundreds of trays in a fraction of the time it takes by hand. Sells for \$1,750. Requires a pressure washer that provides 2,600 to 3,600 psi and at least 3 gal./min. **(William Thorne, 130 Jones Slough Rd., Kingston, Ga. 30145 ph 770 596-8979)**



I inherited a 40-in. 2-stage snowblower from my father that he used on an MTD lawn tractor. I took the single stage blower off my 106 Cub Cadet, keeping the mounting frame and the original driveshaft, which I connected to another right angle drive from a spare piece of Cub equipment. This shaft chain-drives a large sprocket on the original pulley. Since the new blower was too heavy for the Cub's manual lift, I installed an electric lift with 400-lb. capacity. In addition, I added an electric window motor to direct the chute. **(Scott Weaver, Charlton, N.Y.; saw63was@hotmail.com)**



The cattle guard I made out of an old field disk and some scrap iron saves a lot of time when traveling between fields to check cattle. It's 12 ft. wide and 2 ft. high. To build it, I parked the disk in place and removed the tongue. Then I partially covered the top of the frame by welding on several long angle irons and added a homemade steel ramp on each side.

One side, I took metal ramps off an old gooseneck trailer, welding one end of each ramp to the disk frame. The other side's ramps consist of a series of 2-in. pipes spaced about 8 in. apart, which are welded to short ramps made out of angle iron.

It's not fancy, but it works. I installed it 2 years ago and so far no cattle have crossed it. We drive through the gate 5 or 6 times a day.

One benefit is that it sits high enough off the ground so it won't fill up with gravel that falls off tires. I'll probably never have to clean it out. **(Mike Brewer, Magnolia, Ky.)**

FREE Classified Ads!

Looking for FARM SHOW's classified ads?

We've got the best deal in the business!

FREE ads with photos at our "sister" company's website:

www.BestFarmBuys.com

More than 100,000 regular users will see your listing!