



Rick Schmitz used an old boat trailer to make a dolly that can handle over 1,000 lbs. of tongue weight. The compact dolly makes it easy to move trailers with his ATV.

ATV Trailer Dolly Handles Big Loads

Rick Schmitz, Cologne, Minn., was getting tired of putting a ball hitch on his Bobcat every time he needed to move trailers around his property.

"I have a 24-ft. fish house on wheels and wanted to use my ATV. The tongue weight of the trailer weighed down the back end of the ATV, so I decided to make a trailer dolly," says Schmitz.

He cut apart an old boat trailer and made a 45-in. wide by 45-in. long dolly. "I cut the axles off the trailer and used 2-in. by 2-in. by 1/4-in. square tubing, and slid the stubs into the tubing then welded them. The dolly can handle 1,000 lbs. of tongue weight," says Schmitz.

His only cost was the square tubing as he had the old boat trailer with tires already. "I spent about 2 hrs. building it. You could make one any size but the smaller frame moves and stores well and still handles a good size trailer."

"If I had it to do over I would weld a receiver onto the frame and not a ball hitch so I could change sizes easily. I would also raise up the ball about 6" higher than it is



Another idea he had was to bolt a wheel to a receiver hitch to help keep the back end up when towing.

now," says Schmitz.

"I also bolted a support wheel onto a receiver hitch for my ATV to keep the back end up when towing. That works well too."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rick Schmitz, Cologne, Minn. 55322; ph (952-466-2459).

Portable corral is lowered around a calf, keeping the mother separated and allowing for easy and quick one person tagging.



Truck-Mounted Calf Catcher

Alberta rancher Clint Howard can capture newborn beef calves roaming in a pasture from the seat of his old Ford pickup. Howard says his dad came up with the idea to build a portable corral on their ranch work truck. They say it's a "calf tagging beast" that lets one person do the job of two people.

To build the device Howard says his dad first reinforced the front and back truck bumpers with channel iron to support the weight of the corral. Lift cylinders and pivot brackets were mounted to the channel iron. The U-shaped corral has a sturdy steel frame with square tubing on the corners that mounts to the bumper brackets. A Honda motor in

the bed of the truck drives a hydraulic pump to raise and lower the corral. Hydraulic lines run to a control valve in the cab.

Howard says he uses the corral to capture calves that are born in a 20-acre pasture for tagging and shots before they're 36 hrs. old. He drives alongside the unsuspecting calf, lowers the corral, and quickly jumps out of the pickup to work with the calf. The mother cow, meanwhile, is safely outside the corral.

The Howards have tried using the corral on cows but they're too hard on the pickup.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Clint Howard, Alberta, Canada.



Double hoop wagon wheel firewood holder makes for neat and easy storage.

Wagon Wheel Firewood Holder

By Heather Smith Thomas

This past winter we created a really handy wood holder that sits on the porch and can be removed during summer when we don't need firewood.

Our Idaho ranch was homesteaded in 1884 and we still have some freight wagons from 100 years ago that were parked here as their final resting place. The wagon wheels have heavy iron rims.

We took a couple matching big rims, and welded some spacing bars between them to

create the wood holder, then made a stand for the bottom using old leaf springs from a Model T car that was also sitting out in the bushes.

This double hoop holds a couple days' worth of wood for the stove that heats our old ranch house. The hoop firewood holder makes a lot neater storage spot than the old messy pile on the porch.

Contact: Heather Thomas, Box 215, Salmon, Idaho 83467 (ph 208-756-2841).

"Fence Line" Gourds

Tom Gogerty wired hog panel sections across the tops of several steel posts, which run in a line parallel to an existing panel fence. Gourds and other vine plants climb up the panels for easy inspection, drying and picking.

The horizontal panels are wired to the top of the existing fence and supported by short wooden blocks, which Gogerty wired to the top of each post. He plants seeds next to the existing panel fence.

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Hog panel sections are placed on top of posts above fence for vine plants to climb and grow



Wadel's mist sprayer uses a lawn sprayer tank, pump, and flood spray tips powered by a leaf blower fitted with an extension. It can spray up to 25 ft. high.

Made-It-Myself Mist Sprayer

Jerry Wadel, Richards, Mo., needed to spray 6 trees on his property for bag worms.

"I couldn't justify the cost of a factory made mist sprayer, so I decided to make my own," says Wadel.

He used a lawn sprayer tank and pump to supply pressure to two #4 flood spray tips that were attached to a 140 mph leaf blower.

"I was able to spray up to about 25-ft. high.

The air blast did a good job of atomizing the spray and providing solid coverage," says Wadel.

Sheet metal was bent to form an extension on the blower and secured with a hose clamp.

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