

Reader Recipes

Tomato Pie

- 1 refrigerated pie crust (from a 14.1-oz. box)
- 3 cups (12 oz.) shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 2 ripe tomatoes, halved lengthwise and cut into thin wedges
- 1 tsp dried basil
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/8 tsp pepper
- 2 green onions, thinly sliced
- 2 tbsp fresh breadcrumbs
- 2 tbsp butter, melted

Place crust in a pie plate and crimp edges. Prick all over with a fork. Bake at 425 degrees F for 12-15 min. or until lightly browned. Cool slightly. Sprinkle cheese evenly over crust. Arrange tomato wedges overlapping in a circular pattern. Sprinkle basil, oregano, salt and pepper over tomatoes. Sprinkle with onions and breadcrumbs; drizzle with butter. Bake 20 min. Let stand 10 min. before cutting. Serve warm.

Snickerdoodle Apple Cobbler

- 8 Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored, and sliced
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 2 tsp cinnamon, divided
- 1 package super moist white cake mix
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted
- 1 egg
- 2 tbsp sugar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. In a large bowl, toss apples together with brown sugar and 1 tsp cinnamon. Transfer them to a large, 9x13-in. baking dish and set aside. In a separate bowl, combine cake mix with unsalted butter and egg, and mix until dough begins to form. Begin forming 1-in. balls from the dough. In a shallow dish, whisk together 2 tbsp sugar and 1 tsp cinnamon until thoroughly mixed. Roll each ball in sugar mixture until completely coated, then place "cookies" evenly on top of apples. Place baking dish in oven and bake for 40-45 mins., or until apples are tender and cookies are golden brown. Remove from oven and serve hot.

Homemade Vanilla Extract

Cut the ends off four whole vanilla beans, and put them in a 1.75-liter bottle of vodka. Store it away from light, and shake it once a week or so. Be patient, in about six months you can start baking with it.



Lithium-ion battery lasts 6 hrs., or the fan can be plugged in. The battery is built into the unit and is good for 400-500 cycles.

Battery-Powered Portable Fan

You can upgrade your comfort level with a Canopy Breeze Canopy Fan. It was Matt Oppenheim's solution after he and his wife attended their daughter's soccer match near Memphis on an extremely hot day with no breeze.

After learning from a patent attorney that there were no U.S. patented hanging battery outdoor fans, he found a source in China for the fans and worked with University of Memphis engineers to create hooks to hang the fan on the canopy frame.

"The hooks are steel and curved with rubber grip over the tips for not scratching a canopy frame and having a better hold," Oppenheim says. "The fan fits on most common 10 and 12-ft. canopies that don't have a center pole, and there's a hoop in the middle so it can hang on a hook in a pergola or patio umbrella."

The lithium-ion battery lasts 6 hrs., or the fan can be plugged in. The battery is built into the unit and is good for 400-500 cycles.

At \$139, the fans have been popular with youth sports families as well as campers and people with tented canopies in their backyards. They also work well for vendors at farmer's markets and craft fairs.

"Box fans on the ground are usually in the way. When the fan is overhead, it's out of the way and the downward flow of air circulates over everyone," Oppenheim says, noting it compares to about a 10-mph breeze. It's operated with remote control.

The Canopy Breeze fan comes in a handy case and can be found at some retail businesses and Amazon, as well as ordered directly from Oppenheim's company, Meko Outdoors Inc.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Meko Outdoors Inc., P.O. Box 131, Collierville, Tenn. 38027 (ph 901-661-9979; service@mekooutdoors.com; www.mekooutdoors.com).



Cushion contains at its core a layer of flexible gel that's firm enough to support your weight but soft enough to reduce tension and pressure.

"Purple" Cushion Makes Sitting Easier

The Royal Seat Cushion from popular mattress brand Purple works to make even the firmest chairs feel like a comfortable throne. It's made from the same GelFlex Grid as Purple's award-winning mattresses, guaranteeing you stay comfortable through a long day of sitting.

Like all Purple products, the Royal Seat cushion contains at its core a layer of flexible gel that's firm enough to support your weight but soft enough to reduce tension and pressure. This cradles your tailbone and helps keep your hips in alignment for better focus on what's in front of you.

The cushion's cover is machine washable. Hundreds of air channels within the seat pair with the temperature-neutral outer material to keep you from getting sweaty.

The Royal Seat cushion is priced between \$79 to \$99, depending on the retailer.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Purple (ph 888-848-8456; info@purple.com, www.purple.com).

FARM SHOW®

New Products For The Farm, Ranch Home



Biting flies are attracted because their infrared vision fools them into thinking the ball is a food source. Once they land on the ball, they're stuck and die from dehydration.

Bug Ball Captures Flying Insects

"The Bug Ball is a simple product that's very effective at attracting and eliminating biting flies," says Austin Jones, developer of the Bug Ball Fly Trap, Panama City, Fla.

Jones says his father-in-law invented the Bug Ball by experimenting with various ideas for catching Florida's irritating, biting yellow flies that plague the southeast each spring and early summer. Female yellow fly bites inflict a swollen and itchy welt that can become infected.

Jones says the Bug Ball is also effective against horse and deer flies, common throughout much of the country.

The Bug Ball creates a non-DEET, non-pesticide and non-electric solution to fly problems. It uses the natural attraction that flies have to heat and moving black objects. It catches them with an organic sticky coat adhesive. Each inflatable ball is made from heavy-duty, weather-resistant black PVC. A molded loop on the top allows for hanging with or without a rope.

"We recommend hanging the ball in sun or light shade, so the ball heats up," Jones says. "It's the heat and movement of the ball that attracts flying insects. They're attracted because their infrared vision fools them into thinking the ball is a food source. Once they land on the ball, they're stuck and die from dehydration."

The company's top selling product is the Bug Ball Complete Kit (\$54.99), which contains three Bug Balls, a 10-oz. aerosol spray-on can of Catch Em' sticky coating, three inflation needles, three 12-ft. poly ropes, and three 2 1/4-in. S hooks. The company recommends three Bug Balls per acre. The Bug Balls are effective in greenhouses, pool areas, backyards, gardens, animal stables or shelters, orchards, barns and cabins. The Bug Ball should be hung from a rope or a shepherd's hook 4 to 5-ft. off the ground.

The company's product line also includes a yellow-ball kit for gnats and other insects attracted to yellow, red apple-maggot traps, and a blue Deer Fly Ball.

In addition to the Catch Em' sticky coating aerosol 10 oz. spray, the company also sells an 8 oz. Catch Em' Brush-On sticky trap coating, which is messier to apply than spray but more effective in trapping flying insects, according to customer testimonials.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bug Ball, Inc., 1841 Industrial Drive, Panama City, Fla. 32405 (ph 850-866-7698; www.bugballkit.com).