Tractor mounts were made from angle iron taken from the disk. They bolt to the sides and front of the tractor frame and the beams attach to the mounts with U-bolts. When not in use, the bean bar mounts on stands also made from angle iron from the disk. I also made a tilting rock box that fastens to the mounting brackets when the bean bar is not in use.

I got the seats from an auto salvage yard for $10 each. Each is fitted with a seat belt. The spray wands and other plumbing were purchased from a farm supply store. Footrests were made from scrap iron.

The sprayer, which mounts on the center of the bar, has an electric pump and a 12-gal. tank. It was designed for ATV's and came with a 6-ft. spray boom. I modified the boom, which I didn't need for the bean bar, to mount on my pickup's rear bumper. It works great for spraying small Canada thistle patches with Tordon. I remove the spray tank from the bean bar and mount it in the pickup box, plugging it into the trailer light socket. Lets me turn on the sprayer by turning on the parking lights. ***(John Voigt, Rt. 2, Box 33, Avon, Dak. 57315)***

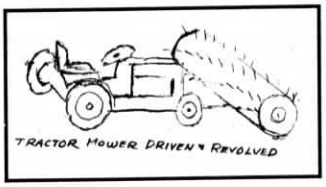
You can add more rear light to your Deere combine with our new light kit. Rear lights help when checking on the straw spreader and belts, or when backing up. The rear work light kits work off the combine's lighting system. Rear work lights only come on when the light switch in the cab is placed in the last field light setting. When the road light setting is used, the rear work lights switch off.

Our kit contains two 4 by 6-in. Halogen flood lamps with swivel mounting brackets. And all wire terminals are compatible with Deere connections. Kits fit Deere 9400, 9500, 9600, 6620, 7720, and 8820 combines and sell for $99.95. ***(Roger Brannaman, K & R Distributing, Inc., 1404 W. Church St., Marshalltown, Iowa 50158 ph 800 383-3908)***

Thanks for your article in the last issue on our silage bagger for big square bales. However, there was one statement in the story that has caused some confusion. To get bales to slide out better, we put Teflon coating on our big bale handling rig, not in the bale chamber on our Freeman baler. Some farmers have called to see how they could Teflon coat their baler's bale chamber and, so far as I know, that can't be done. Also, we bale at between 30 to 65 percent moisture when baling hay to be bagged, not 55 to 75 percent, as stated in the article. ***(Chuck Nofziger, P.O. Box 36, Christmas Valley, Oregon 97641 ph 503 576-2554; fax 503 576-2502)***

I recently saw a copy of FARM SHOW Magazine and thought you might be interested in a prototype advanced rotary engine I'm building here in Auckland, New Zealand. We plan to fuel it with hydrogen fuel made from water. To get away from the conventional piston engine, we use a rotary motion like in the older Wankel engine but without the problems it had with an intricately shaped combustion chamber and rotor. What I have is all circles - a circle within a circle with no beginning and no end. The rotor is a true circle with circular ring seals. Three power impulses take place on each revolution. It fires at each 120° with each power impulse carrying on to 180°, giving a power overlap. In other words, we have a turbine where we are getting 540° of power in a 360° circle. Incorporated in its design is a supercharging ring. At the end of each power cycle, compressed air purges the chamber of exhaust and fills the area with a charge of fresh air. Since all parts are circular, machining is simple, keeping manufacturing costs low.

I've been working on the engine for 5 years. We plan to get it up and running this year. ***(Wolf Brinsbury, 15 Gibson Place, Howick, Auckland, New Zealand)***



I've been looking for a leveling rake for grading out wood shavings used as litter in a broiler chicken barn. I'm sending along a drawing of a unit that could be driven manually or powered electrically, hydraulically or by pto. Currently, shavings are blown into my barn from an 8-ton truck and then spread out the length and width of the floor with a 5-ft. blade on a Honda 4-wheeler, then smoothed out to a depth of about 2 in. with a hand rake. A time-consuming job.

I envision a 16-in. dia. light weight revolving drum fitted with 3-in. tines and ground-driven by bicycle wheels or powered by a 1/4-hp. electric motor. Have you or any of your readers ever seen anything like this? ***(William Hinrichs, Rt. 1, Cambridge, Ontario N1R 5S2 ph 519 621-8569)***

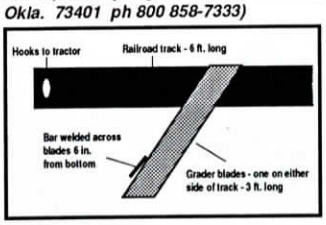
I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for publishing the article about the "Bench Gang" in your Vol. 18, No. 1 issue. The article helped people around here realize that this group of retired men are not just sitting around main street talking. The proceeds from the group's gardening and processing of walnuts goes to charitable causes.

I had three followup letters telling me of uses for ground walnut shells. One gave me the name of Hammon Walnut Co., the largest black walnut processor in the U.S. I contacted Hammon in Stockton, Mo., but learned they use only their own shells for further processing. However, an official explained the entire process to me and then invited me out for a personal tour of the plant. The call was very educational.

Again, I'd like to thank you for the article on the Bench Gang. Also, thanks for publishing a great magazine. ***(G.C. Glover, 116 Glover Acres, Lenoir, N.C. 28645 ph 704 728-3715)***

I live in northeast Georgia where we have frequent "gulley washers" - heavy rains that cause creeks to rise and fall quickly. We had trouble with fences that run across creeks washing out regularly. I contacted everyone I could think of that might have an idea of how to keep a fence in place. I even set fenceposts in concrete but the posts still washed out because the creek bottoms and banks are sandy. I finally solved the problem by using 16-ft. cattle panels cut in about 5-ft. sections and hanging from a steel cable across the creek. I put "spacers" between the sections to keep them from overlapping and hanging up. I even cut out the bottom of the panels to fit the creek banks. I put small U-bolts on the cable to keep the panels from creeping right or left. When the water rises, the panels rise up with it, letting water and debris flow under them, and then pivot back down after the water goes down. Occasionally some debris will keep a panel from hanging straight down but it's a simple matter to remove debris about once a year. Otherwise, it works great. ***(William Bowers, Rt. 1, Box 1345, Bowersville, Ga. 30516)***

Just a note to say "thanks" for running the article on our "Red River" crabgrass in your last issue (Vol. 18, No. 2). We have received many inquiries from readers interested in growing this unique new "crop" for forage. The article was well done and the color picture was great - something we hadn't expected. ***(R.L. Dalrymple, Elstel Farm & Seeds, 2640 Springdale Road, Ardmore, Okla. 73401 ph 800 858-7333)***

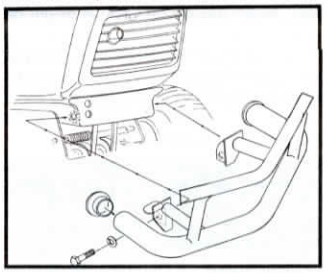


Several years ago I came up with this brush and stump puller made out of an 8-ft. long piece of railroad track. A 4-ft. long piece of grader blade is welded to either side of the track, angled forward. Another piece is welded across the two pieces of blade, about 6 in. up from the bottom of the blades.

I pull it from the front with a tractor. It'll pull out brush and stumps up to 12 in. dia. Works best on wet ground. ***(Carl Glymph, 2431 Apricot Lane, Augusta, Ga. 30904)***

We put nylon stockings over calves' ears to prevent freezing at birth. It works great and is simple. ***(Daniel Maher, HCR 81, Box 34, Morristown, S. Dak. 57645)***

We tore down a 30-ft. tall metal building using a gin pole made from a light pole and 2-in. pipe. First we cut the roof into 8-ft. long pieces, and then we lifted them off one by one. We put the roof back together at a new site by using a 2-in. metal "patch" between sections. A heavy duty 12-volt winch did the lifting. To raise up each section of roof, we inserted the gin pole up through the roof from inside the building. ***(Wm. Huhn, 7780 W. East Rd., Three Oaks, Mich. 49128)***



We've had a lot of interest in our new front bumper for Cub Cadet garden tractors. It prevents damage to tractors from collisions with trees, fences, and buildings, while mowing. It bolts into place and doesn't interfere with the mower deck or with opening the hood. It's made of heavy-duty steel tubing and painted black with an anti-scratch polymer for a durable, glossy finish. It sells for $54.95. We also have bumpers available to fit some Deere garden tractors. ***(Roger Brannaman, K&R Distributing, Inc., 1404 W. Church St., Marshalltown, Iowa 50158 ph 800 383-3908)***

I thoroughly enjoy your magazine and have a question for your readers. Has anyone ever converted a New Idea 2-row wide corn picker to a 2-row narrow? I'd appreciate any information I could get. ***(Jack Biehn, Rt. 5, Falmouth, Kent. 41040 ph 606 654-3773)***

I received my "World's First Encyclopedia of Best Ideas Born In Farm Workshops" and it took me three long evenings but I read every page. It was like pecan pie ala mode to me.

I've only been a subscriber to FARM SHOW for two years so many of the articles were new to me. I was proud to see that my hi-wheel mower made it into the book. After your article came out on it, I answered more than 25 letters of inquiry. It made me happy to share my idea with other farm friends. I have a few more simple ideas to relate, so here goes.

I'm a recycler at heart and hate to see anything go to waste - like old carpet from the house. I make 4 by 6-ft. pads to put under machinery when working underneath. Makes gravel softer and cold concrete warmer. The pads also make good "absorbers" for dripping motors. You can also put them along side your workbench to make standing more comfortable, or even put them on your workbench to keep stuff from rolling off. Murphy's Law #110 - every tool or part laid on a bench will fall off at least once. I also use strips of carpet to mulch between rows in the garden and if you put down a bunch of leaves and cover them with carpet, you'll draw lots of earthworms for fishing.

One great product I use in the shop is STP oil additive. Every equipment bolt should have a coating of it before it's installed. It keeps them from rusting, even on cultivator shovels. The threads will get dirty, but the nuts will unscrew easily. I keep a little bit of STP in an old snuff can on my workbench to dip screws and bolts into. ***(Dan Krenzel, 510 Elizabeth St. N.E., Cullman, Ala. 35055)***

I love FARM SHOW. I'm an agricultural engineer and it really inspires me to see so many inventive ideas. I've come up with an idea myself that I think many FARM SHOW readers who have personal computers may be interested in. I've created more than 60 simple software programs that are designed to speed up design calculations when building or modifying equipment. Each sells for just $10. Here's the type of questions they help answer:

What diameter of shaft do I need to transmit 150 hp. and what size chain? What size steel frame do I need for a certain size sprayer? Will three 2 by 12's hold the trusses above my 16-ft. garage door?

Topics covered include everything from air power, bridges, conveyors, cylinders, electrical, fans, hydraulics, pumps, screws, shafts, etc. ***(Bob Malcomb, Certified Ag Engineer, Engineers Shareware, P.O. Box 135, Crothersville, Ind. 47229 ph 812 793-3377 or 502 776-1505)***

Many farmers with beautiful, nearly full-grown trees don't realize that large trees can be successfully transplanted by tree spade if proper procedures are followed. Sometimes beautiful trees end up in the wrong place - they grow into power lines, are too close together, etc. - and people think they have to cut them down. I have transplanted a lot of big trees with a high rate of success by following certain procedures and using a trailer-mounted hydraulic tree spade pulled behind a pickup.

You should move big trees during the fall

Continued on next page