

Many farmers have close calls with injury or death and I suggest their experiences ought to be shared with other farmers in publications like FARM SHOW.

The aviation industry has scores of safety letters, notices, circulars, reports, etc., published in various trade publications in which pilots relate harrowing escapes from catastrophes. The reports give pilots a chance to learn from each other. A page in FARM SHOW devoted entirely to farm safety from the perspective of farmers who have had close calls would give farmers the opportunity to learn from each other, too. Hopefully, it might save some lives. **(Emil Maslak, Aerie Concerns Ltd., 130 Hurd St., Bradford, Ontario, Canada L3Z 1K7).**

I always had trouble getting in and out of the box of our 1982 GM 3-ton truck. So I made a 2-ft. long, four-rung ladder that bolts right



to the box frame to make life easier. It features a wide bottom rung just like a step ladder and is made out of sucker rod and angle iron. Simple but quite effective. **(R.T., Box 190, Star City, Sask., Canada SOE 1P0).**

I use this tow bar to pull my Honda 4-WD ATV to the field behind my tractors and other implements. That way, if I break down or when I come in for lunch, I don't have to use the tractor. The tow bar consists of a 3-ft.



long heavy-duty pipe with two pieces of strap iron with holes welded to the front. Strap iron with pins and hairpins is also welded to the back and the pins match up with the tow tabs under the front bumper of the ATV. It cost virtually nothing to make but it's one of the most useful inventions I've ever come up with. **(Bob Sallee, R.R. 1, Box 296-A, Coffeyville, Kan. 67337; ph 316 251-3463).**

FARM SHOW readers might be interested in these two inventions I came up with to save time and labor doing various fencing



chores around my farm.

The first is a steel post puller/come-along I made out of an old car bumper jack. I welded a 1 by 3-in., 1/4-in. thick piece of metal to the jacking mechanism to reinforce it and welded the base plate in place to stabilize it. I use an old Bush Hog blade with a T-slot cut into it to extract posts. The T-slot

slips over the post, while a slot on the other end slips over the jack. The angle of the blade makes a natural fulcrum for popping posts out of the ground with hardly any effort. For use as a come-along, I bolted a small piece of chain to the top of the jack and cut a small hole in the bottom. A cable runs through the hole and a longer piece of chain attaches to the chain on top. To tighten wire, you simply ratchet the jack mechanism. **(Kenneth E. Wallace Jr., 1187 Bakerville Rd., Waverly, Tenn. 37185; ph 615 296-3312).**



This tandem axle utility cart is great for hauling heavy objects around the farm. Besides car engines, we've hauled a 1,080 lb. load of patio bricks as well as 20-ft. lengths of 8 by 8-in. 'H' beam on it with no trouble since we built it a few years ago.

We built the frame for the 40 by 20-in. cart out of 1 1/2-in. sq. angle iron 3/8-in. thick. Two side guard rails protect the tires. The cart has two 1 in. dia. close-set axles fitted with 12-in. dia. tires. It rides about 5 1/2 in. off the ground.

The wheels are set close together so you can teeter it a little to change directions when you're hauling heavy loads. If the wheels were on each corner, you wouldn't be able to turn very well.

I'd provide plans if there's interest. **(Harvey Mueller, P.O. Box 156, Neosho, Wis. 53059-0156; ph 414 625-3451).**

We use a Deere 420 tractor to check pastures and carry salt and grain to cows. I made



5-gal. pail holders for each side of the tractor to make hauling salt and grain easier. Holders are made of two pieces of angle iron shaped into an L and bolted to the tractor frame near the bell housing. I attached a loop made out of 3/8-in. dia. rod near the top of the L to hold pails. Works great.

I also made a curved step out of barn stall pipe for the tractor. It bolts to the axle and makes getting on and off a lot easier than the factory step which is nearly 3 ft. off the ground. **(Michael Dwyer, 97 Leigus Rd., Wallingford, Conn. 06492-2517; ph 203 949-8043).**

I was pleased to answer more than 30 inquiries about snail ranching from FARM SHOW readers all over North America since the reference to my organization, the Snail Club of America, in your magazine (Vol. 20, No. 2). I founded the organization nearly 17 years ago and continue to work with farmers in 12 Midwestern states, helping them to get established in the snail business. Almost every farm has a building suitable for raising snails and demand still far exceeds supply. Snails offer diversification and profits of 60 cents apiece if raised and marketed properly, as our program instructs. Thanks again for mentioning the Snail Club of America in FARM SHOW. **(Ralph Tucker, Snail Club of America, 5085 N. Del Mar Ave. #G, Fresno, Calif. 93704; ph 209 225-5540).**

Two of my neighbors were so impressed with the results of my 16-in. rowed soybeans last

year, they had me plant beans for them this year.

I attribute my success with narrow row beans to: more accurate seeding depth control, quicker emergence, better subsoil moisture availability, early canopy, and faster maturity and dry down in the fall. I couldn't have done it without the 4-row (38-in.) corn planter I converted to an 8-row (16-in.) unit last year for less than \$400. It doesn't look fancy but it gets the job done.

I started with an International 56 planter chassis and another International 56 planter I had around for parts. I simply installed the



extra row units on the tool bar. Instead of planter boxes, I used 5-gal. pails with the bottoms cut out on rows next to the transport wheels. I had to do that to squeeze them in between the 17 3/4-in. tall seed boxes on the other rows. The only problem the pails caused was having to fill them more often than the planter boxes. When I added the two center rows, I found I didn't have enough room to run down pressure rods off the fertilizer tank bracket so I connected the left and right sides of center with 2-in. sq., 1/4-in. thick angle iron. After this, I found the marker center pivot wouldn't clear the fertilizer tank brackets so I removed it along with the markers. The markerless planter hasn't been a problem, as I simply eyeball my 38-in. corn rows to stay on track. I also installed gear oil fittings, which I fill with 90 weight oil, on both transport hubs because they're not heavy enough to handle 8 rows, same as drive mechanisms which I beefed up with heavier springs to keep the "override dogs" from popping out.

I use bigger, 24-cell corn plates on planter units and selected a faster speed for drive sprockets in order to get my desired seed-per-acre population.

I thought of adding no-till coulters to each row unit. However, I decided the planter worked so well last year, I'd leave well enough alone. I used it on 52 acres of beans this year and expect good results again this fall. **(Richard Shock, 1701 West 400 North, Warsaw, Ind. 46580; ph 219 269-3646).**

As a sales agent for a French farm equipment manufacturer, I read with great interest FARM SHOW's article about the Italian-built Capello folding corn head that's available in North America (Vol. 20, No. 3). It just so happens that the company I represent also makes a folding corn head and I'd like to find North American importers to handle it. The Fantini-Bouchard folding corn head is available in 2 to 8-row models with spac-



This isn't exactly a new product, but it may be one some FARM SHOW readers are unfamiliar with. It's a rotor bar conversion kit for Case-IH Axial Flow 60 and 80 series combines to increase capacity when working in tough straw or green materials. It consists of 3/8 by 2-in. angle iron bars formed to the contour of the rotor. They bolt to flat bars welded to the rotor. The angle iron forms a

ing as narrow as 22-in. Two outer wings that fold up, giving an 8-row unit a 4-row width for transport. It also has fold-up snouts and



knife-style stalk shredders, which chop stalks under each row unit. Anyone interested in handling it in the U.S. or Canada should contact me. **(William C. Down, Minden Enterprises, 385 Queensway West, Simcoe, Ontario, Canada N3Y 2M9; ph 519 426-2234, fax 2222).**



We thought FARM SHOW readers would be interested in our new "Harvest Helper". It's a lightweight, durable polyethylene carrying case for all elevator-type grain testing equipment. At 35 1/2-in. long by 14 1/2-in. wide by 11 3/4-in. deep, it'll easily handle all 919 elevator moisture testers with either a 3 or 3 1/2-in. load cell and either an Ohaus or Nexus balance scale. It features pivoting doors for easy access, areas for storing calibration charts and seed inspection kits, brass hardware, and a removable threaded cap to run a power cord through. Sells for \$175 (Canadian). **(Farm Boys Manufacturing, P.O. Box 2, Prud'homme, Sask., Canada SOK 3K0; ph 306 654-4930 or 2013).**

If anyone's been having trouble getting the "Chain King" roller chain repair tool featured in FARM SHOW (Vol. 19, No. 2), I can help. I'm a U.S. distributor, headquartered in the Upper Midwest. The tool is so popular it sold like popcorn at the recent Western Canada Farm Progress Show. It makes repairing roller chains a one-man job. It comes in two models with a lifetime warranty replacement. Model 800 is for #35 to #80 chains; model 650 is for #35 to #50. Sells for \$24.95 and \$19.95, respectively, plus \$3 S&H. **(Percy Fibestad, Tools Plus, P.O. Box 1231, Bismarck, N. Dak. 58502; ph 701 222-1390).**

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