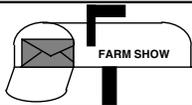


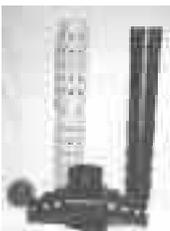
# Reader Letters



Response to FARM SHOW's article about our low-cost round baler belting supply business (Vol. 20, No. 4) has been phenomenal. We've received hundreds of phone calls and letters from farmers from all over North America. We even had a fax from Australia. We saved one Nebraska farmer \$1,000 on a full set of eight belts for his Deere 530 baler compared to what Deere wanted.

However, there's some confusion over our phone and fax number. As your article indicated, our phone and fax number are one and the same: 334 627-3348. Thanks again for featuring us in FARM SHOW. (**Don Hammond, Hammond Equipment, Rt. 1, Box 66, Faunsdale, Ala. 36738**)

We build the most user-friendly, versatile and economical intakes for tile lines in the industry. For example, we have a special reducer on our 6-in. intake T that allows you to install it on 4, 5 and 6 in. line without using any other fittings. We also have a combo T with fittings for 8 and 10-in. tile on both ends. The T's sell for \$11 and \$22, respectively. Our intakes also feature a twist lock connection for removal that's simple as unscrewing a jar lid and the most height adjustment of any in the industry. For example, our 6-in. below-ground unit can be cut in seven places, meaning it can be adjusted in 4-in. increments and still use the twist lock connections. Likewise, our 8 and 10-in. below-ground sections can be cut in thirds, meaning they can be adjusted in 6 in. increments still using the twist lock connection.



We also make square-around adapters that'll fit inside existing broken corrugated steel or aluminum intakes that sell for \$6.50. Finally, our intakes are yellow instead of orange so they can easily be seen by even the color blind. (**Norm Rozendaal, Precision Intakes, 2064 Republic Ave. West, Monroe, Iowa 50170; ph 800 932-7611 or 515 259-2651.**)

I've never seen poorer quality lawn mower blades than the set I bought from Tri-H Corp., Hennessey, Okla., last spring. Normally, you'd expect a set of lawn mower blades to last at least an entire season, but these blades, which are advertised to cut 20 to 30 percent faster than conventional blades, were completely rolled over after only a couple of uses. They reminded me of hog ears. Obviously, they were made of extremely poor quality steel. I'm packing them up and firing them right back to the company and expect a full refund. (**John Tomlinac, HC55, Box 295, Goetzville, Mich. 49736; ph 906 297-8515.**)

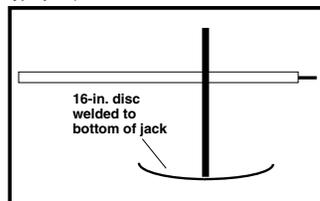
I was surprised to read an item in a recent issue that defies logic. Entitled "Wrapped Bales Suffer Greater Losses Than Unwrapped Ones", it quoted a researcher who claimed that bales wrapped with plastic actually have more spoilage losses than unwrapped bales because moisture condenses and accumulates at the bottom of the wrapped bales. Last year I wrapped 85

bales using a Hay Wrap machine (ph 800 248-9727) and left another 80 unwrapped. The unwrapped ones had all the loss you'd normally expect with bales left unprotected outside. But the wrapped ones had only 1-in. or less of spoilage on the extreme bottom of the bale. The rest of the bales looked as good after 9 months as they did the day they were baled. Wrapping is worth the time and expense. (**Ken Scharabok, P.O. Box 792, Waverly, Tenn. 37185**)

The article in the last issue of FARM SHOW about the "rare" 1939 Farmall "Highwheeler" tractor stated that only eight of the tractors were ever built. I wanted to let you know that there are at least two of these tractors within seven miles of where I live and I know hundreds of them were built in their heyday. In fact, my uncle had a shop where he made the big 8-ft. dia. wheels used on the tractors. He probably built the wheels shown in your photo. The tractors were used in late summer or fall to drill rye into a standing corn crop. (**Phil Sukup, Rt. 2, Box 198, Creighton, Neb. 68729 ph 402 358-3714**)

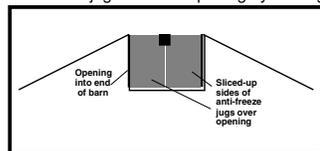
When making round bales, I've started using orange colored twine for hay that has not been rained on and black twine for hay that did get rained on. This tells me at a glance what hay I'm using. (**Gary Kuechenmeister, 1320 Mortimer Line Rd., Melvin, Mich. 48454**)

If you're tired of your trailer jack (post-type or wheel-type) sinking into soft ground, you can eliminate the problem by installing a skid plate. Remove the wheel (if it's a wheel-type jack) and weld a 16-in. dia. disc to the



bottom of the post. If the disc sticks out too far on the sides, trim it down with a cutting torch. One big benefit of the disc idea is that it allows the jack to slide on the ground so you can push the hitch around a bit when hitching up if you didn't back up right under the hitch. This idea works great. You won't have to carry blocks around with you any more. (**John Myslicki, Box 54, Niton Jct., Alberta Canada T0E 1S0**)

Here's how I keep sparrows from getting into the barn through the open space around the hay track leading into our barn. I put plastic anti-freeze jugs over the opening by making



as many slices as possible in the jugs' sides so the loose flaps fill in around the hay track. Birds won't try to push through. (**John L. Mark, 2187 340 St., Osage, Iowa 50461**)

I use my grandmother's 1930's Maytag wringer washer to shell peas. As I feed the pods through the rollers the peas pop back out toward me and fall into a pan that I set on top of the washer lid. It can also be used to shell Lima beans. (**Helen Screaming Eagle, Box 139, Eagles Mere, Penn. 17731 ph 717 525-3464**)



My daughter made this coffee table for me out of two ends of an old seed drill hopper. She replaced the angled sides of the hopper with butternut wood and installed a hinging wood lid so we can put magazines and other material underneath. It's 4 ft. long and is what I call "farmer practical". (**Elmore J. Halpenny, Ottawa, Ont.**)

Thank you for featuring Looney Combine Covers in the last issue of FARM SHOW. There was just one problem. The telephone number given was the number at the government office where I work during the day. Please let your readers know they can reach us at our toll-free number 800-311-1978. (**Gayle Looney, Looney Covers, Inc., 2580 Foxwood Cr., Suite 100, Hernando, Miss. 38632**)

My son, Paul, came up with this automatic cat feeder that allows his family to leave the



family cat for days, and eliminates the need to feed the cat when they are home. It holds enough for two feedings a day for 30 days. It's made of clear Plexiglas. A washing machine solenoid is used to open and close the opening at the bottom of the hopper. It plugs into an electronic timer. When the cat hears the click of the solenoid, she comes running. (**James D. Mandy, 3021 Highway 101 S., Wayzata, Minn. 55391**)

I was disturbed by a recent article in FARM SHOW about an animal you called "Phalangers". We just call them possums. I was amazed and upset that these animals are being kept as pets in your country. Here in New Zealand possums are our number one national pest. I think you should warn your readers about the real threat these animals pose to your forests should they ever start breeding in the wild. Possums were introduced into New Zealand many years ago from Australia in order to start a fur trade here.

Because these animals are marsupials (which means they suckle their young in a pouch), they are able to breed rapidly. They can be feeding the one in the pouch while pregnant with the next, rearing up to three offspring in a year, even under harsh conditions.

These pests are destroying our forests from coast to coast. Millions have been spent in efforts to control them. They are particularly destructive in the way they browse, eating all the fresh young growth from the tips of even the tallest trees and seedlings on the forest floor, preventing all new growth, big and small.

Perhaps the only thing that might stop them breeding so fast in North America is that there are more ground predator animals that might hunt them as they sleep in their holes in the daytime. (**Peter Linklater, Tahakopa, 2 RD, Owalsa, South Otago New Zealand**)

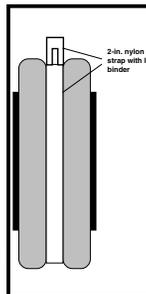
Readers with farm ponds should consider dumping worn out tractor tires into them. The tires, lying on their sides on the bottom, will act as a structure for fish to swim in and

around. Most farm equipment tire outlets will give them away to get rid of them. If you live up north, you can just lay them on top of the ice in winter so they'll sink when the ice melts. To make the tires sink, drill several 1/2-in. or larger holes in the sidewalls. This idea will help your fishing, and will keep these tires out of landfills. (**Ken Scharabok, P.O. Box 792, Waverly, Tenn. 37185**)

I worked in New York for about 25 years in welding and engineering. Over the past year I started getting FARM SHOW Magazine, and I've also ordered your videos. I've been amazed at how innovative American farmers are. I have now returned to my native Ireland where I manufacture farm and industrial machinery for European markets.

I would like to hear from anyone with an invention or machine they would like manufactured here. The European market consists of 300 million people so the potential is tremendous. (**P.J. Hogan, P.H. Village Enterprise Trading, Tulla, Co. Clare, Republic of Ireland ph 065-35900**)

After wasting half an hour trying to reseat a tubeless tire onto the rim, I got the idea of wrapping a 2-in. nylon strap around the center of the tire and tightening it down to force the sides of the tire out toward the rims. Then I injected air and took off the binder. This is probably not a new idea but it works great. (**Joseph Marschall, RR5, Hagerstown, Ont. Canada N0A 1H0**)



I use a small ax to cut strings on hay bales. I weld a hook on back to break the bales apart. I can also use the hook as a "pickaroon" to handle logs when sawing wood. Very handy. (**Walt Austin, 19544 Johnson Creek Rd. S.E., Tenino, Wash. 98589 ph 206 264-5491**)

We made an automatic waterer for the birds, cats and toads who live in our yard. All I did was to place a shallow dish on the ground under the air conditioner drip tube on our room-type air conditioner. I just wash it out whenever I water flowers. (**Edith Matthews, 1254 E. Myrtle, Hanford, Calif. 93230**)



Rolling up barbed wire by hand used to take forever and it was always a pretty scratchy job. Now we can roll up as much as 1 mile of barbed wire fence per hour - without getting all cut-up - thanks to this skid steered wire roller we made out of odds and ends.

We started by making 5-ft. long angle iron brackets to extend the pallet forks on our Bobcat 643 loader. Then we made a bushing out of 2 5/8-in. dia. pipe. We fitted another pipe through the bushing and equipped each end with 3 1/2-ft. dia. steel wheels off an old grain conveyor that serve as sprockets. One of the wheels is belt-driven by a hydraulic pump, with a small pulley used for