

Wood-Fired Barrel Stove Dries Grain

When Al Rod, of Sublette, Ill., had a chance to pick up a couple semi loads of wood, he decided he had to come up with a way to make use of all those free btu's. His solution? A grain dryer built from 55-gal. barrels. Last fall, he used it to dry 23,000 bu. of corn, using only 850 gal. of propane in the process.

"After looking at my neighbor's farm shop barrel stove, I bought four barrel conversion kits for making my own stoves. Then, I found an old 1,000 gal. liquid fertilizer tank and I had all the ingredients needed for the dryer," says Al.

He proceeded to cut the fertilizer tank in half and fit two barrels side by side inside the tank (see photo). He welded two pairs of barrels together end to end so he could fit more wood in at once and mounted them inside the tank.

"I cut a 2-ft. hole in the end of the tank and put it flush up against my 24-in. bin fan. The barrel stoves are vented out of the tank so all smoke and ash are drawn out of the tank. The bin fan sucks heated air up out of the tank from around the stoves. When the wood fire dies down, the gas comes on," Al explains.

It took him 8 days last fall to dry the 23,000 bu. of wet corn. He figures he saved \$1,600 in fuel costs. The cost of materials was \$150.

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"Rock Pile" Corner Posts

"These rock pile corner posts will outlast me!" exclaims John Hale about the large, round rock fence posts on his 2,000-acre Oaklahoma ranch.

Such posts, anchoring up to a quarter mile of stretched-tight five-strand barbed wire fence, aren't uncommon in Oklahoma and the southwest, and fit anywhere there's an abundance of rocks.

The corner posts are 52 in. high, 4 to 5 ft. in dia., weigh about two tons, and "just don't move! I place them a quarter mile apart, or at any fence direction change, and don't use any stretch posts between."

Containing the rocks is a 52 in. x 16 ft. Armco Steel Panel Corral, formed into a round "basket" 4 to 5 ft. in dia. Hale first drives an ordinary steel line post into the ground, loops the panel, then ties its ends to the steel line post. As he fills, preferring rocks "about the size of your head," he forms the rock pile into a true circle. "Pile the rocks to make a good-looking post," suggests Hale, who has



Some of the best new products we hear about are "made it myself" innovations born in farmers' workshops. If you've got a new invention or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so, where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors? (Send to: FARM SHOW, Box 704, Lakeville, MN 55044).

Harold M. Johnson, Editor



Handy Chore Tractor

When Ray Hauser replaced the original engine on his Massey Harris 101 tractor with a 196 c.i.d. engine out of a junked 1964 Rambler automobile, he ended up with a handy, powerful tractor for doing chores and other work around his Richland Center, Wis., farm.

"The 6-cyl. L-head engine fit

perfectly in place of the original 4-cyl. engine. The Rambler engine had 125,000 miles on it before I installed it in the tractor," Ray told FARM SHOW. "I added a hammermill screen for a grill and a Jeep air cleaner and governor. We've used it most every day for over 4 years."

two of them as decorative sideguards for the cattleguard separating his lawn area and cattle lots.

He says the rock corner posts are cheaper than buying and setting big round wood posts, take only about an hour to build if the rocks are fairly close by, and "you don't have to dig any postholes!"

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