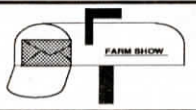
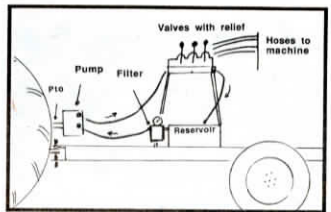


# Reader Letters



Though it's labeled "for veterinary use only", I have been told many farmers, skiers, fishermen and others agree with me that Bag Balm is one of the best products available for rapid healing of minor cuts, chafing, chapping and burns. Bag Balm contains an antiseptic, petrolatum, and lanolin, which are ingredients found in various medications used for prickly heat, sunburns, insect bites, hemorrhoids, diaper rash and minor wounds and skin irritations.



One thing I like most about Bag Balm is telling others about it. I recently received a letter from a friend who wrote thanking me for telling her to try Bag Balm on the bedsores plaguing her 93-year-old mother. She wrote, "I have been using Bag Balm on Mother for several weeks, and every time I see the sign of any discoloration or even a bruise, I apply it to her. It has worked in every instance. Another side effect has been that after applying it to Mother and rubbing it in, I've noticed the liver spots on my hands are disappearing."

I have used this versatile ointment on our tom cat's battle wounds, as a hand tool lubricant, and as substitute waterproofing on my barn boots. It is also great for rough, dry spots on feet and elbows. I have not used it for crow's feet, but I've been told there are those who do. (Kay Williams Yount, Shelbyville, Kent., in a letter to Cooperative Farmer, Richmond, Virg.)

Here's a hint that may help other readers. Some time back I wanted to use my moldboard plow but it was rusted. I used a power sander on it but it still would not scour. One day while walking past my car, which I had just polished, I realized how slippery the paint was and that polish might work on the plow. I tried it and it worked great. The plow works like new. (Walter Thieme, Rt. 2, Box 98, Hebron, Neb. 68370)

To make rubber chemical-handling gloves easy to put on and take off, put baby powder inside of them. The powder also keeps your hands from sweating. You can use it inside rubber overshoes, too, for easy removal. (Tim Johnson, Upland, Neb.)

Several companies market pto-powered auxiliary hydraulic pumps but they're quite expensive. I put together my own portable system that works great for many different jobs. The system mounts on a 2-wheel trailer that tows behind the tractor. I salvaged the pump from an old dump truck. It's about 18 gpm, but I can control the output according to the job and the speed desired. The pump is chain-driven off a sprocket that's direct-driven by the pto. The sprocket on the pto is bigger than the sprocket on the pump, increasing rpm's to the required 1,850. Another way to do it would be to hook up a small car transmission driveshaft to the pto and put the pump on the clutch end.

Oil is pulled into the pump from the reservoir and pumped out to a bank of 7 valves that control flow to machines. It'll handle any hydraulic chore a tractor could handle and many that most tractors can't handle. For several years I've used this system to power a grapple loader with 8 hydraulic cylinders. I've also used it on a wood loader that required the 7-valve bank. I can change sprockets on the pump drive to get the required pump speed for any particular application. (Malcolm Burns, Rt. 1, Cookshire, Quebec JOB 1M0 Canada)

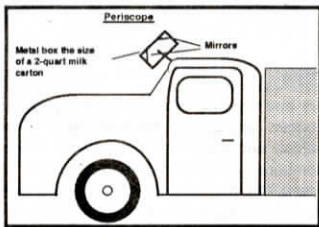
We bought a Homelite weed eater several years ago. My husband and I both had heart attacks so we didn't want to be lifting and swinging the weed eater around. My husband put a small set of lawn mower size wheels - mounted on a lightweight rod axle - under the back of it. Now we just roll it up to the grass or weeds without any stress on our arms. Works real good. (Mrs. W.O. Linger, 2132 State Rt. 183, Atwater, Ohio 44201)



I built this self-propelled snowblower out of an old Deere 45 combine after seeing a similar one in FARM SHOW (Vol. 13, No. 1). I call it the Snow King. It works great. The blower mounts in clear view in front of the operator just ahead of the drive wheels, providing excellent traction. I selected the Deere combine because it had variable speed drive. I completely stripped it down, removing both the drive axle and rear axle, as well as the transmission. I mounted a truck frame on top of the axles and cut 27 in. off the steering arm. I discarded the original engine and substituted a 4-cyl. Dodge engine. The radiator, steering column, and

other miscellaneous parts, like pulleys and sprockets, were also saved from the Deere combine.

I salvaged the gearbox from an old Gehl feed grinder and reversed it so that it turns the Hinker snowblower in the right direction. It's fun and easy to operate. The 65 hp engine runs at 2,500 rpm's and has plenty of power. There's no power steering, but because most of the weight's over the drive wheels, the rear steering wheels turn easily. And the variable speed drive works great for slowing down and speeding up as needed while blowing snow. (Roger Fisher, RR, Box 9048, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360)



My home-built "periscope" mirror lets you see at a glance if grain is blowing out the back of the truck or if your tarp comes off or becomes untied. It consists of a metal box about the size of a 2-quart milk carton mounted on an adjustable bracket made from flat iron at the front edge of the truck cab roof. A wing nut holds the box in position so you can easily adjust the angle as necessary. I put a piece of clear glass in the box on the side facing the driver and a mirror in each of the two corners so you can see back over the top of the truck box. The mirrors are held in place by silicone. (Garry Donahue, Box 1732, Biggar, Sask. S0K 0M0 Canada ph 306 948-2085)

We are a Dutch company, specializing in import and export of used agricultural tractors and machinery. We import and export tractors all over the world but not to your country. Therefore we are searching for interested companies or business people to import and export used agricultural tractors or equipment. (John van Dijk, Handelssonderneming van Dijk BV, Voltstraat 19, 5753 RL Deurne, Holland ph 04930-13107; fax 04930-16162)

Recently, a reader complained about his 1990 White 2-140 tractor, which he said shifted hard. We have six White tractors and I would like to suggest he try taking the tractor out of gear as soon as he pushes the clutch down. It should help. (Lazzell Watkins, Columbia Cross Roads, Penn. 16914)

You've definitely got a great magazine. My 11-year-old son Jason loves it as much as I do. I've ordered it for years and Jason has saved practically every issue. Now we would like to send in our order for another year but I'd like you to send it in the name of my son Jason. It'll make him feel really good. (Ron Friedl, Mott, N.D.)

Has anyone come up with a way to start a chain saw with an electric drill. I need a small chain saw but they're too hard for me to pull-start. (Irene Tuckenhagen, Rt. 1, Box 138, Waverly, Minn. 55390)

Here's a method I've used to make hitch pins easier to handle. I cut rings out of broken coil springs from a Deere field cultivator. The rings are about 2 in. dia. I then weld them to the top of hitch pins. Makes them much easier to handle. (Clarence Kelzer, 5025 Marsh Lake Rd., Chaska, Minn. 55318)

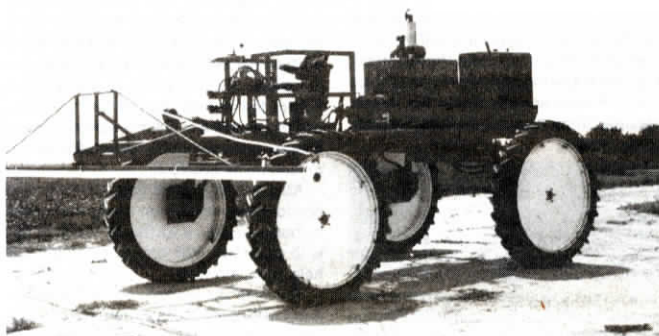
In reading back issues of FARM SHOW, I noticed an article in Vol. 15, No. 5 entitled "He Plants Earthworms Along With Row Crops". Farmers who purchase worms via mail order for this practice may be disappointed with the results since different species of earthworms require different environments. The most common worm species sold via mail order are Eisenia Foetida and Lumbricus Rebellus, which go by the common names of brandling, red, red wiggler, manure or red/gold hybrid worms. These varieties prefer well-aged compost or manure piles and will not do well under field conditions.

For field usage, the species desired are: Lumbricus Terrestris (commonly called night crawlers) and Allolobophora Caliginosa (commonly called field or gray worms). These prefer the root zone area in fields and will help incorporate surface mulch and manure.

Our company is working on worm egg capsules which can be seeded in fields but has not yet made them available. (Ken Scharabok, P.O. Box 33399, Dayton, Ohio 45433-0399)

Have you ever used Bag Balm? If you have, you know that as a household necessity it is right up there with aspirin. If you have not, you are in for one surprise after another.

I bought my first tin of Bag Balm in 1987, hoping that if it would soothe a cow's chapped udder, it might also help my hands after delivering lambs in a freezing cold barn. To my surprise, I healed my hands almost overnight. Since then, I have used this faintly medicinal smelling salve any time I needed "something", just to see if it would, again, work magic. Bag Balm has never let me down.



I built this 4-WD, 4-wheel steer hi-rise machine to control shattercane in milo. It's fitted with an up-front weed wiper. The frame was made from 3 by 6 by 3/8-in. tube steel, has 4 ft. of ground clearance and a 90-in. wheelbase so it's very stable. Power comes from a 2.3L Ford industrial engine connected to a hydrostatic transmission. Each wheel has its own hydrostatic motor.

The two steering axles were made out of a pair of 1370 Case front-ends. You can steer each axle independently or steer them together. The front boom raises and lowers hydraulically. I plan to build a spray boom for it to spray greenbugs, devil claws, etc. (Joe Stenger, HCR 63, Box 150, Densmore, Kan. 67633 ph 913 622-4356)