

Reader Letters



Thank you for featuring our JAG electric fence insulators in the 2009 Best of FARM SHOW. We thought your readers might be interested in our new glow-in-the-dark "Glow Insulators". They're manufactured out of HDPE poly with a glow additive so that they absorb light during the day and have a soft neon green glow all night. Makes it much easier to check for down fence lines if livestock get out at night. And they mark the perimeter of your property clearly after dark. It also helps livestock see the fence.

Glow Insulators are available to fit both steel T-posts and wood fence posts. They're available in 3 and 6-in. long sizes. **(Kelly Vaughan, Jag Products Inc., 23020 Olinda Trail No., Scandia, Minn. 55073 ph 888 434-5667; www.jagproductsinc.com)**



When landscaping around one of our farm buildings recently, we used small rocks instead of buying expensive landscape edging. The rocks are free and they look good. Brick edging would have cost \$1 a foot or maybe even more. **(Rex Gogerty, 33475 K Ave., Hubbard, Iowa 50122)**



Here's a simple way to make a shoe brush that works good. Just buy a cheap broom and screw the brush head to a board. Use a board that's big enough so you can stand on the side with one foot while cleaning off the other. **(Andrew J. Sewell, North Yorkshire, England)**

In regards to the idea a couple issues ago (Vol. 33, No. 4) of drilling a hole in the side of a hammer head and inserting a nail or screw to hold it in place, I agree that this method will hold the head in place but it will not prevent it from getting loose.

To keep handles tight, I use an epoxy cement like JB Weld. I put some in the gaps in the kerf and then use a wooden wedge coated with epoxy. Drive the wedge in tight and when the epoxy sets you will have a tight fit. Such a small amount of epoxy is needed that I use a toothpick to mix it. I've used this method on everything from small hammers to sledge hammers with good results. **(Jessie D. Coyle, Cottontown, Tenn.)**



To make a drinking hole for cattle in a farm pond, I chop a hole in the ice and insert an upside down plastic traffic cone. Water comes up through the cone so cattle can drink. When water freezes inside the slick plastic cone, it's easy to pull out the plug to clear it. Much easier than chopping a new hole every day. The idea could also be used in a large water tank. We leave a metal handle standing inside the traffic cone. The ice plug freezes around the handle so we can pull it out as needed. Sometimes we use a slide hammer to yank it out. **(Robert Friesen, RR1, Crooked Creek, Alta., TOH 0Y0 Canada)**

Our farm tractor was too large for broadcasting seed and fertilizer into smaller areas and under trees, especially at the Mobile Home Park I own. So we adapted



a Herd 3-pt. hitch mounted broadcaster to the front of a Gravely garden tractor. We used a Boston gear #621A speed reducer to get the proper drive shaft direction and speed off the front pto. The seed gate is foot-operated for quick start and stop when broadcasting.

I had help from Brent Blackburn putting it together. It works great. **(Joe B. Ramsey, 354 Weddington Branch, Pikeville, Ky. 41501 ph 606 437-6626)**

I have been planting pecan trees for about 8 years. Deer are plentiful in this area and use small trees to rake their antlers in the late summer and early fall. This can seriously damage or even kill the tree. I've tried commercial repellants and every other method I could think of to stop them without success.

I finally solved the problem by making a circular cage of 36-in. tall welded 2 by 4-in. wire fencing. I cut off about a 24-in. piece and wrap it around a 5 to 6-in. dia. piece of pvc pipe or wood post. I roll it on a flat surface into a cylinder. Then I place the wire cylinder around the trunk



I found an easy way to turn a wheelbarrow into a cart I can tow behind a garden tractor or ATV. I bought an 8-ft. 4 by 4 and laid it over the axle between the front wheels. A couple brackets wrap around the axle and lag-bolt to the 4 by 4 to hold it in place. The wheelbarrow is stock, except for the brackets. A bracket attached to the opposite end pins to the drawbar hitch.

Works great to take the wheelbarrow out to the field for picking up rocks. **(Dexter Burnap, 16782 Hammansburg Rd., Cygnet, Ohio 43413)**



of the tree, using a couple of the cut-off wires to hold the two ends together.

I haven't had a single deer rake a tree in the last few years. When trees reach about 5 in. dia., the wire can be removed. **(Jon Tom Station, 614 Monroe, Waurika, Okla. 73573)**



You can walk your wheelbarrow without having to stoop over by attaching my "Wheelbarrow Bully" to the handles. The Wheelbarrow Bully is a pair of L-shaped handles made from poly tubing and equipped with brackets that screw onto the wheelbarrow handles. The brackets can be adjusted up or down by changing the position of a pin in a series of holes. The extra height of the handles lets you keep the wheelbarrow low to the ground, nice and level so the contents won't spill, while you walk with your back nice and straight. Sells for \$29.95 including S&H. **(Jeff Martin, C-Jedds Mfg., 608 Ammerman Pike, Cynthiana, Ky. 41031 ph 859 556-0452; www.wheelbarrowbully.com)**

I use FARM SHOW in my middle school shop classes to demonstrate inventive thinking. It enables me to relate everything that they're learning at school to their future life. My school is in a rural farming and ranching community. Good magazine! **(Don McClarin, danmccclarin@gmail.com)**



Thanks for the story in your last issue on the unique grills that I've been making for more than 30 years, both for myself and others. All of them are built around 55-gal. barrels. Here's a photo of one you didn't include in the story - my steam engine grill. It has a working bell, air whistle, headlight, and cow catcher. A window in the cab makes it easy to store utensils and food inside. The cab roof hinges up out of the way for access. **(John Benoit, 2486 Sportsmanclub Road, Bourbonnais, Ill. 60914 ph 815 791-3605; www.bletdiv474.org)**

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