



**“It’s light enough that one man can load it into a pickup,” says Claude Peloquin, who built this cement mixer from a wheelbarrow and 45-gal. plastic drum.**



**An electric motor belt-drives the mixer barrel. Three belts reduce barrel speed to 25 rpm’s.**

## Cement Mixer Built From Wheelbarrow, Plastic Drum

An old wheelbarrow and a 45-gal. plastic barrel can be used to make a low-cost cement mixer, says Claude Peloquin, Lochaber, Quebec. An electric motor belt-drives the mixer barrel.

“Making cement with a hoe and wheelbarrow is tedious work for small projects. And small cement mixers are heavy

and awkward to handle,” says Peloquin.

He started with a junked-out, double-wheeled wheelbarrow with a broken plastic tub and rotten tires. He installed new tires, then cut a plastic 45-gal. barrel in half and bolted it to a 16-in. pulley off an old swather reel. A series of 3 belts reduce the 1,725 rpm electric motor to a barrel speed of 25

revolutions per min.

Four pieces of metal bolt to the inside of the barrel to mix the cement. A hinged, spring-loaded leg bolts onto the wheelbarrow legs and is used to keep the barrel at the right mixing angle. The leg lifts out of the way to dump the load.

“The ingredients mix very well and as fast

as I can put them in. It makes about 100 lbs. of cement per batch,” says Peloquin. “It’s light enough that one man can load the mixer into a pickup. My total cost was less than \$100, and that was mostly for new tires and tubes.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Claude Peloquin, Lochaber, Quebec, Canada or Laurence Leduc (lauleduc@videotron.ca).

## Boot-Mounted “Grass Monitor”

This new grass monitor mounts on top of a boot and uses ultrasound sensors to automatically measure and track grass growth as you go about your field chores. Knowing how much growth there is lets you know how much feed value there is, and can help you do a better job of managing your pastures throughout the growing season, says the company.

The Grassometer from Mole Valley Farmers, a farmer’s cooperative in England, uses 4 ultrasound sensors. They automatically take thousands of grass height and density measurements across the pasture as you walk, and instantaneously calculate the kilograms of dry matter per hectare. The readings are instantly shown on a digital display. The unit can also relay the information back to your smartphone or computer. The company says the unit is especially useful for anyone using a rotational grazing system. It sells for about \$2,700.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mole Valley Forage Services (ph 01769 576405; www.fwi.co.uk/articles/27/05/2014/144734/grassland-and-muck-2014-video-revolutionary-grass-monitor-on.htm).



**Mounted on top of boot, monitor uses ultrasound sensors to automatically measure and track grass growth.**

## Better Chopper Parts For Less

Maize Corporation offers a full line of replacement parts for most Deere forage harvesters. Kevin Kaff, Maize Corporation owner, says his company makes them better and sells them for less than Deere.

“Our castings are made here and shipped direct to the customer,” says Kaff. “OEM parts are often made in other countries. There are costs involved with that.”

Maize Corporation is well known for its big baler parts, but the company was founded in 1976 to make parts for Field Queen forage harvesters. In 2002 the company added parts for Deere forage harvesters. Parts are available for 3000, 5000, 6000 and 7000 series forage harvesters and include pickup headers for hay for pull-type and self-propelled units. Parts are shipped throughout the U.S., Canada, Australia and Europe.

“We even have a customer in Egypt,” says Kaff. He admits that being on the replacement that will last longer and wear better. The company focuses on those OEM parts that show wear and cause problems.

“Often customers come to us with a problem part that doesn’t hold up and requires



**A full line of low-cost replacement parts for Deere forage harvesters is available from the Maize Corp.**

them to shut down for repair,” says Kaff. “We look at the part and design a solution. If the OEM uses 12-ga. steel, we’ll use 10 ga., so it will last longer and reduce down time. We know less down time is what it’s all about for our customers.”

Kaff encourages customers to check the company website for needed parts, or call the toll free number. Deere parts catalogues can also be ordered for ready reference.

“If we don’t have what you need, we may decide to make it,” says Kaff.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Maize Corp., P.O. Box 476, Maize, Kan. 67101 (ph 316 722-8710 or 888 722-8710; parts@maizecorporation.com; www.maizecorporation.com).

## Sticky Solution To Problem Flies

If you have fly problems in your barn or livestock facility, The Coburn Company would like to introduce you to Mr. Sticky.

The roll-up fly control tape works 24/7, says Pete Draeger, Midwest sales manager for the Whitewater, Wis., company that manufactures the glue tape.

“By their nature, flies tend to rise where it’s warmer and look for narrow edges to land, so we run the tape up by the ceiling,” Draeger explains.

Mr. Sticky makes it easy with its reel system that uses 1/4-in. glue tape stretched about 6 in. below the ceiling. Mounted on brackets, the reel-to-reel pulley system can be placed in many locations. The tape can be in a straight line or in a pattern (like a W or V) for more coverage.

It’s nontoxic, Draeger says, because no chemicals or attractants are used. The first flies that get stuck on the tape actually attract more flies until it’s black with flies. Once it’s full you just turn the crank to expose fresh, sticky tape.

For optimum control, set up Mr. Sticky in the spring before the first fly hatch. It can be set up anytime, however, to reduce the fly population.

Coburn sells the hardware/roll of tape starting at \$9.60 for the 81-ft. Mini Kit to \$65.70 for the 1,000-ft. Deluxe Kit, which includes pulleys. Refills are sold separately.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Coburn Co., Inc., P.O. Box 147, Whitewater, Wis. 53190 (ph 262 473-2822; www.mrsticky.com).



**Reel-to-reel system stretches 1/4-in. glue tape about 6 in. below the ceiling. Once the tape is full of flies you crank it up to expose fresh tape at the other end.**