

Reader Letters



Continued from previous page

for \$48.50 (includes 72 color photos, detailed blueprints, and a 12-page booklet listing suppliers of components). Or you can also send \$2 and a self-addressed envelope to get literature. **(Bill Reeks, 7014 B U.S. Hwy. 231 N., Cromwell, Ky. 42333 ph 270 274-3361)**

We used old fiberglass slats from a pig nursery to build portable fences that are used to separate broilers, ducks, and



geese. The slats come in 10-ft. long sections. We cut them up into 4-ft. long, 20-in. wide sections and made a three-sided angle iron frame to support each section. It's a simple and cost-free idea that really works.

We used 2-in. wide strips of 3/4-in. thick plywood to make wooden crates for



transporting poultry. They're durable and easy to build. Each box is divided in half and has two hinged wooden doors. We can lock both doors shut by simply sliding a piece of metal that hinges on a bolt over them. The bottom of the box has a solid floor made from 1/2-in. thick plywood. We've used these boxes for years and really like them. **(Joel Waldner, 67 Tudor Crescent, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada T1K 5C7)**

I've had several calls regarding my home-built rock crusher that lets me get rid of rocks by pulverizing them right in the field (Vol. 23, No. 4). The pto-driven machine mounts on a semi truck frame and is equipped with two large rock crushing jaws made from solid cast steel. A number of people have asked where I got the jaws. I bought them used from a company that makes rock crushing equipment: J.W. Jones Co., Paragon, Indiana ph 765 537-2279; fax 765 537-2171. **(Ivan Trantham, RD 2, Box 152, Millerton, Pa. 16936 ph 570 549-5343)**

We make portable bunk feeders, some of them up to 30 ft. long, by cutting 24-in. dia., 15-ft. long pipes in half and then welding them together end to end. The bunks mount on old car wheels and axles. We can easily pull 100 ft. of bunks around with a 3-wheeler ATV. The bunks don't weigh much and handle nice because the wheels are positioned at the



center and all follow in the same tracks. A steel rod above the center of the bunks keeps cattle out.

We made tile carriers out of a pair of big 6-ft. dia. steel reels. The reels are connected together by a long steel pipe



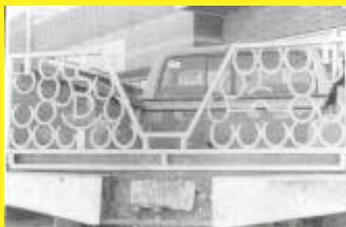
that mounts over the bale loader on my front-end loader. We made a metal framework for each reel to connect it to the pipe. With two reels we can carry two different sizes of tile. For example, we can haul 150 ft. of 6-in. tile on one reel and 250 ft. of 4-in. tile on the other reel. The reels are supported by steel I-beams originally used by phone or electric companies to support large reels of cable. Each reel slips onto the pipe and is held on with a piece of chain.

We've built several clear span, metal storage sheds on our own for less than



\$1 per sq. ft. One shed has 72 ft. of clear span width and is 48 ft. deep. To make the trusses we buy used steel bar joists from demolition jobs around big cities in our area, where they have a lot of flat roof buildings. We weld two joists together to make a single truss. The 72 by 48-ft. building has three such trusses. Our total cost to build the 48 by 72-ft. shed was only about \$2,000, which included \$1,200 worth of galvanized roofing. **(Donald Davies, Rt. 1, Box 194, Dawn, Mo. 84638 ph 660 745-3350; fax 3360).**

I used horseshoes to make this tailgate, complete with our cattle brand, for my



1988 Ford F-150 pickup. I used sq. steel tubing to make the frame and then welded the horseshoes in place. A V-shaped opening at the middle of the tailgate lets me hook up a gooseneck hitch without having to lower the tailgate. Each end of the tailgate frame latches to the pickup via a bolt that slides through a horseshoe. **(Steve Deneke, 22618 374th Ave., Wessington Springs, S. Dak. 57582 ph 605 539-9309).**

My 3 hp garden tiller is equipped with front-mounted blades that would throw clods onto plants if I got too close. To



solve the problem, I cut a 5-gal. plastic pail in half and bolted the two halves onto the tiller frame over the top of the blades. Now the churning dirt stays inside the plastic covers and, instead of throwing lumps out, it chews them right up and leaves the dirt real fine so I can till right next to plants. The metal brackets I made let me adjust the covers up or down. **(Robert Sexton, Rt. 1, Box 2A, Millville, Minn. 55957 ph 507 798-2492)**

I made my own loader-mounted, hydraulic-operated round bale handler which I use on my skidsteer loader. I used steel tubing to make the bale-squeezing arms and heavy angle iron and sheet metal to



make the rest of the frame. One of the arms is opened or closed by a 16-in. long hydraulic cylinder that extends horizontally across the front part of the frame. The other arm is held rigid by a length of chain that's welded to the side of the frame. If necessary, the angle of the rigid arm can be changed by repositioning the chain in a notched hole in the frame.

Most commercial models are designed so that both arms can be opened and closed, but I've found that one movable arm will do the job. It makes the bale handler easier to build, and keeps the cost down. The back side of the frame is equipped with quick-tach mounting brackets which make the unit easy to put on and take off. **(Gary Stelpflug, 7694 Pigeon River Road, Lancaster, Wis. 53813 ph 608 723-4993)**

Here's a photo of two full-size dinosaurs that we made for a friend of ours. Each dinosaur's spine is made from trencher chain and the legs are made from street



light poles. One dinosaur is 50 ft. long and the other is 24 ft. tall. They stand along Hwy. 2, 3 1/2 miles east of Corydon, Iowa. **(Dean Kenney, 2392 180th St., Allerton, Iowa 50008)**



I thought your readers might enjoy this photo of my modified Farmall tractor. I call it my Farmall Cub Jr. It's 90 percent IH and 10 percent other stuff. I cut 18 in. out of the tractor's main housing and 11 in. out of the hood. I replaced the original front axle with a wide front axle which I bought at a flea market. The rear axle

and housing are original. The tractor is equipped with the power steering system off a Massey Ferguson combine and has power brakes. The tractor weighs 810 lbs. and in my opinion is a real showpiece. **(Ben J. Kinsinger, 686 Kinsinger Road, Meyersdale, Pa. 15552).**