



An electric fence charger hooks up to 1-ft. tall wire fence that's mounted on a 2 by 4 base covered by metal flashing.

Mini Electric Fence Keeps Mice Out Of Motorhome

David Heng, Marshalltown, Iowa, lives in town but during the winter he stores his 35-ft. motorhome in an old machine shed about 15 miles away. He got tired of dealing with mice that chewed up everything in sight. Traps and repellants weren't the answer, so he finally installed a miniature electric fence all the way around the motorhome.

The fence consists of a 1-ft. wide strip of hardware cloth fastened to 1-ft. tall wooden dowels inserted into a base made from 2 by 4's. Metal flashing angled outward, covers the base. A fence charger, which runs off a 120-volt outlet in the machine shed, charges the fence. The hardware cloth connects to the charger's positive wire, and the flashing connects to the negative wire. The mouse climbs up the flashing, and as soon as it contacts the hardware cloth it gets a big jolt of electricity and dies.

"It works somewhat like the electric fences that livestock farmers use. Nothing gets by it. It kills all the mice that try to climb over it instantly," says Heng. "I came up with the idea 2 years ago and haven't had a single mouse get into our motorhome since. A local farmer stores his combine in the shed, and there's always some corn in the head which means there are always a lot of mice around. Last fall I found about 10 dead mice next to it."

He says his mini electric fence is much more reliable than traps and repellants. "I can't be driving out 15 miles every day to check on traps and remove dead mice, whereas an electric fence is always working as long as you have electricity. I think the same idea would work to keep mice out of anything in storage, including antique tractors and classic cars."

He started with 50 ft. of 2 ft. wide, 1/4-in. hardware cloth and 100 ft. of 8-in. wide metal flashing. He cut the hardware cloth in half to produce 100 ft. of fence. He laid a series of 10-ft. long 2 by 4's together flat on the shed's cement floor, then nailed them

Replace Tractor Points With Electronic Ignition

Converting to an electronic breakerless ignition system is a simple option for owners of old tractors with points and condensers. It improves fuel economy and makes starting easier.

"It only takes 15 to 30 min. to install," says Gary Catron, president of CBS Performance Automotive, which is a distributor of Ignitor® Electronic Ignition systems. Remove the points and condenser, install the Ignitor module, push the Ignitor's magnetic sleeve on the distributor's cam lobes, and connect the module wires to the coil.

CBS sells systems for 2,4 and 6 cylinder tractors starting at \$99.

Ignitor systems for some unique tractors run slightly higher.

Upgrading the coil is required with some applications and run \$44.

"I get feedback that they are getting 10 to 15 percent gas savings," Catron says. Tractor pullers install the electronic ignition to get more horsepower and torque, and the Ignitor extends spark plug life.

Best of all, there are no points that require constant tune-up. Ignitor has rotating cobalt magnets and a 1/4-degree timing accuracy from zero to 15,000 rpm's. It's encapsulated



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Electronic breakerless ignition system replaces points and condensers on old tractors.

and protected from moisture, dirt and dust.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, CBS Performance Automotive, 52 Co. Rd. 5, Divide, Colo. 80814 (ph 800 685-1492 or 719 687-8393).

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P.F. Engineering also provides free unlimited customer service by phone or email.

The front-end loader plan package sells



for \$60, and the Micro Hoe plan package sells for \$85 both with shipping included in the price.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, P.F. Engineering, 47 Pomeroy Lane, Amherst, Mass. 01002 (ph 413 835-5801; p.f.engineering@gmail.com; www.pf-engineering.com).

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together to form a rectangle around the motorhome. He drilled holes about 10 ft. apart into the 2 by 4's, inserted a series of 1-ft. high dowels in them, and then zip tied the hardware cloth to the dowels.

He stapled the flashing onto the 2 by 4's,

bending it over the edge of the boards and then angling it toward the floor. To insulate the hardware cloth from the shed's cement floor, he cut a slot in a 5/8-in. garden hose and then set the hardware cloth into it.