

LED Light Strips Make Night Work Easier

We love it when simple things solve common problems, and Walter Smith's uses for LED tape lights are a great example.

When running his high clearance sprayer, the Manitoba farmer says he had a hard time seeing the water level line. So, he used silicone to stick a section of LED tape lights to the tank next to the water level gauge and wired them to the machine's 12-volt power. They are always on, when the machine is on but since LED lights are good for 10,000 hrs. it's not necessary to turn them off. So far, he's used the lights for 3 years.

"It even helps in the daytime when it's cloudy," Smith says.

The lights worked so well that he put them under his air drill for better visibility. And, for others to see him on the road, he put an LED light tape all around the back of his spray trailer.

"I do have a switch on the trailer to turn it off when I don't want the lights on," he says.

Light tapes are easy to work with and can be cut off to any length, then wired easily to any 12-volt power supply. The inexpensive lights are available on Amazon.com and at many retailers.



Inexpensive low voltage LED lights help to light up the water gauge on a sprayer tank.

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An old tire on the rim makes a simple and easy salt block holder.

Simple Salt Block Holder

By Heather Smith Thomas

On our ranch, we have cattle on multiple pastures and during summer we frequently move cattle to new pasture. Often the pastures our cattle graze on are being irrigated so there's not a good dry place to put a salt block.

The best thing we've found for a quick and easy salt block holder is to use old tires on rims. The rims provide a "floor" that keeps the salt above the ground, and they can be easily moved from pasture to pasture on a

4-wheeler. Or we sometimes just leave the wheel in a pasture that we'll be coming back to later and just take the block to another pasture.

This method not only keeps the salt block dry. It also keeps it in place on uneven ground where cattle might otherwise roll it around.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Heather Thomas, P.O. Box 215, Salmon, Idaho 83467 (ph 208 756-2841).

U-Bolted T-Posts Make Solid Corner Post

"After many years of building fence, I finally figured out how to make a strong corner post out of T-posts," says Sam Powell, Hagerstown, Md.

"I use four 2 by 3 1/4-in., 5/16-in. U-bolts to hold the T-posts together. First, I drive in the corner post. Then I attach two brace posts at an angle, putting a U-bolt around the top of each post securing them to the corner post. The bottom of each brace post is U-bolted to the base of the first post in each side of the fence line.

"My place is very rocky so sometimes I have to use a hammer drill with a 1-in. bit followed by a 1 1/2-in. bit before I drive the T-post in. After driving a post into rock, don't expect to pull it out again easily.

"When I want the corner post fully insulated, I use a piece of 1 1/2-in. pvc pipe slipped over the T-post. I cut notches in the pipe to keep the wire from sliding down."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sam Powell, Hagerstown, Md. (ph 301 491-3046).



U-Bolts are used to attach brace posts at an angle making a secure corner post.

Long-Reach Pruner Saves Bending, Reaching

The long-reach pruner from GarrettWade.com has a 30-in. reach that makes it easy to trim over fences, close to the ground, and inside trees and bushes.

The handle rotates between being in-line with the cutters or can be at a right angle. The mid-shaft grip position is adjustable. This Italian made pruner can cut up to 5/8-in. branches.

The pruner sells for \$59.95 plus a \$15 shipping surcharge from GarrettWade.com. They offer 90 day returns and a one-year limited warranty.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, GarrettWade Company, 9271 Meridian Way,



Long-reach pruners can eliminate the need for a ladder and also let you trim brush at ground level without bending over.

Westchester, Ohio 45069 (ph 800-221-2942; www.GarrettWade.com).

Nifty Feeder Handles 60 Goats At A Time

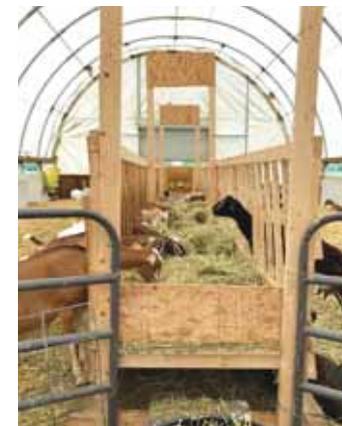
Leslie Cooperband and her husband Wesley Jarrell own and operate Prairie Fruits Farm & Creamery. They use goat milk to create cheese, gelato, and yogurt. "We have a staff of about 14, both full-time and part-time," says Leslie.

The goat herd consists of two breeds, La Mancha and Nubian. They have a choice of two hoop barns they can go into where they eat out of feeders designed specifically for goats.

"Goats are foragers," Leslie says. "In the pasture they tend to feed off the silver maples, locust, and mulberry trees as well as the Red Osier dogwood, willow, and poplar trees. Because they like to browse in a higher space, our staff designed a hay feeder to meet the goats' needs. "It's an elevated feeder with slots that prevents them from climbing up into it."

The feeder feeds 30 goats per side for a total of 60 to 70 goats at a time. The dimensions on the hay feeder are 3-ft. wide by 48-ft. long.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Prairie



Prairie Fruits Farms designed a high capacity goat feeder that can feed 60-70 goats at the same time.

Fruits Farm & Creamery, LLC, 4410 N. Lincoln Ave., Champaign, Ill. 61822 (www.prairiefruits.com).



Monte McAnear used repurposed highway guardrails to create heavy-duty corral panels.

Guardrails Used To Line Corrals

Recycled highway guardrails line Monte McAnear's corrals and work lanes. The heavy steel panels are mounted to corral posts and top rails made from 2 7/8-in. recycled oil well pipe. Gates and other corral rails are also made from the recycled pipe. Posts are reinforced with header rails that tie opposing posts together.

"I've seen cattle bang up corrals, but I don't think any will bend these or go

through them," says McAnear.

McAnear bought the guardrail panels from Repurposed Materials, Inc. When he told Repurposed Materials owner Damon Carson (Vol. 42, No. 2) what he had used them for, Carson passed the information on to FARM SHOW (www.repurposedmaterialsinc.com; ph 877-282-8733).

"I had planned to use them for a crowding alley, but I decided it would be difficult

to make it adjustable with multiple gates opening into it," says McAnear. "I knew they would be fine for the perimeter and the load out alley."

The guardrails are heavy, so he lifted them in place with a skid steer and tap welded them to the steel posts. He then cut holes and bolted them to line posts.

"Where the panels meet, I overlap them an inch or two to match up existing holes and

then bolt them together," says McAnear.

His one concern with the panels is that they are galvanized. "When doing welding or other work on them, you need to make sure you have ventilation or a good mask," warns McAnear.

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