

Made It Myself

(Continued from previous page)



Portable Deer Hunting Stand Folds Down For Transport

"It's easy to use and lets me hunt anywhere I want," says Bill Kurtz, St. Croix Falls, Wis., about the 16-ft. high, trailer-mounted deer hunting stand he made that folds down to a 9-ft. height for transport.

Kurtz mounted the deer hunting stand on the wheels and axle off an old trailer house. The stand consists of an open-top, 4-ft. sq. plywood box mounted on top of a vertical steel frame made from angle iron and pipe. The frame is hinged in the middle, allowing the top half of the frame to be folded forward for transport by a cable connected to a boat winch on the trailer hitch.

"It takes only about a minute to raise it up or fold it down," says Kurtz. "I normally use a tractor to pull it into the woods, but I

can also pull it behind my pickup at 60 mph on the highway with no problems. There's a door on the ladder side of the box, and a wooden ledge around the top of the box that I can lean on to shoot. The floor can be folded forward to reduce wind resistance during transport. I mounted a sheet of plywood at the bottom of the frame where I can haul a portable heater or even a deer. I can even shoot from there. I can clamp a 1-ft. high clear plastic windshield onto it to get out of the wind."

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Trolley Makes Feeding Sows A Breeze

Curt Jager never has to worry about getting bumped or bruised when feeding sows thanks to his feed trolley that rides above his pens for gestating sows.

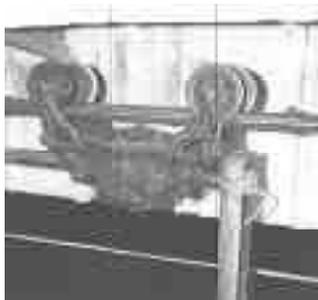
"I got the idea when we put up a new 18 by 60-ft. open-front shed with four pens separated by 4-ft. high concrete walls," says Jager. "The pens extend out the front of the shed."

To hold the trolley, eaves of the shed were extended 1 1/2-ft. out from the side of the building.

The trolley rides on two dollies and 68 ft. of track off an old hayloft fork, which is suspended underneath the eaves. The track extends 6 ft. beyond the end of the shed for easy loading.

The 6-ft. long rolling platform holds six 5-gal. buckets. The platform is made of expanded steel mesh to permit feed to fall through the bottom if spilled.

The rider loads the cart, sits on one pail, and simply pulls himself along by a rope attached to the front of the building.



"The kids can feed the sows and I don't have to worry about them getting knocked down," notes Jager. "And I don't have to worry about getting bumped around and reinjuring a knee I hurt years ago."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Curt Jager, 2371 330th St., Eddyville, Iowa 52553 (ph 515 969-4600).



Warming Shack Makes Bin-Watching Easier

"We built it to keep my wife and mother warm while they mind our bin site during harvest," says Steve Logemann about the "bin shack" he and his father Wallace built a couple of years ago out of lumber and camper parts. It mounts on the 3-pt. of the Logemann's Deere 4450.

The Ledyard, Iowa, farmer welded two 6-ft. long pieces of heavy channel iron to the bottom of the Cat. II hitch, which mounts permanently on the side of the shack. He then bolted 6-ft. long 4 by 4's across the channel irons and covered them with 2 by 12's for flooring. Two by 4's were used to frame walls which are made of camper window cutouts from the Winnebago company

in nearby Forest City.

A house screen door, along with shingled plywood roof, completed the shack.

At 5-ft. by 6-ft. by 7 1/2-ft. high, the shack accommodates two adults comfortably. It even has room inside for a small desk and an electric space heater, Logemann notes.

Before harvest, the shack is pulled to the bin site and set onto a concrete pad that once held a grain dryer.

Out-of-pocket expense was less than \$100.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Steve Logemann, 4501 140th Ave., Ledyard, Iowa 50556 (ph 515 646-3521).



Hub Converter Allows Fast Wheel Change

Here's a nifty idea we spotted in the British publication called Practical Farm Ideas.

Dennis Loades of Norwich has an industrial backhoe with narrow wheels that work fine on hard surfaces but sink out of sight in soft ground. He wanted to be able to fit the tractor with flotation tires when needed. However, the wheels he wanted to use were also needed on one of his tractors so he couldn't just cut out the wheel centers and weld in new ones to fit the backhoe hubs.

Instead, he made up converters so either the original or flotation wheels could be fitted to the same hubs.

The converter consists of two heavy plate discs. The larger is drilled to take the stud pattern of the original wheel and the second to fit the pattern on the tractor wheel. The two plates are joined by a short length of heavy pipe.

To mount the tractor wheels, the converter hubs are simply bolted into place on the original studs. To put the original wheels back on, he just takes off the converters.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dennis Loades, Broad Hall Farm, Rockland St. Mary, Norwich, Norfolk, United Kingdom (ph 01508 538580).

Simple Tractor Lift

Here's a simple tractor lift idea from Sweden that eliminates the need for a high lift floor jack.

It consists of an adjustable metal stand that you wedge under the front. Once in place, you just drive forward to lift the front axle off the ground. When done, you just back off. (*Landsbladet Magazine*)

