

Bovine Fiberglass Boots

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I have found that Fiberglass car body filler works very well to glue wooden blocks on the toes of cows. The product I use is Dyna Hair made by Dynatron/Bondo Corporation. This product is used by body shops to repair Corvette body damage. It comes in a 9.5 lb/1 gallon can. It comes with a tube of cream hardener which must be blended with the fiberglass putty to set the product up. I place about 1/2 cup of the fiberglass putty on a sheet of plywood and blend in about a 2-4 inch segment of the hardener squeezed out of the tube. I use more hardener when the temperature is below 50 degrees F. I use hardwood blocks because they last longer. A can of the Dyna Hair costs about \$15.00 so you can see that this is a very economical method of gluing blocks on cows feet. If I use 1/2 cup for each block, that figures to about \$0.62 per block which is considerable less than the commercial product available. It is also easier to work with than the Tek no vit product. You should not sand the product smooth after it has set up because the fine glass fibers that will be produced are a health hazard.

Whiffle Ball Bat Prolapse Repair

When repairing a uterine prolapse it is essential to get the uterus completely turned back right side out. If it is left like a rolled sock, it has a high probability of re prolapsing. If you use your arm to push it completely back, usually your ear is in close proximity to the cows

rectum. I have found that a plastic whiffle ball bat works very well as an extension to my arm and the side of my face doesn't come in contact with the cow's rectum.

Cost Effective Hydraulic Chute

We have taken a Model 93 Priefert chute and retrofitted it with hydraulic cylinders. The chute has an eccentric locking system that locks the headgate closed, so all that is needed is a 1" diameter 12" stroke cylinder to open and close the headgate. A 1" diameter, 6" stroke cylinder is attached to the tailgate of the chute. By using the 1" cylinders the gate speed is perfectly adequate to catch cattle. We've attached a 1 1/2" diameter, 16" stroke cylinder to the side squeeze pedal. We used the hydraulic pump and reservoir off of a Gleaner Combine. The power is supplied by a farm duty 1 hp. electric motor attached to the pump with a V belt. The combination pumps about 8 gallons of hydraulic oil a minute. The belt acts as safety device to prevent too much pressure on the calf. The valve assembly also has a pressure relief valve. We've used this system for over a year now and the only problem we've had is the tailgate works too fast and occasionally breaks a weld. We had to put a flow restriction device on that cylinder to slow it down. The cost of this conversion was approximately \$1,000. The most expensive portion was the hydraulic hose, and the valve assembly. The cylinders cost less than \$300.

Water Hose Brain Removal

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1. Remove the head at the atlanto-occipital joint.
2. Make a 1-2" long midline skin incision midway between the eyes and the poll.
3. Using a short piece of 3/4" pipe as a punch, break a hole through the frontal bone into the cranium.
4. Insert a water hose into the hole in the skull. The skin must be held tightly against the hose or the water will spray back in your face.
5. Turn on the water and the brain will come out the foramen magnum.