

# Pampus grass owls make decorative centerpieces

By JOANNE SPAHR  
LANCASTER, Pa.  
Pampus grass isn't the most gorgeous plant the eye will ever behold, but it is an excellent material to use in making crafts. Found in old gardens and out-of-the-way places, the purpose for the grass had nearly been forgotten until recently when its value as a decorative plumage was revived.  
Mrs. Nancy Garber, Elizabethtown R1, is one person who knows the value of pampus grass and puts it

to good use. One of the many women of the Lancaster County Farmers' Association who demonstrated crafts at Park City shopping mall all last week, Mrs. Garber's specialty on Monday was showing how to make pampus grass owls.  
These owls make cute centerpieces when displayed on sections of board or driftwood, and they are actually relatively simple to make.

**Procedure**  
To begin making the owls,

take 12 plumes of the grass, and holding them together at the stems, bend the plumage over, bringing the furry strands down so that they are even with the ends of the stems. Tie this grass in place about 1-1/2 to 2 inches below the top using button and carpet thread. After the plumage is tied into place, this becomes the "head" of the owl. Once this head is made, the next step in the procedure is to pick the side which is the nicest looking on

Once the side for the face is chosen, turn the owl around to create the "back" of the bird. To make the back, take eight plumes of pampus grass and place them at the "neck" of the owl. Then, fold these plumes in the opposite direction of the "head" grass strands. When the eight plumes have been folded properly,

tie them down with the button and carpet thread at the "feet" of the bird.  
By this time, with all the folding and bending, various short ends of the pampus grass will stick out between the securely fastened ends. So, Mrs. Garber suggests that you "give your owl a haircut." In other words, take a scissors and trim off

the unruly short ends so that the body is smooth.  
The next area of the bird which has to be shaped is the "breast." To make this section, take four more plumes and tie them to the front of the bird in the same manner you did with the eight plumes that form the

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Nancy Garber has created a decorative arrangement by placing her pampus grass owls on wood with dried ferns.

**ELECT NOAH W.**

**WENGER**

Republican

A General Assembly Candidate  
For The 99th District Who

**CARES**



A lifelong resident of the District, he makes his living operating a livestock and poultry farm at RD1, Stevens.

As past President of the Lancaster County Farmers Association, former chairman of the Pa. A.S.C.S. Committee and serving on the Governors Advisory Committee on Solid Waste Management. He understands farmers problems.

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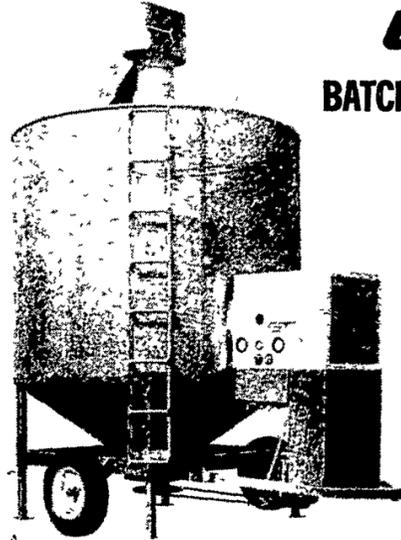
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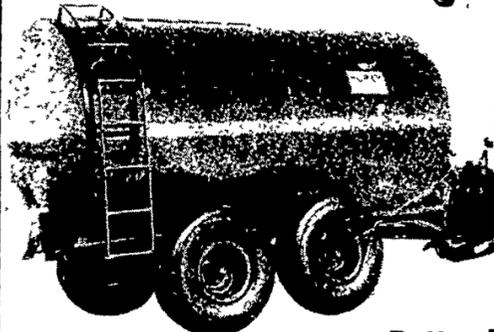
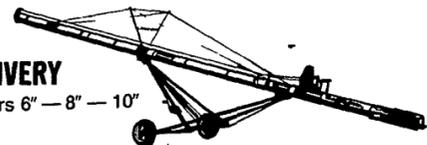
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