

# Streamlined method of pine cone wreath making is simple to do and easy on the fingers



Mrs. Virginia Ebbert shows a completed wreath, constructed with her streamlined method of wiring.

By JOANNE SPAHR  
LEBANON — Do you love pine cone wreaths but grimace at the thought of pricking your fingers and battering your fingernails while putting them together cone by cone?

If that's the case, Mrs. Virginia Ebbert's method is for you. Mrs. Ebbert, Sinking Spring, an accredited flower judge with the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., has an easier, more streamlined way of putting one of these decorations together. Instead of cone by cone, she strings together as many as 25 cones, lays two rows on a flat wreath frame, wires them together, and is done with the basics in no time.

"Once you catch on to it, it doesn't take long at all," says the 11-year garden club member.

The basic ingredients are No. 22 weight spool wire, a flat wreath frame, and approximately 60 cones.

"Flat wreath frames are sold by wholesale florists," says Mrs. Ebbert, "and, although other frames can

pass, if you are able to get a flat frame, I'd get the flat."

To begin the wreath, Mrs. Ebbert suggests laying 25 to 30 cones side by side on a table.

"Then, you size them up, because you must have a pleasing outer perimeter. And, that should be uniform," she instructs.

After the cones are arranged according to size, lay them tightly side by side and begin wiring. To do this, secure the end of the wire tightly around the bottom of the first cone on the left side of the row. When this is done, hold the spool above the first cone as pictured in photo number one accompanying

this article, and prepare to start wiring.

Taking the spool to the left, go underneath the first cone, and bring the wire to the top between the second and third cones. Continue this counterclockwise movement, entwining the ends of the

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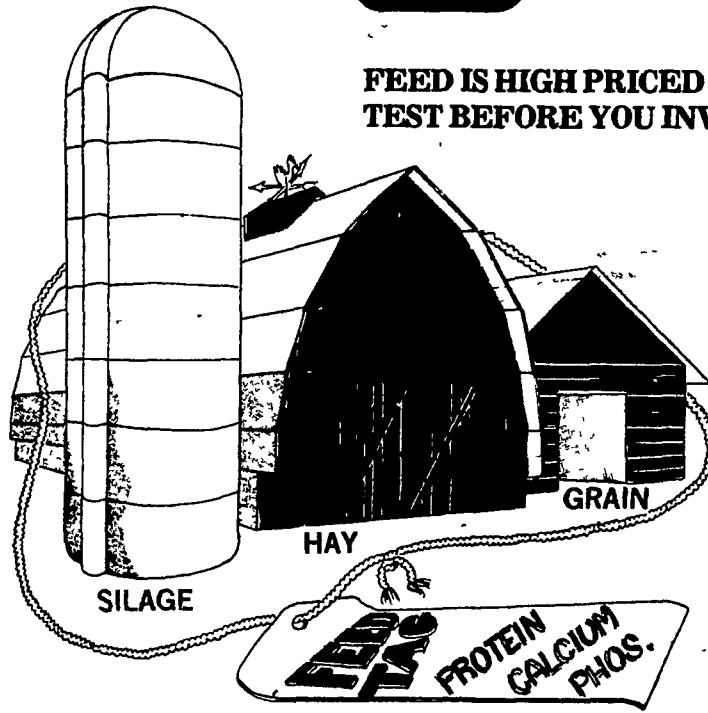
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Picture No. 1: To begin making a pine cone wreath, line up the cones and wire them in a row, wrapping the wire around the butt ends.



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