An Australian couple created their own techniques for shaping trees as they grow. They can harvest the shaped trees later.

Business Is Booming For Doors, Windows, Etc.

Looking for old wood flooring? How about a stained glass arched window or a green door? You can find these items and much more at the 140,000 sq. ft. Discovery Architectural Antiques store in Gonzales, Texas. Becky Northey and Peter “Pook” Cook’s favorites are the people trees. "On the day that I first conceived the idea, it was this flash of inspiration," he recalls. "I drew it full height on the kitchen door with a large, indelible ink pen. The excitement of that first realization that I could grow a man is one that stills echoes through to today."

Many inspirations come from the natural beauty of the land where they live amid clear mountain streams and rugged cliffs. They let their art grow naturally, but must provide protection from kangaroos and wallabies that like to eat the trees, as well as Goanna lizards that can inadvertently break branches while looking for bird eggs. Cook and Northey are writing a book about their technique as well as developing consultation services for others interested in tree shaping.

"Most people seem to think tree shaping takes too long," the couple says. "That's not how it should be viewed, rather think of it like this: The time you spend shaping a tree is captured by the tree, then amplified. A hundred years from now people will be able to see the tree shaping that you did today."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Peter “Pook” Cook and Becky Northey pooktre@ihug.com.au; www.pooktre.com.

Portable Wood Shaving Machine

“Our new pto-powered shaving machine converts logs as big as 22 in. in diameter and up to 8 ft. long into wood shavings for use as livestock bedding. It has a lot of capacity and works fast,” says Bernie Riegel about his pto-powered shaving machine. It converts logs up to 22 in. dia. into wood shavings.

“It has a capacity of 15 cubic yards per hour which means it can convert a whole container of logs into shavings in just 20 minutes,” says Riegel. “It fills a big need because there’s strong demand for wood shavings for use as bedding. Dairy producers are having a hard time finding sawdust, because most of the sawdust produced by sawmills is now being sold to pellet mills for use in wood burning stoves. Commercial wood shavings are available, but they’re expensive.”

Sells for $42,900. A larger 31-ft. long model is also available that can produce up to 20 cubic yards per hour. It sells for $46,900. Available options include conveyor or blower and trailer.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, B.R. Distributor, P.O. Box 775, Concord, N.H. 03302 (ph 603 491-7671; bdistr@netzero.net).