THE VEGGIE WAGON

ELIOT COLEMAN

The "veggie wagon" was conceived as a way to set up more quickly at farmer's markets. It has been a great success. However, I have never created any blueprints. It was constructed from drawings and computations scribbled on odd pieces of paper as first time ideas usually are.

We started with a 5' by 8' flatbed trailer. We used standard 2 X 4s to construct the frame of the building. The boarding is tongue and groove for extra strength. We bolted the structure firmly to the trailer with metal strapping at all four corners. We added 2 X 4s in the metal slots at the front of the trailer for extra strength in case of a sudden stop. To keep it light the roof is not boarded but rather just covered with a single layer of overlapping pine clapboards. The roof and trim are painted. Originally the sides were varnished but that didn't weather well and they have since been painted. The vegetable display shelves are hinged at the bottom and supported by lengths of chain when open. The sales table folds up against the back of the structure when it is all closed up.

A removable mini-door covers the bottom of the door area at the rear and is used as a sales shelf sitting on the trailer tongue at the front of the structure. The awning supports and fixtures are ¾-inch metal electrical conduit. The diagonal awning supports are removed and stored inside for transit. The awnings are rolled upon their bars and tied to those dangling cords. The veggie wagon now has a green striped awning over the sales table in the back as well as over the veggies on the sides.

A wire brings power from the towing vehicle's cigarette lighter so we can plug in the cash register. We have recently added a 'Four Season Farm' sign that runs along the peak of the roof. That is about it. If anyone makes improvements to this prototype, we would enjoy seeing a picture of what they create.



