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# PLASTIC NEWS

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## Mr. Stringman

Mountain Springs, Texas — What do you do in your spare time? For the past three years, a farmer here named J.C. Payne has been rolling up what may be the biggest ball of string in the world!

Three years ago, Payne began rolling up and saving the string that was wrapped around bales of hay he fed his cows. Then he found out there was a world record for the largest ball of string. Payne decided to try to break it.

Neighbors began giving Payne their string, too. As his ball got bigger, Payne put it on a stand. This made it easy for him to add string to it. The ball is now 13 feet, 2 1/2 inches in diameter; has a circumference of 41 feet 6 inches; and weighs about 6 tons.

Payne hopes to be in the *Guinness Book of Records*. "When I start something, I stay with it," he told *SN*.



The Paynes show off the big ball of string.

Photo: Fort Worth Star-Telegram / Jerry Fowler