

Latest New Products, Ideas From Europe

Associate Editor Bill Gergen recently attended England's largest farm show, the Royal Smithfield in London. The show is held every other year, usually in November. The next show will be in 1998. More than 380 companies from all over Europe filled the exhibit halls with their latest machinery developments. Featured here are some of the new products that caught his eye.



Single Pass Tillage Tool

It's not a plow or a disk, but something half way between the two, says the farmer-inventor of this new tillage tool. The "Integrator" is a single pass primary cultivator/straw incorporator that operates at a working depth of about 6 in., inverting and mixing crop residue and burying 70 to 90 percent of it. In most cases no secondary tillage is needed.

"We don't have a lot of time between harvest and seeding of winter wheat so the crop residue has to be buried as soon as possible," says inventor Tony Gant. "The Integrator works better than a moldboard plow because it doesn't leave lumps of straw buried in the soil. It works better than a disk because it doesn't require multiple trips. The crop residue can break down quickly so we can come back later with a power harrow/

drill combination and seed the crop. It provides superb penetration in hard soil."

The implement is equipped with two gangs of large notched discs. The discs on the front gang are set at an angle to lift and shatter the soil and create a mixing effect. The discs on the rear gang are set vertically and are offset behind the front ones to complete the mixing effect. A depth control roller mounts on front, and either a flexicoil or lightweight furrow press roller mounts at the rear.

An 8-ft. machine requires about 110 hp. A 10-ft. machine, 130 hp.

An 8-ft. model sells for about \$27,000.

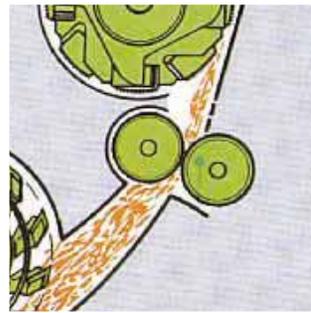
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Rustons Engineering Co. Ltd., Brampton Road, Huntingdon, Cambs., England PE18 6BQ (ph 01480 455151; fax 01480 52116).

Rolled Corn Silage

Processing corn silage with roller mills mounted on forage harvesters has been common in Europe for years. Field-rolled silage results in higher milk production and protein mostly due to improved digestion of starch in the rumen.

Claas's new Jaguar 880, 860, 840, and 820 self-propelled forage harvesters are equipped with roller mills (the company calls them "corn crackers"). A pair of saw-toothed rollers run at different speeds to open up the kernels. The speed differential intensifies the grinding effect. The degree to which the kernels are cracked can be adjusted (manually or electronically) depending on the silage's dry matter content.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,



Claas of America, Inc., Box 3008, 3030 Norcross Dr., Columbus, Ind. 47202 (ph 812 342-4441).

Calf Resuscitator

Animals that still have a heartbeat but haven't started breathing after a stressful birth can be saved using the "Breath of Life" Calf Resuscitator.

It consists of a telescoping pump unit and a mask with a rubber membrane that seals around the muzzle. The resuscitator works like a piston, drawing air through induction valves at one end and directing it, via a regulator valve, through the face mask to the animal to inflate its lungs. A rubber-mounted bi-directional valve allows the animal to exhale without the need to remove the mask. A constant volume of ambient air that contains 21 percent oxygen is delivered - about one third more oxygen than is in the exhaled air.

It takes five to 10 pumps of the unit to inflate the lungs to stimulate breathing. Sells



for about \$100. A model for lambs is also available and sells for about \$40.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ritchey Tagg Limited, Masham, Ripon, North Yorkshire HG4 4ES (ph 01765 689541; fax 01765 689851).



"Waste Grain Elevator" For Combines

New "waste grain elevator" for combines collects waste grain, weed seeds, pieces of leaves, etc., from the sieves and conveys them to the rear of the combine, where it dumps them on top of the windrow. The resulting mixture of straw and grain can be baled or chopped for livestock feed.

It consists of an enclosed rectangular steel tube that houses a chain paddle elevator that bolts onto both sides of the combine. The elevator is hydraulically driven.

Feed value of the waste material col-

lected is said to be 30 percent higher than the straw alone. Another advantage is that the field is kept free of weed seeds which lessens the need for herbicides the following year. If desired the collected waste material can be dropped into the straw spreaders and spread evenly over the field. Fits most combines.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Almas Aalborg Maskinforretning A/S, Gugvej 138, DK9210 Aalborg, Denmark (ph 45 96 33 03 00; fax 45 96 33 03 01).

"Equi-Ball" Keeps Horses Busy

You can keep stabled horses from getting bored by giving them this "Equi-Ball" - a plastic drum with food inside - to play with. The food doesn't come out until the horse plays with the device and even then the service is unpredictable due to a unique food release mechanism. So dinner time, instead of being a quick 10 minutes, becomes an extended exercise that keeps the horse busy all afternoon.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Scottish Agricultural College, West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JG, Scotland, UK (ph 0131 535-4000; fax 0131 662-1323).



Push Button Clutch

A Swedish company has come up with a hand-operated tractor clutch system that eliminates the need to depress the clutch pedal.

The Trima Comfort Clutch (TCC) is an electrically-operated hydraulic valve and actuator which, at the push of a switch, automatically controls the clutch-pedal operation. Once the switch is depressed the clutch pedal immediately disengages. When the switch is released the pedal rises at a controlled rate to full engagement. The TCC can also be activated through the brake pedals, with the tractor automatically declutching when brake pressure is applied and reactivated when the brake pedal is released. The foot-brake declutching is used only in areas of low speed limits. It's still



possible, however, to declutch in the normal way without making any adjustments.

The company says the new push button clutch can reduce injuries caused by repeated use of a clutch pedal. The system is especially useful in precision and slow driving as well as for loader work.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Trima Ltd., 33 Tatton Court, Kingsland Grange, Warrington, Sweden WA1 4RR (ph 01925 821181; fax 01925 828378).