



Hay pickup at rear of baler lifts to release the wrapped bale. Note interlocking ground-drive sprockets inside wheel and at either end of pickup reel.

“FORMS THE BALE ON THE GROUND LIKE A SNOWBALL”

First-Of-Its-Kind Ground-Driven Baler

The company that invented the round baler is test marketing a first-of-its-kind ground-driven round baler that has no pto or gearbox and sells for less than half the price of a conventional round baler.

Vermeer Mfg. will demonstrate its new “Econo Roll” baler at farm shows around the country this fall. Unlike conventional round balers that form bales inside a chamber or in a flexible “pocket” formed by belts, it rolls the bale on the ground between a hay pickup located at the rear of the baler, a compression-type roller in front and nine spring loaded belts over the bale. This contact takes place from start to finish of the bale.

The hay pickup is ground driven by two 12.5 by 15 Goodyear Sure Grip traction tread tires. “The pickup throws hay forward under the belts. As the bale forms it picks up hay just like a rolling snowball picks up snow,” explains Jim Vander Werff, ag sales manager.

The new baler makes 5-ft. wide bales up to 5 ft. in dia. weighing about 1,000 lbs., which is 300 to 500 lbs. less than conventional bales. The machine wraps bales with plastic, net, or twine.

Vermeer has built only three prototype models. The company expects to market the baler in 1989 for \$5,995.

“This baler is not designed for custom balers, who want to bale hay as fast as they can. The Econo Roll works best at 4 to 6 mph, compared to 6 to 8 mph for a conventional round baler. However, the Econo Roll is lower in cost and maintenance and has fewer moving parts to wear out. There’s no pto, gearbox, or chains, and fewer sprockets and bearings,” says Vander Werff.

The baler has two wheel-driven sprockets that direct-drive interlocking sprockets on the hay pickup. As you hydraulically close the tailgate, the sprockets mesh together to engage the pickup.

Dispensers for plastic, net or twine are located on the front of the baler. As the bale reaches full size, you release a lever to wrap the bale on-the-go. “Due to this design, there’s less leaf loss during the tying process than with conventional balers,” states Vander Werff. “However, because the Econo Roll doesn’t apply as much pressure to the bale as most conventional balers, the bale is less dense. To prevent moisture spoilage, we recommend covering the bale with plastic.”

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vermeer Mfg. Co., P.O. Box 200, Pella, Iowa 50219 (ph 515 628-3141).

DRIVEN BY TWO 7.5 HP ELECTRIC MOTORS

Portable Pto Takes The Place Of A Tractor

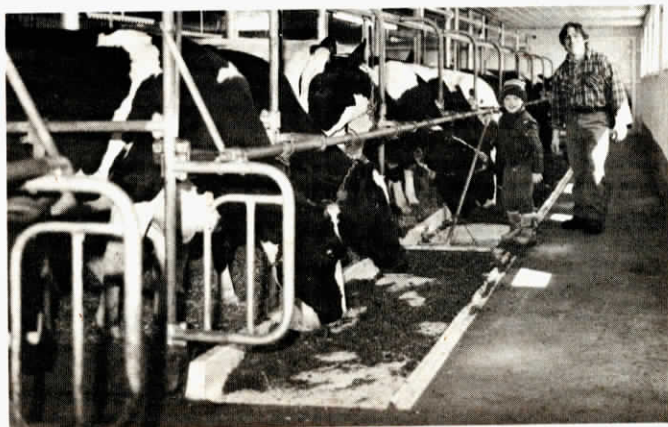
A 15-hp. portable electric-powered pto frees up a tractor for Melvin Rovey, Farmersville, Ill.

Unlike a tractor, Rovey says his portable pto requires virtually no maintenance and no refueling.

Rovey made the pto trailer from the frame of an old field harrow. It’s fitted with two 7.5 hp. single phase electric motors. He

used the two single phase motors instead of a single 15 hp. motor because his rural electric power lines won’t start a 15 hp. motor. To get up to full power, he starts the two 7.5 hp. motors one at a time with the auger running at idle.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Melvin Rovey, Farmersville, Ill. 62533.



Plastic manger comes in 9-ft. sections. A styrofoam insert slips inside curb to provide support.

SMOOTH, SANITARY PLASTIC REPLACES ABRASIVE CONCRETE

“Hygienic” Manger For Dairy Cows

Dairy cows can now eat on a smooth, sanitary surface, thanks to the new “Hygienic” plastic manger that replaces abrasive and oftentimes unsanitary concrete in new or existing barns.

Made of white plastic, the new-style manger reportedly eliminates virtually all of the problems associated with concrete—problems such as sore tongues, wounds to animal knees, and spoiled feed due to mildew, dampness and scattering.

“Dairymen who’ve tried it tell us our new hygienic manger can significantly boost milk production because of its ability to keep feed fresher, cleaner, more palatable, and easier for cows to eat,” notes Romeo Boyer, secretary-treasurer of Hygienic Mangers, of Montreal, Que. “Cleaning our new plastic manger is as simple as sweeping its smooth, slick surface with a broom. A child can do it in a matter of seconds.”

Designed for easy do-it-yourself installation, the hygienic manger comes in standard sections 34 in. wide and 9 ft., 4 in. long. It’s available with an 8 in. high “cowside” curb “for dairymen who like to feed more feed less often” and with a 5 1/4 - in. high curb “for dairymen who prefer feeding less feed more frequently.” Individual sections are “welded” together with a special solvent that creates smooth, water-tight seams. Special non-toxic, rustproof nylon rivets anchored in the concrete floor hold the sections in place.

“If you move to another farm, the entire

manger is easily removed for reinstallation at the new site. You simply undo the rivets, and cut the seams which are easily rewelded with the special solvent,” Boyer points out.

He notes that the new plastic manger is available on special order in dished, curbless and other configurations for easy adaptation to existing concrete curbs and mangers.

Cost of standard sections is \$14 per running ft. with a 5 1/4 - in. high “cowside” curb, and \$17 for an 8-in. high curb. Prices include a styrofoam insert which slips inside the hollow curb to provide extra support and strength in case a cow steps on the manger. The low-profile 1 in. high curb on the opposite side is strong enough so you can drive over it with a loaded feedcart, notes Boyer.

Standard plastic sections with an 8 in. high curb are 200 mm thick; those with a 5 1/4 - in. curb are 160 mm thick. “The plastic material will tolerate extreme hot or cold temperatures without bending or cracking. Its smooth, white surface reflects heat and light, providing a much cooler and dryer surface than you get with concrete,” Boyer points out.

Dealer-distributor inquiries welcome.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hygienic Mangers, 655 Cremazie East, Suite 100, Montreal, Que., Canada H2M 2K9 (ph 514 385-4414).



To get up to full power, Rovey starts the 7.5 hp. motors one at a time.