



Injury-reducing 4-ft. wide stalls are suspended at each end by chains attached to barn rafters. The design allows entire cluster to swing out of way when cow touches it.

4-UNIT STALLS HANG FROM CHAINS

Hanging Free Stalls Help Prevent Injuries

"It prevents injuries to cows that would reduce milk production," says Thomas Zartman, Myerstown, Pa., about his new "hanging" free stalls for dairy cows that hang from chains and swing freely away when a cow bumps against them.

Zartman introduced the patent pending stalls at the recent Empire Farm Show near Seneca Falls, N.Y. Each cluster consists of four 4-ft. wide stalls that are suspended at each end by chains that you attach to the barn's rafters. The hanging design allows the entire cluster to swing out of the way - up, down, ahead, or back - whenever a cow hits any of the stalls. A base frame with stubs welded to it hangs from the barn wall.

"It greatly reduces bruises to animals," says Zartman. "When a cow gets bruised she often doesn't want to go back in the stall. You might not even know that she's been bruised, but it can ruin her milk production. This stall design also greatly reduces maintenance. Over the years cows hit conventional stalls hundreds of times which causes the stalls to become loose, broken or bent. My hanging stalls 'give' so cows can't damage them. They're powder-coated and have a 20-year rust-through guarantee. They sell for about \$10 more per cow than conventional free stalls. However, if you have a 100-stall barn

you only need to save one cow to pay for the extra expense.

"The stalls are equipped with a brisket rail at the bottom that prevents the cow from moving so far forward that she hits her back on the stall rail when she tries to get up. However, even if she does move too far forward and hits the rail, it'll lift up out of the way and then drop back down when she backs out of the stall."

The stalls are also equipped with a bolt-on training rail that can be repositioned to make the cow back up so that she defecates in the alleyway.

Zartman also offers a 2-in. thick, 4 by 6-ft. cow mat made from shredded rubber tires. It weighs about 200 lbs. "It's softer than most conventional cow mats and can be installed individually for each stall. Other cow mats come in a continuous roll so if you want to replace a section for one stall you have to replace the entire roll."

Sells for \$70.

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EQUIPPED WITH SPOT SPRAYER AND PORTABLE AIR COMPRESSOR

Deere "Jeep" Built From Chevy Pickup

An Illinois farmer turned an old Chevy Luv 1/2-ton pickup into a Deere "Jeep" that he uses for spot spraying and light towing jobs. It's equipped with an air compressor on back for filling tires, operating air wrenches, etc.

B.L. Uhnken, of Jacksonville, bought the pickup, which had a rusted-out frame, for \$100. He stripped it to the frame and shortened it by 5 ft., keeping the original 4-cyl. gas engine and 4-speed transmission as well as the steering wheel. He made a new grille and fiberglass hood for the engine and made a separate housing to protect the electrical wiring on the steering column. He equipped it with a new Deere seat, complete with fold-

ing arm rest, and used 2-in. dia. steel pipe to make a rollbar behind the seat. He made new front and rear bumpers and drilled holes in the rear bumper for towing implements. He also mounted a 20-gal. spray tank and the compressor off a car air conditioner on back. The entire rig is painted Deere green and yellow.

"I use it to spray weeds around poles, culverts and fence posts," says Uhnken. "The transmission has high and low range so it'll go faster than I want to ride it. I've had it up to 35 mph. However, I'm not completely satisfied with this machine. It rides rough. I mounted shock absorbers and springs off an



The bagger lets you fill either 8 or 6-ft. dia. bags with just one machine.

High Capacity Bagger Handles Silage, Grain

"My high capacity bagger lets you store wet or dry grain as well as silage in oxygen-free storage bags and fill either 8 or 6-ft. dia. bags with just one machine," says Merle Martin, Lititz, Penn.

The machine features a hydraulically-powered belted elevator that can be loaded directly from either side. The elevator delivers feed into a pto-driven, 18-in. dia. auger that sends material directly into the bag.

A attachment can be bolted onto the 8-ft. dia. machine that allows it to fill 6-ft. dia. bags. A 6-ft. dia. machine is also available.

Martin also makes equipment for using a silo blower roller mill to fill the bagger with grain or silage. A gooseneck equipped with a telescoping pipe fastens with a swivel clamp to the roller mill and a combination bin and dust collector mounts on top of the bagger.

"The idea is to crack shelled corn or si-

lage and blow it directly into the bagger," says Martin. "The dust collector swivels to follow movement of the bagger, allowing the bagger to be moved up to 20 ft. without having to move the roller mill ahead.

"My bagger is relatively maintenance-free compared to other models on the market. The auger is chain-driven directly off the pto shaft so there are no gearboxes to wear out. The auger has two heavy double tapered bearings on the front end and none on back which also reduces maintenance. The machine is equipped with lights for highway towing."

The model for filling 8-ft. dia. bags sells for about \$12,000. The attachment needed to fill a 6-ft. dia. bag sells for about \$1,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Merle W. Martin, Martin Baggers, 446 E. Brubaker Valley Road, Lititz, Penn. 17543 (ph 717 626-4915).



Martin says a portable roller mill and silo blower combo can be used to process silage, then blow it into bags.



Sporting new grille, fiberglass hood and separate housing for the steering column, the rig is also equipped with a Deere seat.

old truck on the frame next to the wheels but they're too stiff. I need to try something else."

Uhnken, 25 Westfair, Jacksonville, Ill. 62650 (ph 217 245-4359).

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