



Cone-shaped 9-ft. dia. ring holds bale at center of feeder where it keeps it elevated off the ground.

Hay-Saving Bale Feeder Insert

You can convert any 8-ft. dia. round bale feeder into a new-style "hay saver" using this new hay-saving insert.

The cone-shaped 9-ft. dia. ring holds the bale at the center of the feeder where it keeps it elevated off the ground. The ring's slanted sides force livestock to reach into the feeder to get the feed. As the animals reach in to eat hay from the insert, any excess or loose hay that would normally be pulled outside the feeder and wasted is dropped inside the feeder between the insert and the outside of the ring. The design allows the animals a second

chance to consume the hay, rather than pulling it from the feeder and tromping it into the ground.

According to the company, tests show up to 20 percent feed savings. Also, small calves are less likely to climb into the feeder.

The insert sells for \$375.
 Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Plymouth Industries, 615 E. Main St., Plymouth, Neb. 68424 (ph 888 320-0369; email: info@plymouthmf.com; website: www.plymouthindustries.com).



Ring's slanted sides force livestock to reach into feeder to get the feed.



Higher yielding, short season varieties allow northern growers to reap the benefits of open-pollinated corn.

Short Season Open-Pollinated Corn

"Most open-pollinated corn is grown in southern areas with longer growing seasons. High yielding varieties for northern areas have not been widely available. We're changing that with short season, open-pollinated varieties that will let northern growers reap the benefits of open-pollinated corn," says Vaughn Emo, Avoca, N.Y., of Green Haven Open Pollinated Seed.

His 75-day open-pollinated "Kucyk Early" variety produces 6 to 7-ft. tall plants with 7 1/2 to 8 1/2-in. long ears. The ears are mostly yellow although some are brown or maroon. His 85-day Wapsie Valley variety produces 8 1/2-ft. tall plants with 7 1/2 to 8-in. long, well-formed ears. The ears have a mostly rich yellow, waxy color with some maroon ears and a few brown-colored ears. Also available is the 90-day "J Reid Yellow Dent"

variety. It has an 8 1/2-ft. tall hearty plant with 9-in. long ears. A longer season open-pollinated variety is also available.

"Our location in New York is at a higher elevation which causes us to be sensitive to the needs of farmers with short growing seasons," says Emo. Open-pollinated corn is said to be higher in protein, amino acids and sugar than regular hybrids, giving livestock farmers higher feed value. Of course, the biggest advantage is that farmers can select their own seed from this year's crop to plant next year.

A free catalog is available.
 Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vaughn Emo, Green Haven, 8225 Wessels Road, Avoca, N.Y. 14809 (ph 800 582-0952; fax 607 566-9253; email: opcorn@usadatanet.net).

"Silencer" Keeps ATV's Quiet

"Our new ATV muffler silencer reduces the noise level of an ATV by more than half. It's designed for hunters and anyone else who wants a quieter ride," says Tammy Turner about the Benz Silent Rider.

The Silencer measures 3 1/2 in. sq. by 18 in. long and hangs from the rear rack on two rubber-coated hooks. It simply slides over the end of the muffler and is held in place by two bolts.

"Some ATV models will need an adapter that welds onto the muffler, which we can supply. The silencer then bolts onto the adapter," notes Turner.

"Although you can still hear the engine, it takes most of the popping noise out of the exhaust," says Turner. "Hunters, forest rangers, game wardens, and police departments like it. We've even sold some units to the military," says Turner. "It's designed strictly for ATV's equipped with 4-stroke engines, not for racing bikes."

According to company tests, the muffler silencer has only a slight effect on the ATV's performance. It reduces the ATV's top speed by about 1 mph and results in a 2 percent gain in back pressure.

The unit fits most Honda, Yamaha, Polaris, Kawasaki, Suzuki, and Polaris Ranger ATV models. Units for Arctic Cat and other ATV models may soon be available.

Sells for \$149 plus \$11.95 S&H, except for the Polaris Ranger which sells for \$159 plus \$11.95 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tammy Turner, Benz Silent Rider, 7668 Racetrack Rd., Castalia, N.C. 27816 (ph 866 394-2878; fax 252 459-9732; email: atvsilencer.com; website: www.atvsilencer.com).



ATV Silencer is designed for hunters and anyone else who wants a quieter ride. It reduces noise level of an ATV by more than half.



Unit measure 3 1/2 in. sq. by 18 in. long and hangs from ATV's rear rack on two rubber-coated hooks. It slides over end of muffler and is held in place by two bolts.



Low-cost calf hutches use straw bales for walls and 4 by 8-ft. sheets of plywood for the roof. Roof is covered with a sheet of plastic that's held down by old tires.

Straw Bale Hutches Keep Calves Warm And Dry

For the past nine or 10 years, calves at Leroy Clark and Michelle Wiegart's Cave Creek Jersey Farm have been housed in low cost hutches.

Clark says he got the idea from an article in a farm magazine, but modified it to fit his northern climate.

He started with welded wire panels 3 ft. high and 16 ft. long, and pieced seven of them together to make four 4 by 16-ft. pens. "I fastened them together using hog rings," he says.

Once the panels were fastened together, Clark arranged them so the pens ran from east to west. Then he laid straw bales on edge along the north wall as high as the hog panels and two bales thick. "I staggered the edges of the bales, to keep the wind from blowing through the cracks," he says.

He also built a 5-ft. wall of straw bales on the inside of each of the pens, using hog rings to fasten the twine to the hog panels. Over these walls, he laid 4 by 8-ft. sheets of 1/2-in. exterior grade plywood to make a roof over the back 8 ft. of the pen. Once the plywood was in place, he covered it with a sheet

of plastic and then laid old tires over that. "The plastic protects the plywood and the straw from the weather, so they can be used later for other things, and the tires keep the roof from blowing off," he says.

Last year, Clark made four of these four-pen constructions, for a total of 16 hutches. "I used 16 sheets of plywood and about 300 bales of straw," he says.

Clark says he reuses the hog panels year after year. "I usually get two years out of the plywood, and then use it for something else. When the calves were weaned, I used most of the straw as bedding in the heifer barn," he adds.

While hog panels work great for his Jersey calves, Clark recommends taller cattle panels for Holsteins and other larger breeds. He says it takes very little time to put the hutches together, and the cost is minimal.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Leroy Clark, Cave Creek Jersey Farm, Spring Valley, Wis. 54767 (ph 715 778-5044; email: ccjersey@svtel.net).