

Cattle of all ages quickly learn to operate the new "Bite Button" nipple waterer.

## FOR CATTLE OF ALL AGES

# "Bite Button" Nipple Waterer For Cattle

By Doug Sorenson

The popular nipple waterer, which has caught on fast with hog producers, is now available for cattle.

Called the "Stingy" Bite-Button nipple waterer, it comes from Europe where it's backed by four years of extensive testing and widespread use with cattle.

The waterer is being introduced in the U.S.A. and Canada by International-American Industries, Inc., Horsham, Penn., the North American affiliate of its manufacturer, Jalmarson and Soner AB, Uppsala, Sweden. Jalmarson, one of the world's leading specialists in watering equipment for the livestock industry, has been marketing the Bite Button cattle nipple on the European continent for almost four years, where it reportedly has met with great success.

This first nipple waterer for cattle is an adaptation of the manufacturer's highly successful "Stingy" Nipple Nozzle hog waterer, introduced some 15 years ago, but with important engineering differences to make it suitable for watering cattle of all ages.

Its function is simple: When the animal with its natural sucking instincts takes the nipple in its mouth, it depresses a mushroom-shaped water release button to start the flow. As soon as mouth pressure is removed, water flow automatically stops.

"Conventional bite valves without any button are ideal for pigs but it has been shown that they have insufficient capacity for cattle," the manufacturer points out. "Conventional bite valves supply only about 2 pints per min. of water, while cattle 15 months and older have a drinking capacity of 7 to 9 pints per min. Conventional bite valves also waste too much water when the animal drinks. This is principally due to the

anatomy of the animal's mouth and the fact that it does not take the valve far enough into its mouth. Our surveys show that young stock prefer bite button valves to water tanks and troughs."

Bite-button nipples are being offered in three sizes (up to 13 pints per min. capacity) to properly fit the anatomy of the animal's mouth during three stages of growth from calf-hood to maturity. They are recommended for use with beef and dairy cattle, particularly with replacement stock, vealers, calves reared in housing where conventional bowls and buckets are presently in service. All cattle, including two-month old calves, quickly learn to use the waterer without any special training, the manufacturer points out.

For cold weather installations where water lines are subject to freezing, provisions may be added for freeze protection.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, International-American Industries, Inc., 115 Witmer Road, Horsham, Penn. 19044 (ph 215 441-5800).



There's a size for calves up to 600 lbs., one for calves 6 to 12 months, and a large size for cattle over 1 year.



Calf rides in cradle made of 2 in. nylon straps, with its feet dangling 2 in. off the ground.

## GIVES MOTHER COW IMPRESSION HER BABY IS RUNNING AWAY SO SHE FOLLOWS ALONG

# "Calfcart" Transport For Newborn Calves

A rancher who tested the new "Calfcart" says he wouldn't even try to ranch now without one.

The Calfcart, developed by Montana rancher Buck Dear and manufactured and sold by Tim Spencer, Great Falls, makes the mother cow think her new-born calf is running away, so she follows along. The idea enables the rancher to move newborn calves and their mother cows to get them away from a scours-ridden calf-drop area, or the main herd. The cart will go in mud or snow, if not unusually deep, says Spencer.

The 2-wheel cart weighs 40 lbs. and is wide (62 in.) so doesn't tip over easily. It can be pulled by pickup or horse, and the cow stays close to her calf if the pull rope is 20 to 25 ft. long.

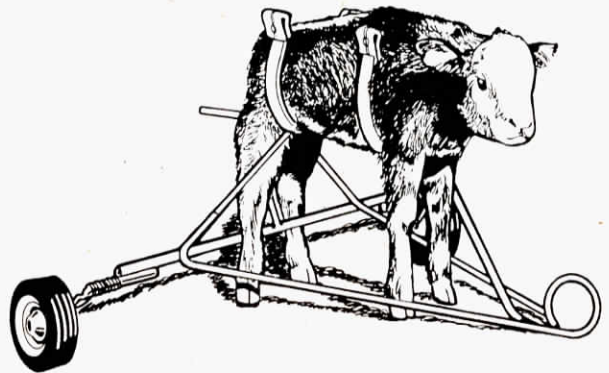
A front tie-ring provides a place to attach the rope, and serves as a brake when going downhill.

The calf rides in a cradle made of 2-in. nylon straps, and a butt piece keeps it from sliding out backwards. Its feet dangle about 2 in. off the ground.

"There's nothing quite as good for a new-born calf as moving it to dry, clean ground," says Spencer. "With the Calfcart, the mother cow has easy access to smell her calf and will follow along for miles."

Sells for \$195.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Calfcart Co., 2312 Ninth Ave. S., Great Falls, Mt. 59405 (ph 406 453-5561).



## "We Like It A Lot"

The Bite-Button nipple waterer is so new in North America that there are relatively few users who have had practical experience with it. One satisfied customer is Minnesota Valley Breeders Assn., New Prague, Minn., who put the new-style in their calf barn last November.

"We like it a lot," says herdsman Dean Treangen. "For winter use we put in a heating element and wrapped the pipes with heating cable to prevent freezing. We had no problems in the record-breaking cold winter, and the calves liked the water with the chill removed."

Treangen notes that new calves learn to drink from the waterer by watching older calves. There's a minimum of playing with the valves and no water wastage, he points out.

In neighboring Wisconsin, where water sanitation standards for cattle are the highest in the nation, the bite button waterer is approved by the Bureau of Plumbing in the Wis. Dept. of Industry, Labor and Human Relations. Wisconsin dairy cattle waterers must be designed to prevent back siphoning into the fresh water supply.