



“Manure Monster” dewatering system separates liquids from solids.



The 48 by 91 by 131-in. unit is already in use at dairy operations around the U.S.

“Monster” Makes Manure More Manageable

The Manure Monster® dewatering system is a piece of equipment that separates liquids from solids in manure, making it easier and more economical to manage.

Produced by North Star Manufacturing, Inc. of Estherville, Iowa, Manure Monster is distributed by Dick Hauser of Richland Center, Wis.

Hauser says the 48 by 91 by 131-in. unit is already in use at various dairy operations around the country with great success. In addition, its capabilities are also being verified and tested at the University of Wisconsin, Platteville, by Dr. Chris Baxter, a soil scientist and nutrient specialist.

“There are a lot of advantages to manure separation. You minimize the costs of maintaining a lagoon by reducing the solids build-up in it. This eliminates the crust that forms on lagoons. It can also make your lagoon more ‘neighbor friendly’ by minimizing

odors,” Hauser says. “If you want, you can even reuse the ‘gray water’ to flush your barns.”

According to Hauser, manure separation allows year-round stacking of dry manure, which greatly reduces water run-off from stacked solids because the dry stack sheds rain better.

These dry solids can be re-used for bedding or composted and sold as a value-added product. They’re also lighter and smaller in volume to haul for field spreading.

The Manure Monster system is simple in its design. The portable machine can be installed “in-line.” Liquid or semi-solid manure from the barn is mechanically fed into the 300-gal. (40 cu. ft.) hopper (a pump lid system is also available). An auger then moves the material across a specially designed screen that separates the solids from liquids. Exit water is directed to a lagoon or stor-

age vessel, while the solids are stacked.

The unit is a screw press, constructed of all stainless steel, except the carbon steel auger.

The domestically manufactured direct drive means no bolts, chains or sprockets to maintain. The auger operates inside a stainless steel tube, into which specific patterns of slots are cut. At the end of the tube is a specially designed “basket” with a weighted door system. The basket end of the auger is free floating, giving it the flexibility to handle foreign objects like ear tags, wood, rocks, etc., up to 2.5-in. dia. without being damaged.

The elevated design of the tube gets gravity involved in the dewatering process. In most cases, the solids coming out of the unit are in the 60 to 65 percent moisture range.

The Manure Monster requires 3-phase, 230 or 460-volt power. A single-phase converter is available.

The system is available in 5 or 10 hp models with 15 or 29 rpm’s. Low horsepower means less energy used and lower operating costs.

The unit’s capacity varies with the type of bedding and moisture concentration, but can range from 25 to 125 gpm. Capacity can also be increased by installing a second Manure Monster, according to Hauser.

The Manure Monster basic unit price ranges from \$25,000 to \$30,000, depending on size, options and accessories.

Hauser says the company is setting up dealers nationwide.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Neptune Enterprises, Dick Hauser, 31877 Dog Hollow Rd., Richland Center, Wis. 53581 (ph 608 585-4808; neptune@mwt.net; www.gotmanure.com).



Canopy’s roof is made from plywood covered by sheet metal.

Make Your Own Tractor Canopy

If you’re looking for a low-cost canopy to provide shade on your tractor, you might want to consider building your own, says Rex Gogerty of Hubbard, Iowa. He made one for his 1990 Case IH 250 tractor.

Canopy measures 4 1/2 ft. long by 3 1/2 ft. wide and is supported on back by the tractor’s roll guard, and on front by a pair of angle iron braces. The roof is made from plywood covered by screwed-on sheet metal. The sides

are made from wooden 1 by 6’s. The roof bolts to the roll guard using existing bolt holes. The angle iron braces are bolted to the tractor frame, in front of the dash.

“My total cost wasn’t more than \$60,” says Gogerty.

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Low-Cost Protection

The Elliot brothers, Bruce and Roger, near Montrose, Ill., found an inexpensive way to protect grain drying components and grain auger hoppers. They used a fiberglass carport that would normally be set up outside a house to cover a car. They say it was easy to set up, leaves plenty of room to work underneath, and is built to last.



The Elliot brothers use a fiberglass carport to protect grain drying components.

Walk-Behind Sprayer Is Simple And Lightweight

“It’s lightweight and simple in design, which makes it easy to use,” says Gene Cafourek, Stewartville, Minn., about his home-built, push-type lawn sprayer.

“It works great for getting into tight areas that are hard to reach with a trailing sprayer behind a garden tractor or ATV.”

Cafourek had previously built a walk-behind self-propelled sprayer that was equipped with a 4 hp Briggs & Stratton engine and a 15-gal. poly tank, as well as a 12-volt air compressor and 1-gal. foam tank and foam markers (Vol. 29, No. 4). The engine belt-drove a pair of 8-in. dia. wheels that friction-drove a pair of 26-in. high motorcycle wheels.

His new sprayer is much lighter so it rolls much easier. It rides on a pair of 26-in. high bicycle wheels and is equipped with only a 5-gal. poly tank and a 4-roller HyPro pump.

The rig has a 29-in. boom equipped with floodjet nozzles on each end, resulting in a total spray width of 6 1/2 ft. There’s also a flat fan nozzle at one corner so he can spray Roundup in a 14-in. band along fence lines and buildings, reducing the need to use a weed trimmer.

“I use it a lot in cemeteries where I can’t get through with my garden tractor sprayer. It works great around shrubs, flowers and gardens,” says Cafourek. “The big bicycle wheels make it easy to push around. It weighs just under 100 lbs. loaded. It’s light enough that my wife can easily operate it. The boom can be folded up to go through a 29-in. gate.”

One of the bicycle wheels friction-drives a 1 1/2-in. dia. wheel that drives the 4-roller HyPro pump. Pulling on a spring-loaded lever at the back of the rig puts tension on the wheel to engage the pump. The lever is connected to a cable that goes around a pulley



Sprayer rides on a pair of 26-in. high bicycle wheels and is equipped with a 5-gal. poly tank and 4-roller HyPro pump.



One of the bicycle wheels friction-drives a 1 1/2-in. dia. wheel that powers the pump.

and down to the wooden wheel. The pump delivers liquid through a hose to the nozzle with bypass agitation.

“It took a lot of trial and error to make everything work right,” notes Cafourek.

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