3-BALE CONVEYOR UNROLLS BALES, THEN FEEDS HAY TO MIXER

Easy New Way To Add Hay To Mixed Rations

"It's the slickest way I've ever seen to get exactly the right amount of long stemmed hay into total mixed rations," says Iowa dairyman Wayne Dykshorn about a three-bale, remote-controlled system that automatically unrolls bales and then feeds the loose hay into a TMR mixer. Dykshorn is one of the first farmers to use the new system.

The "Roto-Unroller" was designed by Sioux Automation Center, Sioux Center, Iowa.

"There's nothing else like the Roto-Unroller on the market for getting hay into a TMR mixer," says Ron Hulshof of Sioux Automation. "It's the most efficient, user-friendly way to feed portions of a bale we know of."

Conventional 3-pt. bale unrollers often lead to large loss of leaves, Hulshof notes. The new conveyor captures and saves leaves, he adds.

The system consists of three parts: The bale-in-waiting conveyor, the unroller itself, and a conveyor up to the mixer. All components are electric powered. A central control box can be activated from a tractor cab by remote control.

The system holds three bales at a time. The operator watches the scale on the mixer to know exactly when to shut the conveyor off.

"We'd tried everything - hand saws, gas powered chain saws, all sorts of other gadgets - to get hay into our ration and we'd almost given up on using big round bales altogether. Now we'll be able to continue using the round bales we prefer, thanks to the system," says Dykshorn, who milks 210 Holsteins near Ireton, Iowa. He obtained a prototype machine this summer and uses it to process one big round bale a day for use in his mixer. At 1,600 to 1,700 lbs. per batch, it delivers a total mixed ration of 95 lbs. of feed per cow per day, including 8 lbs. of high moisture hay.

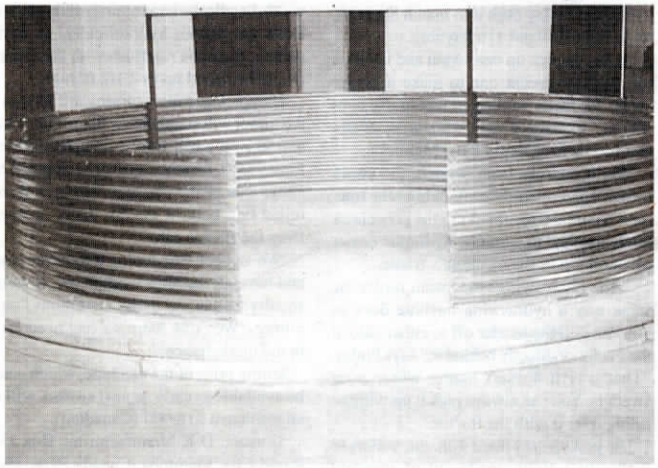
One of the convenience features that most appeals to Dykshorn is the system's bale-in-waiting conveyor. The table, he notes, can be loaded in advance, then bales can be used as needed, so you never need to move bales on a weekend, for example.

"It's virtually trouble-free," he adds. "Plus, it reduces wind loss compared to grinding or shredding."

Sells for $12,500 entire package; $4,250 for unroller; $3,130 for bale-in-waiting table; $5,120 for up conveyor.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sioux Automation Center, 877 First Ave. NW, Sioux Center, Iowa 51250 (ph 712 722-1488).

System consists of bale-in-waiting conveyor, unroller, and conveyor up to mixer.



Bin base system consists of six pie-shaped sections with a circular hub at center. Both the hub and outer sections are lap jointed to fit tightly together.

CAN BE QUICKLY DISASSEMBLED TO MOVE BIN TO A NEW LOCATION

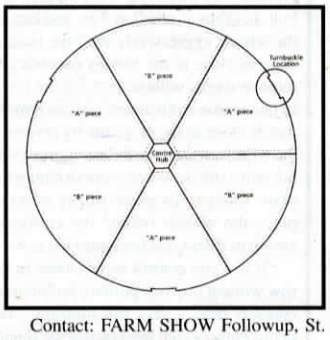
"Portable" Concrete Base For Grain Bins

Installing this new "portable" concrete base under a grain bin makes it easy to quickly disassemble and move the bin later to a new location if needed, says an Alberta manufacturer.

The "MPC" bin base system consists of six pie-shaped sections with a circular hub at center. Both the hub and outer sections are lap jointed to fit together. Once all the sections are in place, a 3/8-in. dia. steel cable is wrapped around them and a turnbuckle used to hold the pieces together. The seams are then caulked with silicone.

Bin bases are available in two sizes - 14-ft. dia. (4 pieces) and 16-ft. dia. (6 pieces). Each pie-shaped section weighs about 3,000 lbs.

A base for a 14-ft. dia. bin sells for $750 (Canadian).



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, St. Albert Precast, Box 90, 19 Riel Drive, St. Albert, Alberta, Canada T8N 1N2 (ph 403 459-6695).

High-Clearance Side Dresser Built Out Of IH Cyclo Planter

"I've been using Cady spoke wheels to sidedress nitrogen on corn since 1989 but I wanted to come up with a way to sidedress corn up to waist high without doing damage," says Scott Luckett, Junction, Ill.

He ended up building a high-clearance sidedress rig from scratch using parts off an old IH Cyclo 400 planter.

"I apply half my nitrogen with the planter and half is sidedressed. I also wanted to apply 2-4D and/or Accent when sidedressing. So I had to have room for both nitrogen and spray tanks, and it had to be built heavy.

"The Cady wheels mount on a 3-pt. mounted pivoting toolbar at the back of the rig. A 100-gal. water tank on top of the bar provides the needed down pressure. The bar raises and lowers hydraulically. When in the down position, crop clearance is 30 in. at the lowest point."

He used steel, wheels, gears, hubs, and other miscellaneous parts off the Cyclo to build a heavy-duty 4-wheel cart with caster wheels on front. The herbicide spray boom mounts between the Cady wheels and the cart. He also uses the cart with a hooded spray boom.

The first cart I built in 1990 took me about 6 months to design and build. I liked it so much, I built a second cart and mounted a spray boom on it fitted with spray hoods to run over the row. It only took 2 months to build the second cart."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Scott Luckett, Rt. 1 Box 44A, Junction, Ill. 62954 (ph 618-272-4331).