

NEW "KATTLE KATCH" ALSO WORKS ON STANCHION SYSTEMS

by Mark Jacobs
Associate Editor

Automatic Lockup For Tie Stalls

First on the market with automatic locking of cows in tie stalls are Wisconsin dairymen Frank and Fred Redmann, of Athens.

Their new "Kattle Katch" automatically locks cattle up when they walk into a tie stall.

Unlocking 100 or more cows also takes just a few seconds. All the units in one row connect with a metal rod. Just push the lever handle forward to release as many as 25 cows at once. At the same time, the Kattle Katch in each stall automatically resets for when the cows return.

Says Frank, "If you want to release just one animal, you can do so with a flip of a lever right on the individual unit. And, if you want to leave just one animal in, all you need to do is loosen one set screw."

"It will work anywhere," adds Frank. "It can be used in tie stalls, level stalls, stanchions or even out in the middle of a hayfield. It's great for use in barns equipped with stanchions that are falling apart. Rather than buying a \$70 new replacement stanchion, a farmer can put the Kattle Katch in for a lot less money. He retains the quickness of a stanchion and gains the comfort of a tie stall. An added benefit is that Kattle Katch prevents animals from kneeling forward, thus keeping them and the stall cleaner than with conventional stanchions."

The only changes you need to make with Kattle Katch are to put a chain on each cow's neck, and install the locking mechanism in each stall. The chain that hangs down from the cow's neck is 12 to 14 in. long and has a 5 oz. piece of rubber, shaped like a



Peter Weinschenk photo

"The Kattle Katch is great for use in barns with older stanchions that need replacing," says inventor Frank Redmann.

ball, bolted onto the chain.

Frank doesn't foresee any problems with manure caking on the chain, objects catching on it or having it interfere with a cow's eating, drinking, grazing or breeding habits. The chains have been tested for several months in his brother's herd without any problems.

The Kattle Katch is painted with a silicon paint to prevent rust. Each unit costs \$45, including one neck chain and rubber ball. The units are

custom made according to each farmer's situation and could probably also be used for sheep, goats and horses.

The Redmanns are also working on a device that would hook the Kattle Katch up with a smoke alarm so, that in the case of a fire, the cows would automatically be released.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Redmann's Repair Shop, R.R. 2, 1061 Hwy. 97 South, Athens, Wis. 54411 (ph 715 257-7386).



Photo courtesy The Western Producer Magazine

Small samples of unthreshed grain fed into top of "Simpler Sampler" come out clean and threshed.

Portable Thresher Helps Decide When to Harvest

Now there's a simple, easy way to decide when small grain is ready to harvest. It's a portable thresher designed by two Canadian agricultural engineering students.

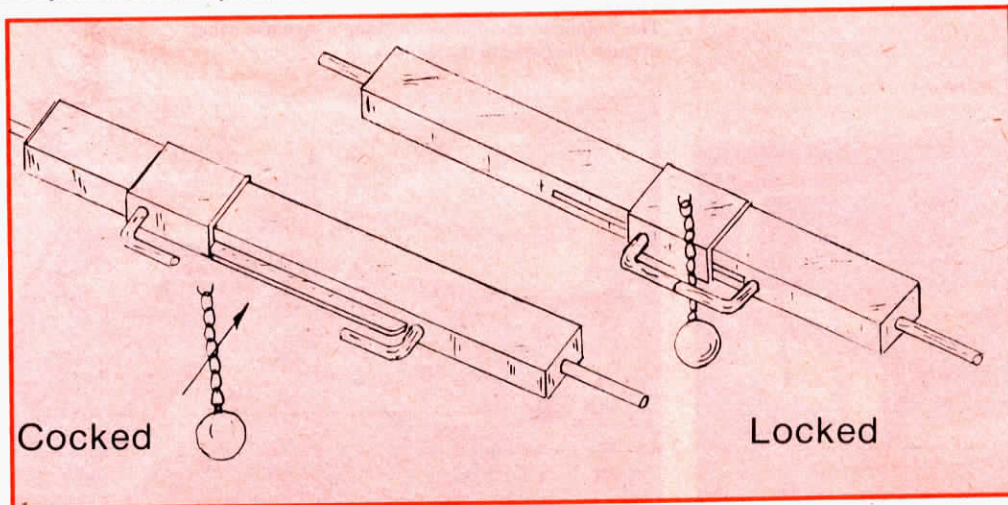
The thresher, called the Simpler Sampler, consists of a metal box (20 by 9 by 14 in.) that weighs only 8 lbs. A handful of grain heads is fed into the top and a clean sample of grain comes out the bottom. It runs on a 12-volt battery.

The thresher is small enough to carry in a pickup truck and can be run off the truck battery. Tests for moisture content still have to be run at the local elevator, or with a do-it-yourself moisture tester.

One of the designers, Garth Brehon, is now building and selling the thresher. He's sold a half dozen units and plans to be in full production for the 1982 harvest season. He expects to retail it for right at \$275.

The thresher is designed for small grains but can be adjusted to sample finer grass seeds. It's not designed for corn and soybean sampling.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brehon Agrisystems, Box 3, Maymont, Sask. S0M 1 T0 (ph 306 373-5646).



The Kattle Katch is a piece of channel placed about 18 in. above the floor, across the head opening of a tie stall or stanchion. The unit bolts onto existing posts with 'U' bolts and a piece of angle iron. The side of the channel facing the cows as they walk in has an 8 in. long, spring loaded

piece of metal attached. When the chain hanging down from the cow's neck strikes the pressure sensitive metal, it snaps the spring loaded bar shut. Now, the chain is in between the two bars.

The animal still has complete head movement since the chain can move

up and down and side to side between the bars. It can't escape though, because bolted to the end of the chain is a rubber ball that prevents the chain from slipping up between the bars.