

## Cow Sculptures Fool Passersby

They don't eat, they don't kick and they'll never die. Otherwise, these life-size aluminum cows created by Dennis Hensley, are almost like the real thing.

Bessie (\$1,850) stands on her feet and Bossy (\$1,450) lies down. Both replicas are traffic-stoppers for Hensley.

When Hensley first ran across one of the cows, he tracked it back to the factory and gained distribution rights. He discovered that only one cow is made each week. However, he was sure there was a market for them, and

he was right. The first one he took to a flea market sold in five minutes to a farmer.

"Interest was tremendous," recalls Hensley. "People can't walk past without stopping to look at it. When you see it, you would swear it was alive."

Hensley figures the cows would be equally attention getting in front of farm supply stores, restaurants and dairy farms.

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Bales are dried from the top and bottom at the same time.

## Revolutionary New Hay Dryer For Round, Big Square Bales

You've never seen anything like this new bale dryer that lets you dry up to 16 round bales or 12 big square bales at a time. It was introduced at the recent National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, Ky.

"It lets you bale hay earlier, at moisture contents up to 40 percent. As a result, 90 percent of the leaves are saved which greatly increases the protein level," says distributor David Eftink, Double D Tractor Parts, Sikeston, Mo.

The company imports the hay dryer from Italy, where it has been used for about 10 years. The Italian inventor recently received worldwide patents so he has started marketing it overseas.

The hay dryer consists of a 32-ft. long structure made from galvanized steel and is designed to dry two layers of bales at a time. Up to three modules can be connected together.

Bales are placed in a single layer across each of two floors, which have tunnels inside them with inset ducts. There's a third tunnel system at the top. A large fan powered by a diesel engine or 3-phase electric power is housed inside a metal shed at one end of the unit. The fan blows heated air through the bottom floor to three flexible poly tubes at the opposite end that carry the hot air up to the second floor, which is divided into an upper and lower tunnel. A single flexible tube delivers air to the tunnel system at the top. All bales are dried from both the top and bottom at the same time.

To load and unload bales, the entire top

floor drops down hydraulically to within 4 ft. of the ground. Once the top floor is loaded, it's raised to make room for loading bales onto the bottom floor.

Once all the bales are loaded, the operator squeezes the top floor down against the bales to create a tight seal.

"Six months after you've baled the hay it will still be as green as the day you cut it," says Eftink. "Once you dry hay down to 12 percent moisture there's hardly any chance for mold or bacteria to form. Hay cured this way has almost 40 percent more protein which results in better animal health and production. Dairy farmers can usually expect up to a 10 percent increase in milk production.

"Another advantage of baling high moisture hay is that you can sometimes get an extra cutting of alfalfa."

The burner raises the air temperature inside the tunnels to about 100 degrees. It costs about \$10 per ton to dry the bales and about eight hours to bring it from 40 percent moisture down to 12 percent," says Eftink.

The dryer will be demonstrated for the first time this spring in Ohio and Michigan. The 32-ft. module sells for about \$82,000. Eftink says that if there's enough interest, the company may also offer a 24-ft. model that would sell for about \$56,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Double D Tractor Parts, Inc., Hwy. 62 East, P.O. Box 1767, Sikeston, Mo. 63801 (ph 573 471-2727 or 573 380-5118; fax 573 471-2288; email: deftink@doubletractor.com; website: www.doubletractor.com).



To load the bales, the top floor drops down to a height of 4 ft. for easy loading.



"People can't walk past without stopping to look," says Hensley.



Large float wheels allow converted tractor to easily maneuver on soft ground.

## Tractor-To-Buggy Conversion Kit

RES Equipment in Woodburn, Oregon, has developed tractor-to-buggy conversion kits that fit small and medium frame tractors. The kits are for high-power, low-weight tractors and designed to apply less ground pressure than other buggies.

The conversion kits maintain the reliability, drive train, multi-speed transmission, and pulling power of a tractor with the field weight of a floater. This is ideal for fertilizing, baiting, spraying, planting, harrowing and rolling.

It is especially useful anywhere there is standing water that might cause a regular tractor to bog down.

The kit can be mounted or taken off in a couple hours, which allows you to switch back and forth during a working day. All the

replacement parts are commonly available. The kits have differential locking and turning breaks for rough conditions and the weight of the tractor is equally distributed onto each tire.

The frame is ideal for saddle tanks or a 3-pt. boom system. Depending on the tractor, there can be a weight to horsepower ratio of only 75 lbs. per horsepower.

The small frame conversion kit (Deere 5000 Series, Kubota M Series) sells for \$4,400. The medium frame kit (Deere 6000 Series) costs \$5,300. The kits do not include the tractor, tires or wheels.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, RES Equipment, 19564 Haines Rd., Scotts Mill, Oregon 97375 (ph 503 873-3939).

Kit can be taken off in a couple hours, allowing you to use the tractor as originally equipped.

