

Round Bale Bagger

A Canadian farmer who built his own big bale bagger says his do-it-yourself bagger works great and his cows love the big bale silage he's now able to produce.

Jean-Noel Beaudry, who farms near Verner, Ontario, puts as many as 22 bales in one big tube-shaped bag. He can also use his bagger machine to put individual bales in single bags.

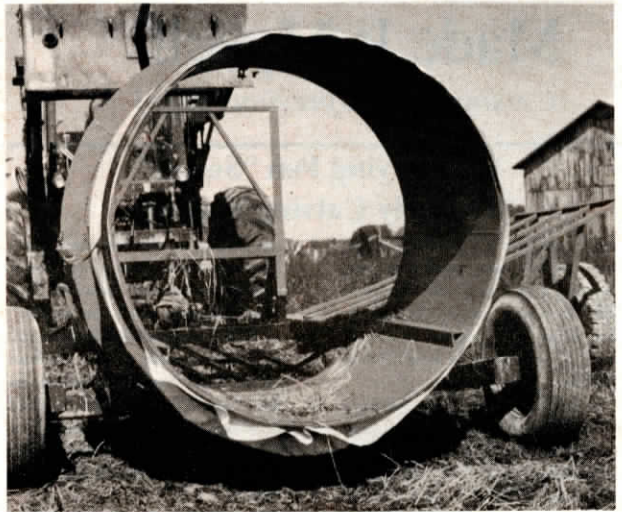
"I first looked at the baggers on the market and then built my own. It works great for bagging bales from 40 to 80% moisture," says Beaudry, who spent about \$2,000 to build the bagger. "The most expensive part was getting the round steel bale tube rolled and getting the 7-ft. long cylinder custom-built. I built everything else myself."

In operation, the bagger pulls like a trailer behind a tractor. A second

tractor lays a bale on the slanted platform at the front of the bagger. The bale rolls down directly in front of the bagging tube and the 7-ft. cylinder, powered by tractor hydraulics, pushes the bale through the bale tube and into the bag. Then the operator pulls the bagger ahead to bag the next bale. A 1-in. rubber hose with a spring tied into it holds the bag in place on the bagger tube.

"This idea is catching on fast with dairymen in this area. Many farmers have built their own bale baggers. I can tell because I act as a dealer for big bale bags. Last year I sold \$6,000 worth of bags. This year I sold \$32,000 worth of bags," Beaudry told FARM SHOW.

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Offset "Single Wing" Spray Rig

"I wanted to eliminate guesswork when spraying crops," says Australian farmer Trevor Day who built an "offset" spray rig with a single 50-ft. wing off to one side of the tractor.

The offset design lets Day apply chemicals with 100% accuracy by following a mark made by a single tine at the end of the boom. Because there's only a single wing off to the one side, he can simply follow the mark with his tractor tire. No need to strain to line up the end of a lengthy boom with a previous sprayer pass.

The three-section spray boom is anchored to the spray trailer behind the tractor by two steel cables that run from the front of the trailer to positions out toward the end of the boom. The boom rides easily over rough ground on two large wheels.

Day's marker is unique in that when

traveling forward it digs out a clearly visible furrow that's easy for the tractor operator to follow. On tight turns, when the end of the boom backs up, the tine automatically pulls out of the ground and rides on its own small carrying wheel.

Day told FARM SHOW that one disadvantage of the sprayer is that to use it you have to travel around the field rather than back and forth. "Obtaining 100% coverage with almost no overlap makes up for whatever disadvantages there may be in some fields," he says, noting that he's used the sprayer on over 3,000 acres with no problems.

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Night "Director" For Combine Operators

"It reduced our grain loading losses to zero," says Ralph Jorgensen, Calgary, Alb., who came up with this unique night "director" device for operators of pull type combines.

The vinyl display, pasted to the rear tractor window, is used in conjunction with a flashlight to direct the truck driver when unloading grain at night.

The display includes four arrows, and a bright red and a bright green patch. By pointing a flashlight at the

appropriate symbol, the tractor driver can direct the truck driver to: STOP or GO, or by highlighting an arrow, to move RIGHT, LEFT, FORWARD, or BACK.

Jorgensen sells the vinyl display, which measures 12 in. by 12 in., for \$10.

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Wood Toolboxes, Bed Liner For Pickups

"I lined my pickup box with 3/4-in. plywood and then built toolboxes into normally wasted space above and ahead of the wheel wells," says David Smyth, Stettler, Alberta.

"Both front boxes are 36 in. long at the top while the back boxes, directly over the wheels, are 22 in. long. The 9-in. wide boxes were built with 3/4-in. angle iron bracing and 'piano'-type hinges. The lids slope downward to shed rainwater and snow. Each lid can be locked.

"The toolboxes were designed so that a 4 by 8-ft. sheet of plywood still lays flat between the wheel wells. I've used the toolboxes for 3 years and, other than surface wear, they've served me well hauling miscellaneous tools, a jack, tow rope, chains, booster cables, oil, trouble light and other odds and ends. Total out-of-pocket cost was just \$44."

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