REMOVES CONDENSATION FROM ROOF, OUTSIDE WALLS

Outside Bin Liner Traps Moisture, Saves Energy

"There's tremendous interest from farmers everywhere," says Peter Christianson of Christianson's Inc., manufacturer of a new outside bin liner for drying bins that removes moisture from the walls and roof, and insulates the bin for energy savings of 20% or more.

"Temperatures inside bins often reach 130° when drying, while the outside temperature is usually cold. The difference causes condensation inside the walls," says Christianson.

Minnesota farmer Richard Keller came up with the moisture trapping system when he became concerned about moisture damage to grain inside his bins. He had noticed that most moisture damage was caused by moisture dripping off the roof. To solve the problem, he raised the roof on his drying bin about 2 in.. and installed a gutter on the outside wall that channeled the dripping water out of the bin. Through trial and error, Keller discovered that, if he extended the bin liner further down the sidewalls, moisture no longer condensed on the inside of the bin walls.

The conversion kit from Christianson's, Inc. includes brackets that raise the roof 2 in. The bin liner — 1½-in. thick and made from 29 ga. metal — is installed over the opening between the roof and sidewalls, and down around the entire bin except for the bottom 3 ft.

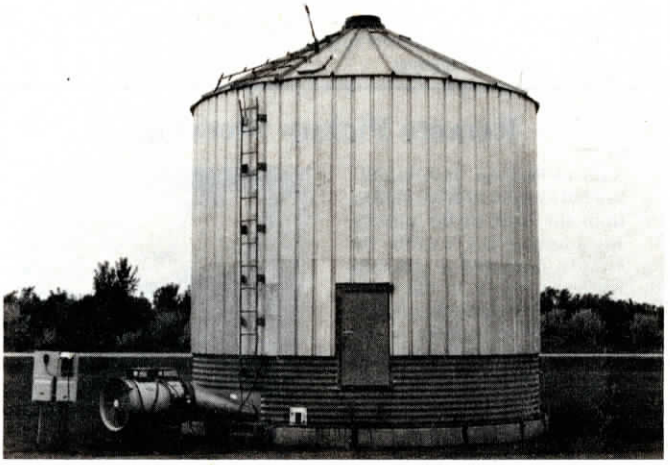
Once installed, the roof vents are sealed off, directing air flow down the liner on the outside of the bin, along with all the moisture dripping off the sloping bin roof. The insulating effect of the bin liner equalizes temperature between the hot drying air inside the bin and the bin wall, eliminating condensation below the roof line. "We don't have to cover the bottom three feet of the bin because there's enough aeration when the dryer fans are running to eliminate moisture build-up down there," explains Christianson.

He adds that the galvanized metal bin liner is designed to last the life of the bin. High volume air flow in the liner prevents corrosion from moisture.

"Farmers like it because it's simple. There are no moving parts. It'll last virtually forever, and it works," says Christianson, noting that tests are now being conducted on the new system to determine energy savings due to the insulation effect of the bin walls.

The liner sells for $1,000 to $2,400, depending on bin size and whether or not you install it yourself.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Christianson's Inc., Box 2005, 17-2nd St. N.W., Elbow Lake, Minn. 56531 (ph 218 685-4467).



Liner insulates outside walls of drying bin and draws moisture out.

REUSEABLE CRYSTALS ABSORB 500 TIMES THEIR OWN WEIGHT IN WATER

"Water-B-Gone" Sucks Water Out Of Fuel Tanks

Crystals that absorb up to 500 times their own weight in water and can be reused as many as 300 times are "the best product available for easily extracting water from fuel tanks," according to inventor Robert Hamilton, Merced, Cal.

Water-B-Gone crystals are transparent and not much bigger than rock salt. But when immersed in water, they swell up to the size of a big man's fingernail. When placed in open air, they'll shrink back down to hard, tiny crystals ready to be used again.

"One teaspoon can absorb a quart of water quickly and cleanly," says Hamilton. He notes that there are a couple ways to use the product to clean up diesel fuel, gasoline, or oil. "You can add Water-B-Gone crystals directly to fuel and then strain the inflated crystals out. Or, you can use the crystals inside absorbent bags. We make small bags with crystals already inside. The bag is lowered into the contaminated tank and left for about 45 min. You keep adding bags until they no longer swell up with water. Then, you can dry the crystals out for use at another time."

Water-B-Gone sells for $2.99 per ready-to-use absorbent bag, or $25 per pound for the raw product. The product is non-toxic and biodegradable in sunlight.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Chemco Mud Inc., 30 W. Sandy Mush Rd., Merced, Cal. 95340 (ph 209 723-0215 or 723-9192).

Tiny pile of water-absorbing crystals, upper left, turns into handful of gel, above, when immersed in water-contaminated fuel.

ALSO PERFORMS OTHER CHORES

Drill Runs Off Tractor Hydraulics

"It's a fantastic new all-around portable hydraulic power tool," says Roger Shultz, sales representative for Bendzick Machine & Mfg., manufacturer of a new hydraulic-power drill that can also be used as a power winch, portable pump, nut drive and more.

Designed to connect to virtually any tractor hydraulic system under 2,000 psi and 6.5 gpm, the new hydraulic drill develops up to 4 hp. driving potential, far beyond the strength of an ordinary electric drill.

"A key advantage of a hydraulic drill is that it never heats up because of the continual flow of hydraulic fluid through it, unlike electric drills which get hot doing heavy jobs," notes Schultz.

The 17½ lb. drill is fitted with a spring-loaded on-off trigger and brakes instantly when shut down. It'll work under virtually any conditions, even under water. It's equipped with a rugged ¾-in. Cushman drill chuck and is variable speed in forward or reverse. Its Eaton Char-Lynn motor runs at speeds up to 540 rpm's. It can be used for any power application where a drill chuck fits a power shaft — such as raising a silo unloader or elevator — or the chuck can be removed for pulley or gear application with its standard ⅝-in. shaft. The company is also working on other attachments.

"You can take it anywhere and it's virtually maintenance-free," says Schultz. The new drill sells for $350.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bendzick Machine & Mfg., 23021 Albers Ave., Rt. 2, Faribault, Minn. 55021 (ph 507 332-2271).

Powerful drill develops up to 4 hp. and never overheats.