

"50% MORE HEAT FROM THE SAME WOOD"

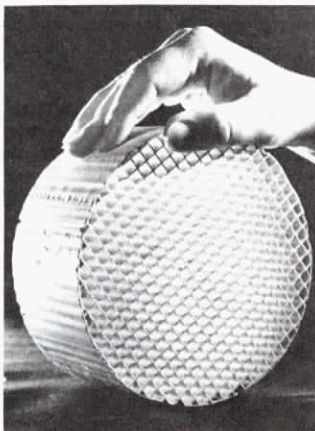
Catalytic Converter For Wood Stoves

Just-introduced woodburning stoves from Franklin Cast Products have a combustion efficiency up to 90%, rivaling that of gas furnaces and about double the performance of conventional fireplaces, according to the manufacturer. Franklin officials claim their new stoves, compared to conventional stoves, can recover 50% more heat from the same wood, or burn one-third less wood for equal heat output.

The key to this high efficiency is a first of its kind catalytic converter made by Corning Glass Works, Corning, N.Y. The converter is a ceramic honeycomb that's 5.66 in. in dia. and 3 in. thick. Smoke from the burning wood passes through 16 square holes per square inch in the combustor to a special after-burner chamber before passing up the chimney. The converter makes the stove burn hotter, thus burning up more creosote.

A special catalyst on the ceramic combustor alters the smoke, causing it to burn at about 500°F (typical wood burning temperature) rather than 1100-1300°F normally required for combustion of smoke. This recovers more heat from the fuel, removes harmful air pollutants from the smoke and greatly reduces creosote accumulation in the chimney, thereby reducing possible chimney fires. (Most chimney fires are caused by improper stove operation or installation — not by the stove itself, say Franklin representatives.)

Actually, the catalytic converter functions in much the same manner as a catalytic converter on a car by



New catalytic converter is available only on new stoves and can't be retrofitted to older models.

helping remove air pollutants, in this case from stove exhaust. However, experts stress that a catalytic converter from a car **cannot** be used on a stove.

Both Corning and Franklin spokesmen warn that burning improper fuels can damage or "kill" the catalyst, thus rendering it useless — and a replacement will likely cost \$75-\$100. But, it's so new no one knows how long they will last with proper care. Extended tests are underway.

For more information on the new converter-equipped stoves, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Franklin Cast Products, Warwick, R.I. 02886 (ph 401 739-9300).

CONVERTS FROM ONE TO THE OTHER IN MINUTES

This Plow's Both A Chisel And A Moldboard

"We've got a plow you should hear about, too," was the reaction of Kverneland plow representative, Frank Staniec, to FARM SHOW's December story on M & W Gear's new Erosion Control plow.

The M & W plow is unique in that it combines chisel plow shanks with conventional moldboard bottoms. The combination not only digs deep to break up hardpan and trap moisture, but turns the topsoil, preparing a better seedbed.

Staniec says M & W's plow is the only one he knows of that's manufactured in the chisel shank-moldboard configuration. "Our new Kverneland convertible plow could be assembled in a similar manner. We've designed an automatic reset chisel shank that mounts in place of the moldboard with just three bolts,

allowing you to convert a 5-bottom moldboard to a 5-shank chisel plow — or vice versa — in 45 min. or less," he told FARM SHOW.

"Many smaller farmers don't feel they can justify the cost of both a chisel and moldboard plow, even though they could use them. Some, with both hilly and flat land, like to chisel the hills to cut down on erosion. Others like to turn over the topsoil every few years and chisel other years."

Equipped with chisel shanks, the heavy Kverneland plow, which is imported from Norway, digs to a depth of 14 to 16 in. Because shanks are spaced in a moldboard configuration on a high-clearance frame, Staniec says there is much less plugging. Rolling colters stay in place.

"If desired, you can alternate

PRODUCES TOP-GRADE LEATHER, SAYS SOUTH CAROLINA TANNER

"Exotic" New Leather From Turkey Skin

"It looks a lot like ostrich. It's supple and soft," says Clyde Seiz, president of the Fouke Fur Co. in Greenville, S.C., which may be the first company in the world to make leather out of turkey skin.

The firm, using an exclusive and highly secret process, turns the lightweight skins into a leather that's processed into boots, wallets, gloves, etc., by other firms. Turkey skin's big advantage over ostrich skin, which it resembles, is availability.

"Ostrich is very limited and usually comes from a foreign source," says Seiz, noting that they call the new turkey leather "Gallapava," a name derived from the scientific name for turkey. "Gallapava is much cheaper than both ostrich and alligator, and people like the unusual pattern left by the quills in the hide."

A representative of the Sterling Boot Co., Houston, Tex., which has handled Gallapava boots, says the boots have sold well at about \$250 a pair. In fact, there's a two month back order. Turkey leather comes in "natural" gray, a reddish-brown, baby blue, butterscotch and chocolate.

Fouke is currently working out "snags" in the tanning process before moving into full-scale production. At this time, they tan around 5,000 hides a week, bought from a nearby turkey processor who trims skins from the carcasses after first steaming feathers off.

Seiz says leather can be made from



Turkey leather boots sell for up to \$250 a pair.

any poultry product using their technique — including ducks and chickens — but that the turkey is the only bird big enough to yield a workable skin. A typical skin from a big bird measures about 13 sq. in., which is the minimum size required for boots. In processing, the skin is treated with chemicals to smooth it and shrunk to both strengthen it and improve the design. It takes two or three skins to make a pair of boots. The firm hopes to be in full production later this year.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Fouke Co., Greenville, S.C. (ph 803 246-3210).

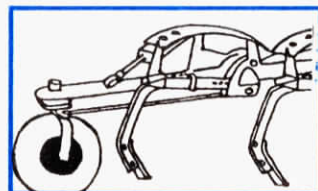


Kverneland plow switches from a moldboard configuration (above) into a chisel plow (below).

moldboard with chisel shanks for deep penetration and topsoil preparation. Because situations vary, every farmer will use this plow differently," says Staniec.

Kverneland's 5-bottom plow sells for about \$7,200. The convertible chisel plow feature costs about \$50 per shank extra.

Staniec notes that the resetting shanks used on the plow are also available for mounting on other toolbars.



For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Miller Distributing, St. Nazianz, Wis. 54232 (ph 715 834-7878).