

## Waste Oil Heaters: Free Heat For Your Farm Shop

The charter issue of FARM SHOW published three years ago featured one of the first waste oil heaters on the market, manufactured by Kutrieb and marketed by Lennan Enterprises, Milton, Wis. Today, the company markets a complete line of waste oil burners, from a 40,000 btu stove to their just-introduced 500,000 btu furnace for big users.

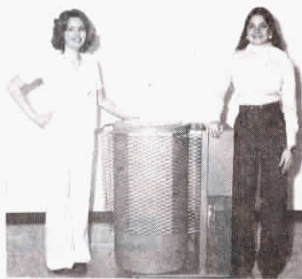
Kutrieb heaters burn smokeless, odorless and soot-free. "Even the dirtiest of oil burns clean," a spokesman points out. "The heaters have to be cleaned every few days to remove residue which builds up in the burner unit — a chore which takes only a minute or two."

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kutrieb Waste Oil Burners, Lennan Enterprises, Box 94, Milton, Wis. 53563 (ph 608 868-4351).

Several recently-introduced waste oil burners FARM SHOW has learned about include the following:

- **The Hooter Heater.** Distributed by Tri-State Products, Inc., New Castle, Penn., the 100,000 btu Hooter Heater burns waste crankcase oil, and waste transmission and hydraulic fluids. Ignites electrically and burns odorless and smokeless. Daily maintenance amounts to cleaning two easily accessible parts. Sells for \$898. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Luke Hollinger, Hooter Heater, 2476 Creek Hill Rd., Lancaster, Penn. 17601 (ph 717 656-2366).

The Hooter Heater is available



in Canada as the Wonder waste oil heater. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ener-Aid of Canada, Inc., 500 Ontario Street, Stratford, Ontario N5A 3J3 (ph 519 273-3841).

- **The Little Dragon.** If you already own a small wood stove, or just an empty 55-gal. drum, you'll be interested in the Little Dragon waste oil burner. The unit is designed to fit many types of wood, coal, and oil-burning stoves and furnaces. Retailers for \$175 with complete installation instructions. Burns any weight oil, from diesel fuel up to about 50-weight engine oil. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Benjamin Aviation, & Machine, Box 1148, Fort Benton, Mont. 59442 (ph 406 734-5416).

- **Kroll Heater.** Features automatic air settings and controls, and burns smokeless and odorless. Models range from 40,000 btu's to 280,000 btu's. Burns any dirty crankcase oils, or conventional fuel oil and kerosene. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, L & N Heating Co., Inc., 4606 Kinsman Rd., Mesopotamia, Ohio 44439 (ph 216 693-4347).

## Chicken Flying Contests Catching On

Ever hear of a chicken flying contest? For chicken lovers it's just as competitive but a lot more genteel than tractor pulling.

Perhaps chicken flying will never become as popular among farmers as tractor pulls, but it has achieved somewhat that status in southeastern Ohio. There, at the Bob Evans Farm near Rio Grande, an annual chicken flying contest is now in its eighth year. The Eighth Annual International Chicken Flying Meet was held there last May 19.

The event is sponsored by the International Chicken Flying Assn., with headquarters at the Bob Evans Farm.

Participants bring their birds to be weighed in and put in a flight class. Every chicken entered must have a name. Most entries have been trained for flying by their owners, but



people who want to participate can coach a chicken selected from the flock at Bob Evans Flight Training Center located right on the farm.

Each contestant is placed on a launching pad 10 feet off the ground and coaxed into flight. The distance is measured, and a winner finally emerges at the end of the contest. The record chicken flight is 292 feet.

For more information about chicken flying, contact: International Chicken Flying Assn., Bob Evans Farm, Box 154, Rio Grande, Ohio 45674. (614 245-5304).

## Trench Silo Made From Big Round Bales

Here's about the cheapest bunker silo we've heard of. It's made out of big round hay bales which protect the silage through the winter and can be fed up themselves in the spring.

Dale and Dave Phillips, Stockton, Ill., have been storing their silage this way for a number of years, and it works good for them. Their silo, located on a slope with good drainage, is about 30 ft. wide and 120 ft. long.

The Phillipses lay out the silo as soon as the big bales are made in the summer. They are placed tightly together in a double row

with the ends or straight sides of the bales facing in.

"Building each side two bales wide makes them solid enough so they won't move when silage is packed against them," explains Dave Phillips. "We put the silage in with a crawler tractor that weighs 20 tons. The key to success is to pack it tight."

They pile the silage until it is mounded up about a foot higher than the height of the bales.

A finishing touch is to seed oats on top of the pile when it is done. "The oats sprout and bind the top together," Dave points out.

He says that they get 2-3 in. of spoilage on top of the pile and some freezing along the sides, but overall it works very well.

Dave has these pointers for farmers who are thinking of trying this kind of feed storage:

1. Be sure you select a site with good drainage.
2. Build the side walls two bales wide with the square side facing in.
3. Size the bunker so that it will be fed out by March or April when the weather warms up and the rains come.
4. Slope the silo downhill with the open end at the bottom.
5. Pack it tight.
6. Feed out the bales as the silo is emptied.

The Phillipses feed 125 head of purebred Angus cattle. They dig the silage out with a skid loader and feed it in bunks made from old tractor tires.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dave Phillips, Hickory Hill Farm, 3546 Illinois Route 78 N., Stockton, Ill. 61085 (ph 815 947-2377).

## Turning Troublesome Kochia Weeds Into Money

Many a farmer has looked at a vigorous crop of weeds and wished that some of that vigor could be found in a useful crop.

A Texas cattleman, Ron Crist, made that observation a couple years ago and decided to do something about it. The weed was what Texans call "kochia" or "burning bush", which is common on range land.

"A bunch of us got to talking about it around the coffee table a while back. We noticed that our cattle seemed to like kochia and did well when they grazed on it," Crist told FARM SHOW. "I had heard that one company ran a protein test on it and found it to be about 17%, the same as wheat and alfalfa."

So Crist and a half dozen of his neighbors decided to cultivate the weed for livestock grazing. Crist combined some old fields that had high kochia populations and saved the seed. In spring of 1979 he planted 62 acres of kochia.

He prepared the field by dis-

king, then seeded by airplane at a rate of 4 lbs. per acre. After seeding, he turned on his irrigation system to get the crop off to a good start, and timely rains later insured a good stand.

Crist turned his cattle in when the plants were about 12 in. high. At the early growth stage, kochia is green and succulent, and cattle like it. When the cattle were pulled off the pasture later, they had averaged 1.5 lbs. daily gain.

"Some of my neighbors reported gains of 2 lbs. per day on kochia," says Crist. "The secret is to graze it early and keep it from getting tall and stemmy. I could have carried more cattle on it than I did."

Some of the Texas cattlemen who have tried kochia are stocking it at the rate of 4 head of cattle per acre, but the crop is so new that there is still much to learn about its management.

The cattle on kochia range got no other feed, and there were no problems with bloat. There's

also a possibility of putting up kochia hay.

What about spreading kochia into corn and milo fields where it is not wanted?

Crist thinks that is not going to be a problem in this day of weed chemicals. "I've been keeping kochia out of fields for the last 15 years using atrazine and propazine," he says. "And, as far as seed contamination is concerned, it would be no problem with corn or milo because our cleaning methods are so good. But it could be a problem in alfalfa where the seeds are the same size."

Crist thinks kochia can fit right into his future cattle feeding program. He plans to increase his acreage of kochia this year.

For more information contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ron Crist, Holly Sugar Road, Box 1641; Hereford, Texas 79045 (ph 806 364-6030).