

Reader Letters

I enjoy your publication immensely and get more information from your magazine than all the other subscriptions that I get combined.

Carl Berendt
Clarksburg, N.J.

We are astonished at the response we're getting from the article in your magazine on our combine operator's book. Orders began arriving several days before we received our copy of the magazine, as did the phone calls. To date, we have had orders from nineteen states. Today we received orders from John Deere Harvester Works, Massey Ferguson, and the Hawkeye Institute of Technology in Waterloo, Iowa. Also, a long and very interesting call from a salesman for a John Deere dealership in Texas.

It is evident that the next few weeks are going to be very interesting because of your nice article. We really do appreciate the fine job you did on it.

Ray Stueckle
Box 207
Colfax, Wash. 99111

In glancing through your publication (Vol. 2, No. 4, 1978) I noticed the article on page 24 concerning a canning set. I have several things to say about the article.

First of all, the sub-title and further reference in the article that this device will "keep mold and spoilage out of your jar" is incorrect. No wrenches (no matter how handy) are going to do this if the proper canning techniques are

not used. Jars will seal upon processing when the proper steps are taken and the bands are screwed down firmly tight by hand. No extra amount of leverage is needed in order to get a jar sealed.

My second point is the use of the wrench to open the band before use. Most manufacturers and the U.S.D.A recommend removing the band after the jars are completely cool (approx. 24 hrs.). If you plan to transport your sealed jars, clean bands should be put back on. The sealed jars do not need a band on them to "keep spoilage out".

Another complaint is on a quote by the president of the company that you can save money by re-using the covers that are not bent. I hope that all canners realize that flats are not to be re-used. Once a jar has been sealed with a flat, the jar indents into the sealing compound to form the seal. The only way you could make this like new would be to replace the rubber-like sealing compound which is not possible.

Mrs. David Grothusen
Scott City, Ks.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Although the home canning set manufactured by the Gun-

nard Co., Lakeville, Mn., isn't new, it has been a very popular item and, thinking many of our readers haven't heard about it, we elected to feature it in FARM SHOW. In visiting with manufacturer John Ahlquist about his quote in our story that "covers don't get bent and can be reused again", we weren't aware that he was referring to older-style zinc lids which had a separate rubber and cover. Obviously, as Mrs. Grothusen's letter points out, the wrench set is not applicable for canning with new style lids now commonly used. It is, however, applicable as an all-purpose jar opener for use year-around in the kitchen. And the Safety Lifter which comes as part of the kit is useful in lifting hot jars out of a cooker or boiler.

I have two new inventions I'd like to see. The first is a cross between the New Idea Uni-System and Versatile's tractor with a "reversible" seat and steering wheel. A person could use the power unit in the spring like a regular tractor for heavy tillage. Then, by reversing the seat and steering wheel, the power unit could be used like a Uni-system for self-propelled conveni-

ence of a windrower, chopper, corn picker, etc.

The second idea is an attachment to mount on a regular forage chopper in place of the cutter or pick-up head that would shred and feed loose stacked or baled hay into the chopper for grinding. This attachment could be fed with a front end loader and would eliminate the need for a tub grinder.

Louis Jacobson
North Platte, Nb.

Your FARM SHOW is my best value in several years. I want new ideas and straight information about products. Have stopped all other farm magazines except FARM SHOW, and Crops and Soils.

Milt Maddox
Adrian, Mo.

One of my customers introduced me to your FARM SHOW magazine. We are an IH dealership and feel the owners' report article on Axial-Flow combines was excellent. We especially like the unbiased manner in which this magazine is published.

Jim Selking
Decatur Truck and Tractor
Decatur, Ill.

Don't Miss A Single Issue!

Many new subscribers have asked if they can obtain back issues of FARM SHOW. The answer is yes. We have a limited supply and are offering them on a first come, first served basis. For the complete set of 6 FARM SHOW issues published in 1977, our first year of publication, send your check for \$6 (made payable to FARM SHOW) to: Back Issues, FARM SHOW Magazine, 8500 210 St., Lakeville, Minn. 55044. Add \$1 per copy if you want to order any "missing" 1978 issues.

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