



He Uses Manure To Hold Down Plastic On Silage Stack

A few years ago, when dairyman Paul Warnshuis had a lot more silage from his second and third cutting than room in his silos to hold it, a visiting German student showed him a simple, effective way to cover the big stack he was forced to pile on the ground.

"Many farmers in Europe have used manure to hold down plastic on stacks for years. I tried it and it worked," says Warnshuis, who farms near Sherman, N.Y.

Compared with packing silage into a bunker silo, there's less waste and virtually no spoilage in stacks stored on the ground, Warnshuis discovered. Compared with bagging silage, there's a lot less fuss and muss, he adds.

Warnshuis packs his silage just like he would in a bunker silo, dumping silage out of 8-ton forage wagons pulled over the top of the pile with a 4-WD tractor. Another 4-

WD tractor packs the silage behind the tractor and wagon.

Once packed, the 300 to 500-ton stacks are covered with two or three layers of 6-mil. plastic. About 10 old tires are used to keep plastic in place until a 4-in. layer of manure is spread over the plastic with a conventional manure spreader.

As the manure dries, it shrinks to hold the plastic tightly in place until Warnshuis starts rolling the plastic back for daily feeding.

Warnshuis says he's amazed at how little spoilage there is with the system.

"At the most, I've hauled two spreader loads of manure and spoiled silage away from one of these piles," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Paul Warnshuis, 4270 Sherman-Ripley Rd., Sherman, N.Y. 14781 (ph 716 761-6636).

He Uses Rope To Control Endgate From Top Of Bin

Harvey Enns likes to fill his grain bins all the way to the top but he didn't like always having to climb up the bin ladder to check grain level. He solved the problem by running a rope through a pulley at the back of his grain truck, allowing him to open or close the endgate from on top of the bin.

Enns mounted the pulley just below the endgate. The 1/4-in. dia. nylon rope runs through holes in a steel guide above the pulley. A Vise Grips pliers clamps the rope to the endgate handle. He carries both ends of the rope - which are tied to a piece of a hockey stick - up the bin ladder. He pulls one end of the rope to raise the endgate. Once the bin is full, he pulls the other end to close it.

"I considered setting up a radio-controlled unit to open or close the endgate, but I couldn't find a 12-volt DC motor with low rpm's that would do the job. And commercial remote control models cost thousands of dollars.

"I used a hook to attach the pulley so that I can easily move it from truck to truck. When I'm done using the rope, I wrap it



around the stick and lay it on the ground next to the bin or put it in the truck."

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Do-It-Yourself Air Conditioning

Here's a way to cool down a shop or other farm building.

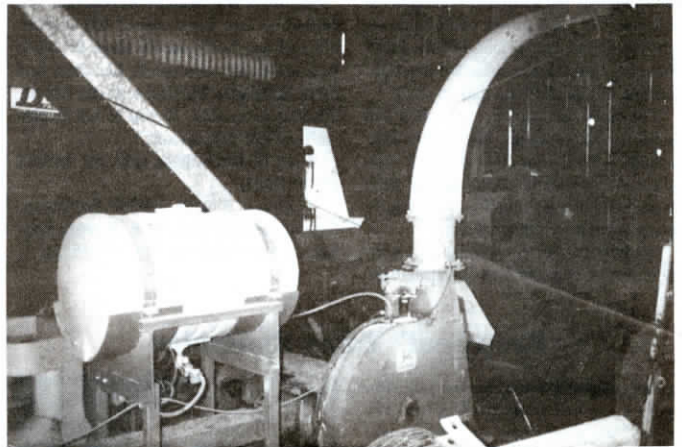
Mount an old car or truck radiator on a stand and run a cold water line into the top of it and hook up a return line coming out the bottom. Turn on the tap so water runs through the radiator at a trickle. Then set up a fan behind the radiator that blows air through it and out into the area you want to cool.

Randy Borchert, Ellendale, Minn., in-

stalled a radiator cooling system in his milking parlor using a truck radiator and a squirrel cage fan out of an old furnace. When it gets hot, he just starts water running through the large truck radiator, and flips the switch on the fan. Operation is trouble-free, he notes, and the operating cost minimal.

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"Best Ideas"



Water Keeps Hay From Gumming Up Forage Harvester

Problems with hay gumming up the fan housing on a Deere 3800 forage harvester prompted Larry McGill, Glencoe, Ontario, to mount a 55-gal. tank on the harvester and use a 12-volt pump to squirt water into the top of the fan housing. A toggle switch in the cab is used to turn the pump on or off.

"It solved the problem at a cost of less than \$350," says McGill.

He made a steel saddle for the tank and mounted it on four 30-in. long legs made from 2 1/2-in. sq. steel tubing, then welded the legs onto the frame of the forage harvester just ahead of the fan housing.

"Gummy build-up on the inside of the

fan housing took a lot of extra power. Material came out of the fan so slow it barely made it to the front of the wagon. I couldn't get on much of a load," says McGill.

"I keep three or four different sizes of metering orifices in the tractor cab. When I use the largest orifice a tank full of water will last for two wagon loads. However, I usually can get by using a smaller orifice. I mounted a pressure gauge and pressure regulator under the tank. I operate the continuous duty electric diaphragm pump at 30 to 40 psi."

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Electronic Ignition Kit For Older Tractors

"Once you've installed one of our electronic ignition kits in your older tractor, you'll never have to change points again," says the owner of an Ohio carburetor shop.

"We've sold more than 1,500 kits, which fit most 1939 to '58 tractors using IH and Delco ignition systems. The unit fits completely under the distributor cap and requires no external boxes, so it doesn't change the appearance of your tractor. Here's why every tractor owner should be interested in this kit: When you install perfectly new points, you're probably within 5% of the spark you should have. But the very next day, those new points start to burn and corrode, degrading down to 50% of the spark you need in a matter of weeks. That translates to a drop in power.

"The electronic ignition kit, on the other hand, remains at a constant 100% of whatever the coil can produce. We do not claim our kit in any way improves on the ignition coil itself; it simply gives it constant maximum output. Our components are completely sealed against moisture, grease, dirt, and oil and the unit is vibration-proof and heat-proof. It's guaranteed for 30 months. Unless you live near one of our five dealers in the eastern U.S., the 'Ignitor' kits are available only from our shop. IH and Delco 4-cyl. kits sell for \$135 apiece; Delco 6-cyl. kits for \$145."

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