



Mastec dries in 3 to 5 min. to form protective "glove" which seals teat from bacteria, according to manufacturer.

RUBBER-BASED TEAT DIP FORMS A THIN ELASTIC, PROTECTIVE COATING

Promising New Way To Control Mastitis

"We think it's the most effective way to control mastitis," says the inventor of a new barrier-type teat dip for dairy cows that actually coats the teat with a thin layer of latex rubber.

Walter Fetty, Nebraska City, Neb., was driven out of the dairy business 20 years ago when mastitis ruined his cow herd. Even after years of running a restaurant in town, the problem of mastitis and how to prevent it has continued to bother him and this fall he began marketing his new-found solution to the problem.

It's Mastec, a liquid latex rubber, applied like any other teat dip except that instead of killing invading bacteria, it simply acts as a protective glove sealing the udder from bacteria and the diseases they cause. It dries in 3 to 5 min. to form a thin, elastic sheet of protective rubber.

Mastec comes as a concentrate in gallon jugs, ready to apply. "The concentrate is for complete protection of dry cows until freshening," explains Fetty. "For lactating cows,

the solution is mixed with two parts water. It's thinner and dries quicker for convenient, day to day use while milking."

Fetty stresses that Mastec — which contains no harsh chemicals or iodine — is not a bacterial killer but rather "a barrier against bacteria. Keeps staph and strep germs and coliforms out of the udder."

Mastec's fast drying time prevents cows from rubbing off the wet solution should they lay down soon after milking. Once dry, it's as waterproof as rubber and clings elastically to the teat. At milking time, it peels off quickly by hand.

The solution sells for \$21 a gallon, or one penny per cow per day, according to Fetty, plus \$2.50 per plastic applicator. Plastic gallon containers of solution are shipped UPS.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Walter W. Fetty, Mastec, Inc., 1218 Central Avenue, Nebraska City, Neb. 68410 (ph 402 873-5986).

two ends come together. (The cone itself merely serves as a guide to bring the two ends together and has nothing to do with driving the pto.)

A coil spring on the wagon tongue holds the female coupler at the right height to align with the male coupler as the driver backs the tractor. When the wagon has been hitched to the tractor, the male coupler aligns with the female and is engaged by moving the tractor hydraulic lever. The cylinder telescopes a maximum of 12-in. A by-pass valve allows for variation in telescopic movement.

Thor has developed and patented a 3-pt. hitch which, used in conjunction with the automatic pto, allows the driver to remain in the seat for the complete hookup of both the wagon tongue and the pto.

Thor says the automatic pto coupler will transfer up to about 25 hp. "This is more than enough to handle pto driven silage wagons," he

points out. "We could make it to handle up to 100 hp. or more but it probably wouldn't be feasible since you don't really need automatic pto coupling for bigger equipment, such as a grinder-mixer, which only has to be hooked up once each time it's used."

The automatic coupler, once hooked up, will align itself and telescope for turns or uneven terrain, according to Thor.

He has custom made units for interested farmers but would like to contact a manufacturer interested in producing the automatic pto coupler commercially. He figures it could be produced to sell for right at \$350, plus \$50 per additional wagon equipped with the female coupler.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Custom Made Equipment, Charles Thor, President, Box 654 Hutchinson, Minn. 55350 (ph 612 587-2380).



Single-ribbed steel disks on "double crop" tractor cut a narrow slot for soybeans to drop into.

CONVERTED TRACTOR INTERSEEDS SOYBEANS IN STANDING WHEAT

One Man's Answer To Double Cropping

Double cropping of wheat and soybeans "works great" for an Illinois farmer who uses an interseeder he designed and built himself.

Robert Mowen, of Jerseyville, plants soybeans in his standing wheat about June 1 when the wheat is just headed out, using his special interseeder made from a modified International Cub tractor. The wheels are single-ribbed steel disks that cut a narrow slot for the beans to drop into. "In the standing wheat, you can't even see where the wheels have been," Mower told FARM SHOW.

A planter box is mounted above each wheel with a flexible tube that drops the seed close to the ground right behind the wheel. The widened front wheels, and standard spaced rear wheels, make it a four-row planter with row spacing of approximately 30 in.

"This size tractor handles four rows easily," says Mowen. "The same principle could be used to make a six-row planter, but it would have to be on a bigger tractor that had more power."

The planter units are chain-driven off the end of the rear axle and are set for planting 1½ bu. per acre. They can be adjusted for different planting rates. A clutch on the chain drive stops the planter units when the tractor is backed up.

One small problem that needs further work is the seed covering mechanism. "It really takes a rain after planting to close the row and cover the seed," says Mowen, who is experimenting with chains and small disks to close the row."

How successful has the interseeder been?

In 1976, the first year that he used it, Mowen planted soybeans in wheat in late May, then combined a 50 bu. crop of wheat and later a 24 bu. crop of soybeans.

He says the planter will work good for a crop of soybeans, sunflowers, or grain sorghum following wheat. And, he thinks it could work in some areas for interseeding in oats.

Mowen has a patent on his machine, but nobody is manufacturing it yet. There has been some interest in it by other farmers, and at least one has built a similar seeder for his own use.

The concept of double cropping soybeans and wheat makes sense, Mowen thinks. The wheat shades out the weeds while the beans are getting started. Then, the wheat is taken off about the time the beans are up and ready to grow fast.

For details on this interseeding innovation, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robert Mowen, Route 4, Jerseyville, Ill. 62052 (ph 217-942-3146).



Cone-shaped pto adapter on tractor slips into adapter on tongue as driver backs up.