

“Made it Myself”

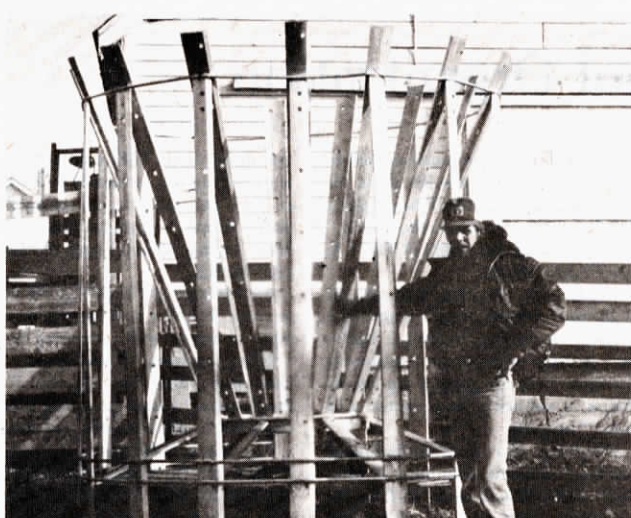


Photo courtesy Cattlemen Magazine, Winnipeg, Can.

“No Waste” Big Bale Feeder

When Derrill Proctor, Marsden, Sask., Canada, feeds big round bales to his Simmental cow herd, there's almost no waste. The reason is his specially built bale feeder.

The all-steel, home-made feeder is the exact diameter of a round bale standing on end. Proctor built it out of used grader blades discarded by the county highway department. The center is an old wagon wheel. The uprights are spaced so cows have to reach in for the hay. Any loose hay falls to a plywood platform at feeding level.

As the cows eat, the bale slides down in the feeder until it

is entirely eaten. The feeder is loaded using a bale spear on a front end loader that will reach to the top of the structure.

“It was cheap to make out of the 35 or 40 old blades,” Proctor says, “but the hard steel was difficult to weld and the finished product weighs about 1½ tons.” Maybe the same kind of design could be put together with lumber.”

Proctor likes it so well that he plans to build another one like it. There's been quite a bit of interest in the bale feeder by other cattle men, but he does not plan to get into commercial production with it.

Some of the best new products we hear about are “made it myself” innovations born in farmers’ workshops. If you’ve got a new invention or favorite gadget you’re proud of, we’d like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so, where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors?

Harold M. Johnson, Editor

Build Yourself A Barrel Stove

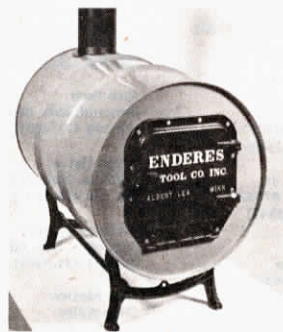
Here's a kit you can use to convert a steel barrel into an efficient and economical wood-burning stove for your farm shop or other buildings.

The four-piece Enderes kit, which sells for \$52.95, includes a door frame and assembly, stove and pipe collar, a pair of heavy duty legs, and the necessary nuts and bolts. It converts either a 30 to 55-gal. barrel.

The door frame and assembly is a special design. A ridge on the door fits into a groove on the door frame, making a tight fit, compared with the usual barrel heater that has a flat door which can sag and leak air.

Another accessory recommended by the company is a grate for the bottom of the barrel. With a grate (or sand) in the bottom, the stove will last a long time. Without some protection, the hot fuel can soon burn out the barrel.

Other optional equipment offered by Enderes includes a stovepipe damper, wire handle, lid lifter, and hot plate (which



provides a flat surface to heat a pan or kettle).

For more heat output, you can buy extra collars and legs to attach two barrels, one above the other, or you can go three barrels high. For this or a conventional installation, the manufacturer recommends protective shields on the floor and surrounding walls.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Enderes Tool Co., P.O. Box 691, Albert Lea, Minn. 56007 (ph 507 373-2396).



Stock Tank Heater Makes Use Of Wasted Hot Air

If you've got outside stock tanks close to livestock barns, or you can move them there, you'll be interested in a new “waste air” stocktank heater that doesn't cost a cent to run, has no moving parts and works better than many of the more complicated heaters on the market, according to the two dairy farmers who've made the idea work for them.

Winter temperatures often reach 30° below zero on the Donald and Michael Tellers farm near Chaska, Minn. Even

so, their simple heater design keeps their outside tank ice free at absolutely no cost to them.

“We simply built a hood over the tank, leaving a space in front for animals to get their heads in to drink, and ducted 6 or 7 ft. to the exhaust fan on our dairy barn. Although the fan runs intermittently on thermostatic control, it keeps the water free of ice,” says Donald Tellers. (Note: Accompanying photo, taken in the summer, does not show the hooded part of the heater.)