



Low-Cost Barn Built Out Of Bales

It's possible to build low-cost barns by combining a specially-designed tent system with walls made out of big square bales.

Developed over the past 10 years by researchers in Denmark, the new big bale tent system has already caught on with farmers all over Europe. They were developed with hog finishing in mind but are also being used successfully for farrowing as well as for calves, sheep, and free-range poultry.

Biggest advantage of the design is that it's cheap and it meets many of the new animal welfare requirements now being instituted in Europe. Hogs have direct access to an outside feeding area that's surrounded by an electric fence so all waste isn't confined inside the building, as with conventional hog production. And the building can be easily taken down and reconstructed in a new location whenever needed.

The walls are made from 4 by 8-ft. square straw bales with wire panels protecting the inside surface. The roof consists of a pre-formed reinforced plastic tarp supported by center masts and secured to the ground by

ropes. One, two and three-mast versions of the big bale tent are available requiring 24, 52, and 64 bales respectively. The interior is well-ventilated by gaps in the walls and by circular openings at the mast-heads which allow natural air movement but don't allow entry of rain and snow. Pigs can leave through a choice of exits and the interior can be deep-bedded with straw.

The new-style straw barn can be erected by a crew in half a day. Graham Falcke, sales director for Monarflex, the manufacturer, says the buildings can be left standing for 12 to 18 months after which they should be dismantled and rebuilt on a clean site using new bales. The tent itself has a working life of 3 to 5 years.

A 3-mast tent can accommodate up to 200 market ready hogs. The price for a 3-mast tent is right at \$1,500, plus the cost of bales, electric fencing, feeders and waterers.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Monarflex Ltd., Lyon Way, St. Albans, Herts. AL4 0LB England (ph 0727 830 116; fax 0727 868 045).



Bulk Seed Hopper Bolts To Loader Bucket

New bulk seed hopper for filling planter boxes or grain drills bolts to a tractor loader bucket or can be fitted directly to loader arms in place of bucket.

Built by FFC of Lee, Ill., the seed box holds 30 to 35 bu. and narrows down to a small snout with a spring-loaded gate that's

opened with a rope pull. It can also be fitted with a hydraulic cylinder to open and close hydraulically, if desired.

Sells for \$875.
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, FFC, County Line Rd., Box 122, Lee, Ill. 60530 (ph 800 747-2132 or 815 824-2153).

Picker Attachment Keeps Husks On Corn

When many seed corn companies started requesting husk-on seed corn in order to reduce damage to kernels, Dale Opheim of Graettinger, Iowa, who raises seed corn himself, decided to come up with an attachment for pickers that would let existing equipment do the job.

The equipment he came up with fits New Idea 737 and 838 corn pickers. You just remove the husking bed and install a corn carrying conveyor and a fan that sucks air out over the conveyor, pulling excess husks and stacks out of the machine. The unit bolts to existing bolt holes without any modification to picker so if you ever want to harvest corn without husks, you can quickly convert back.

Opheim points out that many seed corn growers have been purchasing sweet corn harvesters, which keep the husks on but can cost as much as \$100,000 or more. There are also other attachments that do what his does, but he says they cost \$10,000 or more. His unit sells for just under \$4,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dale Opheim Industries Inc., Box 57, Graettinger, Iowa 51342 (ph 712 859-3241).

Air Intake Screens For Deere Combines

"They add 2,930 sq. in. of screen area," says Recker Manufacturing of its new air intake screens for Quadra-Flo fans on Deere 9000 combines.

"They help maintain an even flow of debris-free air to the chaffer pre-cleaner, and help keep corn husks and leaves from being blown under the bottom chaffer, which can cause kernel cracking."

A pair of screens, made of 16 ga. expanded metal, sells for \$485.

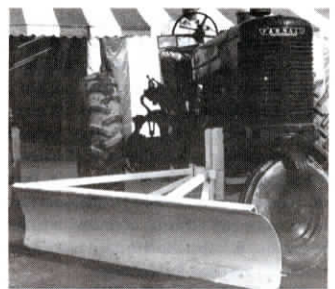
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Recker Mfg., Rt. 2 Box 198, Arlington, Iowa 50606 (ph 319 637-2341).

Do-It-Yourself Pulleys, Sprockets

Next time you're looking for a difficult-to-find pulley or sprocket, you might want to check out Century Trading's "Weld-A-Pulleys" and "Weld-A-Sprockets".

You just select the size pulley or sprocket you need and then choose the right-sized hub - with the correct bore diameter to fit whatever shaft you're fitting - and then weld the two together. That's all it takes to assemble your own custom-made, ready to use pulley or sprocket.

A wide range of sprocket and pulley sizes are available to fit all types and sizes of V-belts and roller chain. You should use low



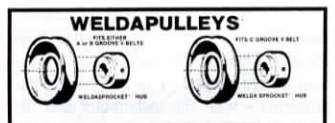
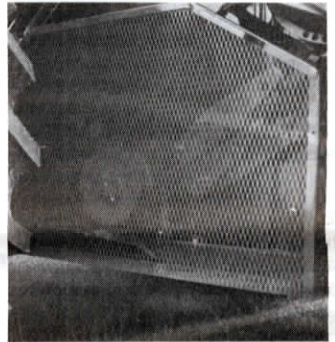
When not in use, blade folds up alongside tractor.

Push Up Blade

"Our new push up blade for moving dirt, feed or other materials folds up and out of the way to free the tractor for other uses, without having to remove the blade," notes Brad Dowdy, manufacturer. "It's especially popular with dairymen for pushing feed back into mangers."

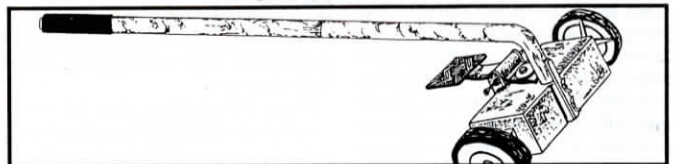
A 2.5 in. hydraulic cylinder controls position of the replaceable blade, which is protected by built-in flotation. Comes in a large (24 in. tall, 96 in. long) and a small (17 in. tall, 72 in. long) size.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dowdy's Welding and Repair, Paige Ave. and Turner Drive, Tulare, Cal. 93274 (ph 209 688-6973).



hydrogen electrodes for welding the parts together. Smaller sprockets and pulleys must be joined together carefully so welds do not interfere with the belts or chains.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Century Trading Co., Inc., 1224 West Main, Van Wert, Ohio 45891-9399 (ph 419 238-5232).



Magnetic Floor Sweeper

You can snap up loose iron including nuts, bolts, nails, etc., from your shop floor or driveway to reduce the possibility of costly flat tires with this 9-lb. push-type magnetic floor sweeper. The 2-wheeled unit is equipped with a 10-in. wide magnet but has a sweeping width of 12 in.

Simply push the sweeper over the floor to collect scrap iron. It'll even work under

water. When the magnet is full, remove the material by stepping on the release pedal. The magnet, which rides inside a cast aluminum housing, raises up and the material drops off the bottom of the housing.

Sells for \$39.95.
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, CFC Distributors, Inc., Roann, Ind. 46974 (ph 800 548-6633).