BIGGEST SELLING SLATS IN EUROPE

Look! Cast Iron Slats For Hogs

Indestructible cast iron slats, backed by widespread acceptance in Europe, are ready to show their stuff to hog producers throughout the U.S. and Canada.

"They're covered by a 20-year warranty and will outlast anything else on the market," says Dave Oberg, of Oberg Equipment Sales, Galva, Ill. The firm was finalizing plans to market the patented cast iron slats throughout the U.S. and Canada as this issue of FARM SHOW went to press. "The slats we're marketing are the same brand which is the biggest selling cast iron slat in Europe," Dave told FARM SHOW.

Two types of cast iron slats are being offered:

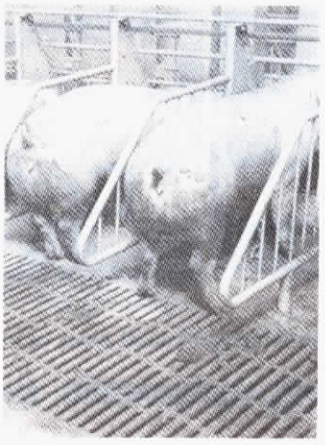
A80: Designed for farrowing-nursery areas, they're made in 32 x 20 in. interlocking tongue and groove sections. They have 3/8 in. spacing between slats and weigh 50 lbs. per section. Individual slats are 7/16 in. wide and 13/16 in. high.

S100: Designed for growing-finishing-gestation areas, they come in 40 by 20 in. sections. They have 3/4 in. spacing between slats and weigh 66 lbs. per section. Individual slats are just over 1 in. wide and 13/16 in. high.

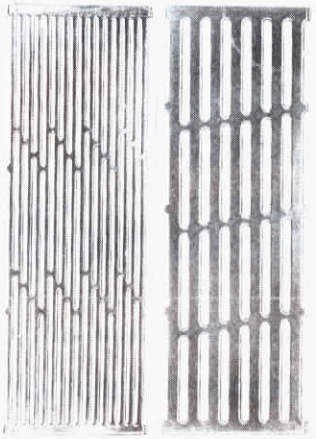
"The special design of the slats, and the openings in between make them practically self cleaning. Both sows and small pigs are able to take a safe, firm stance on the cast iron slats. Their smooth but not too round surface helps prevent foot and teat injuries," Oberg explains.

Retail price is expected to be in the neighborhood of $8 per sq. ft. of floor space covered by the slats.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Oberg Equipment Sales, 413 S.E. 2nd Street, Galva, Ill. 61434 (ph 309 932-2624).



The virtually indestructible cast iron slats carry a 20 year warranty.



European-made slats feature a patented design for connecting individual farrowing and growing-finishing slats.

PORTABLE 70 HP PTO DRIVE

Look! 3-Phase Power From Single Phase Line

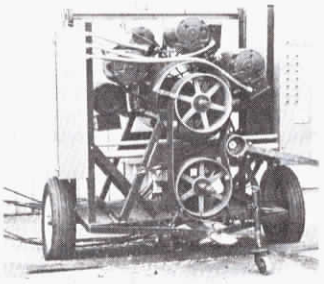
If you're short on electric power but high on needs, you'll want to take a look at M & W Gear's new 70 hp. electric pto drive, designed to run off single phase electrical power.

"Ordinarily, a power unit this large requires 3-phase service. Because we've arranged seven 10-hp. motors around a single drive shaft and start them separately, start-up power drain never exceeds the limits of a single phase line," explains Loren Alpers of M & W Gear, Gibson City, Ill.

Extending 3-phase power to a farm can cost $2,500 to $3,000 for installation, plus a $100 hike in your monthly electric bill, says Alpers. "If it's needed for only one operation — drying grain, for instance — that's an expensive fee. Many farmers own more than one farm and need power in remote locations only occasionally during the year."

Although intended to power M & W's 450 bu. per hour pto-driven grain dryer, the new electric unit will drive silage blowers and other stationary equipment you might ordinarily power with your tractor pto.

The seven motors in the drive unit are connected to the drive shaft by V-belts. At start-up, one motor kicks in to get the others turning, thus reducing the power needed to start the other six, which kick in all at one time. This main shaft is connected to the unit's pto drive shaft by a heavy-duty drive belt, which is engaged by an idler pulley once full power is reached.



Seven individual 10 hp. motors kick in one at a time to drive the one main pto shaft.

"Any farm with 200 amp single phase service will be able to use it. It can also be used on 3-phase lines where starting loads are limited," explained Alpers.

The unit runs at a constant 1,000 rpm's once started, with a full 70 hp. It's fully portable, mounted on a trailer. Limited production is planned for 1980, with full-scale production scheduled for 1981.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW FOLLOWUP, M & W Gear, Rt. 47 South, Gibson City, Ill. 600936 (ph 800 637-1144, toll free).

ENTIRE SYSTEM RETRACTS UNDERGROUND

New-Style Sprinklers "Pop Up" To Irrigate

You'll be hearing a lot in the months ahead about Agri-Pop Irrigation — a totally new irrigation system that pops sprinklers out of the ground to irrigate and then retracts them 2 ft. or more below the surface so you can plow, plant, cultivate, fertilize, and farm as if it weren't there.

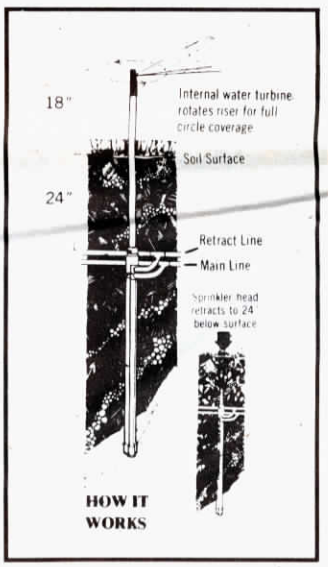
"It's the first system that gives you 100% access to fields between irrigation cycles," explains the system's designer Paul Unruh, of Minden, Nev., who adds that different crops require different systems. "Crops like corn need taller sprinklers, for instance, while others, like sod, need less. We'll build sprinklers to rise to any height from 1 to 8 ft. or more off the ground."

Each Agri-Pop sprinkler rests between cycles in a vertically buried housing equal to the length the sprinkler will have to travel through dirt to the surface and up to its desired sprinkling height. For instance, if you want the sprinkler to rise 4 ft. above the ground, and be buried 2 ft., each sprinkler pipe and underground housing will be 6 ft. long.

Two water lines run to every Agri-Pop housing and sprinkler. The intake line, which also supplies the water to irrigate, forces the sprinkler up out of its casing, through the dirt above it, and into sprinkling position. The second line forces water into the casing just above a pressure washer fixed on the sprinkler shaft, forcing it to retract back underground.

"We've found the system will pop up through all soil types after any tillage operation," says Unruh. "Although we recommend they be buried about 2 ft. deep, they can go as deep as 4 or 5 ft. All parts are PVC plastic that won't deteriorate or corrode. No on-going maintenance is required."

"Most Agri-Pop installations use 18 to 20 sprinklers per acre with triangular spacing. After selecting nozzle size, riser length and desired spacing, you open a ditch 2 ft. deep for installation of the cross lateral water lines," Unruh explains. "The main line varies in size from 1 to 3 in., depending on distance water is carried. The secondary retracting line is generally 1 in. in dia."



Costs run anywhere from $1,000 to $1,400 per acre, compared to $300 to $600 per acre for a center pivot system. To justify the higher price, Unruh says value of the irrigated crop should equal at least half the cost of system installation. For instance, if installation was $1,000, the harvested crop should gross $500 or more per acre.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Agri-Pop Inc., P.O. Box 70, Minden, Nev. 89423 (ph 702 782-3146).