

## Milking Sheep

Visitors to the Royal Show had to stand in line to view a sheep-milking demonstration, sponsored by the Fullwood Co. which has introduced a package setup for milking sheep, complete with milkhous, a 6 or 12 stall milking parlor and a milk tank.

A recent revival of interest in sheep-milking products — cheese and yogurt — prompted the Royal to stage the demonstration, aimed at showing how sheep milk can be a viable "extra" for traditional meat and wool producers. Here are some things FARM SHOW learned about milking sheep:

- Ewe milk has a much higher content of solids, fat and protein than either cow or goat milk.

- Sheep are being kept for dairying by five "pioneer" farmers in Britain. The East Friesland breed from northern Germany has the highest

potential for milk yield among the breeds in northern Europe. This breed can be milked for seven months and has a total lactation yield of 400 to 600 liters, which figures out to about 3.5 liters per day the first two months of lactation.

Lambs are generally suckled initially and milking does not start until the lambs are weaned at 4 to 6 weeks of age.

- The new Fullwood sheep milking machine has special teat cups and liners, a vacuum level of 300 mm of mercury and a pulsation rate of 600-120 pulsations per minute. Milking time is only 1 to 1½ minutes per ewe.

For more details, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, R. J. Fullwood and Bland Ltd., Ellesmere, Shropshire, England SY129DG (ph 069-171-2391).

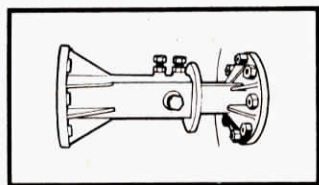
## Narrow Row-Crop Wheels

"These narrow wheels may be just what farmers in the United States are looking for — particularly soybean growers who want to switch to really narrow rows, yet be able to go in with big tractors to mechanically cultivate them," the English manufacturer of new narrow row-crop wheels told FARM SHOW.

The Standon Co. offers rims and 8-ply, tube-type tires in widths ranging from 6 to 11 in. For example, you can buy a pair of 6 in. wide wheels to replace original wheels ranging from 11 by 28 to 14 by 34; a pair of 8-in. wide narrow wheels to replace original wheels ranging from 12 by 26 to 14 by 34; or a pair of 9-in. wide narrow wheels to replace 14 by 38 in. original tractor wheels.

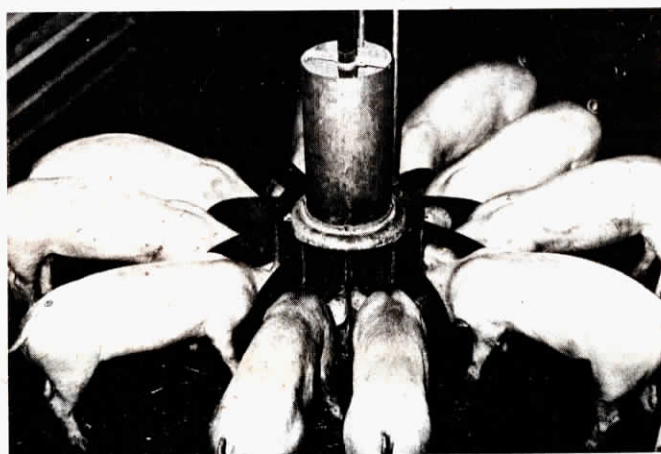
"We also offer a coupler which lets you put two narrow wheels on either or both sides of the tractor," says A.C.W. Bone, marketing director. "The coupler is adjustable for spacing and, along with our narrow wheels, fits tractors from small Kubotas up to large 120 hp. tractors. We welcome inquiries from any interested U.S. or Canadian farmers, dealers or distributors."

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, F.A. Standon & Sons Ltd., Hereward Works, Station Road, Ely, Cambridgeshire, England, CB7 4BP (ph Ely 2271-5).



# FARM SHOW

## Latest New Products From "The Royal" in England



## New Way To Feed Hogs

"It's the first feeder of its kind in the world — a completely new concept in feeding hogs," reports the manufacturer of the new Biomet system.

It feeds and waters pigs automatically by the mouthful, according to their age. Each pig has its own little trough to which "mouthfuls" of feed and water are dispensed. Typically, the feeder is set to feed 3 times in 24 hours. Each feeding lasts 30 minutes, with small mouthfuls of water and feed (about 4 grams feed and 10 grams water) dispensed every 12 seconds during the feeding period.

Two very important things are achieved with Biomet, according to the manufacturer:

1. **Competition at the feeding trough disappears completely.** When feeding begins, each pig finds a feed cup (there is one for each pig) and stays there until feeding is completed. A fast eating and domineering pig is naturally not hindered in choosing his neighbor's or his own. But he gets nothing out of it, because each "mouthful" is so little that a domineering pig can manage only to lick the feed cup of his neighbor. As opposed to the usual situation, the Biomet-fed pig gets no reward for being domineering and eating fast. He learns that the only behavior that

pays is to stay at his own feeding trough.

2. **Each pig eats exactly the same amount of feed and is forced to eat slowly.** The Biomet forces a slower consumption of feed than normal because of the pauses, and because the competitive situation has been removed from feeding. Feed utilization is much better as a result of the improved mixing of feed with spit and enzymes. Such "slow feeding" cannot be achieved with traditional feeding systems, the manufacturer points out. Also, there is virtually no feed waste.

"The pig's conditioned reflex tells him, at the sound of the 'eat' signal, to gobble up each mouthful of feed and water as it is dispensed during the half-hour. He stands at the trough the full half-hour, virtually hypnotized by the 'eat' signal. Even if his stomach tells him he isn't hungry, he is conditioned so strongly to the 'eat' signal that he eats anyway. As pigs age, the frequency of dispensing, and the ratio of water to feed in each mouthful, is adjusted accordingly.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Egebjerg Maskinfabrik, Hovedgaden 27, Egebjerg, Nykobing Sjaelland, Denmark 4500 (ph 03428029).