

Ammonia processor holds two big bales, or the equivalent amount of square bales or loose material.

**TURNS STRAW, CORN STOVER INTO LOW-COST, HIGH PROTEIN FEED**

**“Ammonia Processor”  
Now Available In U.S.**

New ammonia processors that turn any cellulose material — including straw, corn stover, vines, sawdust, and grass — into high quality feed have caught on like wildfire in Europe and are now available in the U.S.

Farmers in the U.S. and Canada have already been experimenting with the ammonia process by covering straw bales and other materials with plastic, then soaking them with ammonia until the material is converted to a palatable feed. The advantage of the new machine, imported from Denmark, is that it is faster, totally automatic, and allows better control of the process, according to distributor C.A. McDade Co., Inc., of Monroeville, Penn.

“Straw is worth virtually nothing as a feed without this treatment. By spending approximately \$12 per big round bale, you end up with 2,000 lbs. of high quality, high protein grain-equivalent feed,” a McDade representative told FARM SHOW.

The standard processing unit which McDade sells holds two big bales, or the equivalent amount of square bales or loose material. You simply load up the unit, shut the air-

tight door and let the unit go to work. The bales are inundated with ammonia — at a rate of about 3% of their total weight — and held at 90° for about 4 hours. Then, they are aerated for 4 hours by air forced into the units. After 24 total hours they are taken out, completely processed, for direct feeding or for storage and the unit is ready for another load.

The unit uses about 50 KW of electricity per load. Different size units are available to handle an almost unlimited amount of material.

According to the company, processing of wheat straw more than doubles the amount of crude protein in the material from about 3% to 8% and boosts total digestible nutrients to 15%. “By processing straw and other materials through the unit, you get a product that’s as nourishing as a good quality hay,” the McDade representative told FARM SHOW.

The two bale unit sells for right at \$1,100.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, C.A. McDade Co., Inc., P.O. Box 277, Monroeville, Penn. 15146 (ph 412 468-8888).



The Browns cut a brand new Great Plains drill in half, then mounted the two “halves” on the sides of their tractor.

**DESIGNED FOR PRECISION INTERCROPPING**

**This New Grain Drill Is Really ‘Tractor Mounted’**

“We built it because we couldn’t buy one,” says Stan Brown, who along with his father and brothers has designed a new “interseeder” that actually mounts through the center of a tractor for near perfect intercropping accuracy.

To build the machine, the Browns cut a brand new 16-row, 10-ft. Great Plains drill in half, mounted one half on one side of the tractor and one half on the other side. They then added two extra rows beneath the tractor to give them 18 continuous 10-in. spaced rows.

“We tried intercropping soybeans into wheat with a trailing drill but that caused nearly 20% damage to our standing crop. This year, with this design, we cut damage to around 5% and it did a near-perfect job seeding,” Stan told FARM SHOW.

To mount the drill, the Browns built a frame underneath the tractor, using existing bolt holes for the most part. They say the drill can be dismounted, one half at a time, by unhooking just two pins, and then unbolting the frame. There are two hydraulic cylinders, one on each side, for lifting the drill.

To minimize damage when they interseeded soybeans in wheat, which was as high as 28 in., the Browns also widened the front axle

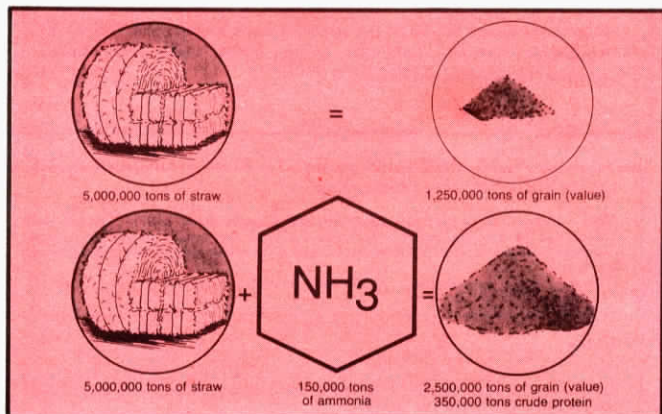
and mounted narrow 9 in. tires — available by special order through both Goodyear and Firestone — on the rear of the tractor. Hubs for the narrow rear wheels weren’t readily available, however, and they had to weld their own onto the 9 in. wide rims.

“We planted our wheat in 10 in. rows and then harvested it at the normal time around the first week in July. At harvest, the beans were about 16 in. tall and the wheat 30 in. We had to go to interseeding because we’re too far north for double cropping,” says Stan.

Stan says their interseeder idea would work with any drill. In fact, their first prototype was a John Deere. But they prefer the Great Plains drill because the disc openers have the down pressure needed on the tractor-supported unit. They also note that the interseeder can be used for regular field seeding.

The Browns, together with a local fabricator, plan to begin building units on a custom basis this winter.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Browns Interseeder, Rt. 2, Box 125A, Pierceton, Indiana 46562 (ph 219 839-5411).



Narrow (9 in.) rims and tires were mounted on the rear of the tractor to minimize wheeltrack damage when interseeding soybeans into standing wheat.