

ONLY HAS TO BE FIRED ONCE A DAY

Masonry Stove Claimed To Be "Most Efficient"

A wood-burning masonry stove, claimed to be the most efficient on the market, is gaining popularity in Maine where it was first introduced.

Originating from the colder regions of Europe, where it has been used for over 500 years, the attractive indoor stove is known as the Russian or Finnish fireplace. It is a multi-flued brick stove that burns virtually all combustible materials and stores the heat. Rather than burning continuously, it's fired about twice a day.

Manufacturer Basilio Lepuschenko, Richmond, Maine, who custom-builds the stove, maintains that it's "the most efficient wood-burning system known to man. All gases are burned off, and there is no problem with creosote and virtually no smoke to cause pollution."

There are two sizes — the 3-flue and 5-flue. The latter is about 25 in. wide, 5 ft. deep and 7 ft. high. The 3-flue is slightly smaller.

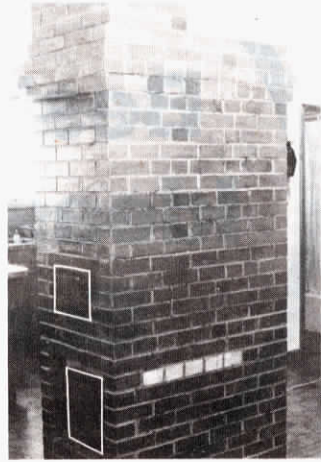
Because of high combustion temperatures in the firebox of the stove, there is no creosote buildup within the stove and chimney. The brick walls of the stove radiate a constant, even warmth, with a heating range of around 20 ft., according to Lepuschenko. The 3-flue stove will heat up to 800 sq. ft.; the 5-flue up to 1,200 sq. ft.

The 3-flue requires 600 common bricks and 79 firebrick; the 5-flue requires 1,000 common brick and 120 firebrick. "If you know how to lay bricks you can build your own with a set of do-it-yourself plans," Lepuschenko told FARM SHOW. A mason could supply materials and build the stove for \$1,400 to \$1,800, depending on size and local brick prices, he says. Materials alone would be in the area of \$400 for the 3-flue; \$500 for the 5-flue.

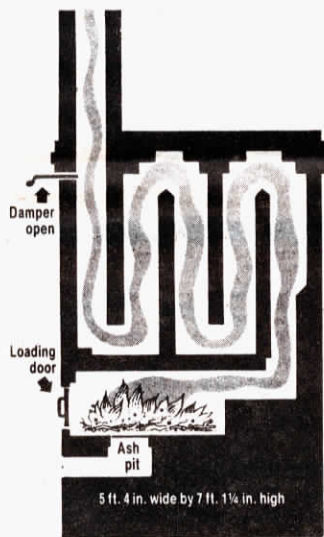
Lepuschenko, a cabinet maker by trade, has built about 15 of the stoves in his area of Maine. Another small company building them is Maine Wood Heat Co. at Norridgewock, owned by Albert and Cheryl Barden. Cheryl told FARM SHOW that the stove is truly efficient, and that she and her husband earn their living building it and selling other wood-burning equipment. She says they don't recommend that brick-laying novices build the stove.

After a 2 to 8 mo. seasoning period for a new masonry stove, it has to be broken in slowly with a series of small fires. When in full use, a fire built in the stove for 20 min. to an hour can store enough heat for 12 hrs. The outside of the stove reaches a temperature of about 150° F.

The secret to the stove's efficiency, according to Lepuschenko, is to have all the fuel burn at the same time, creating a bed of hot coals covered with ash, so that the damper may be safely closed with no danger of car-



Brick walls of masonry stove radiate a constant, even warmth; 5-flue model heats up to 1,200 sq. ft.



bon monoxide escaping. If small and large wood are burned together, the damper must be kept open until the large wood is burned down to coals, thus sending valuable heat up the chimney instead of into the bricks and on into the house.

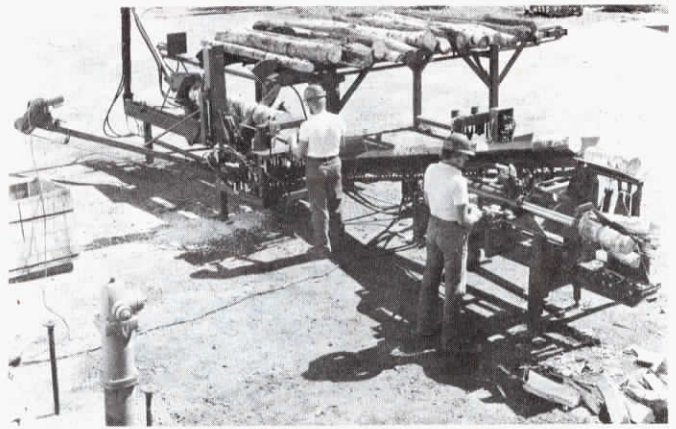
There is a lag time of 4 to 6 hrs. between building a fire in the stove and maximum heat output.

Cost of a 24-page brochure, from Lepuschenko or the Bardens, showing detailed construction plans is \$10 (\$12 in Canada).

For more details, contact:

FARM SHOW Followup, Basilio Lepuschenko, Alexander Road, Richmond, Maine 04357 (ph 207 737-4793).

FARM SHOW Followup, The Bardens, Maine Wood Heat Co., Route 1, Box 38, Norridgewock, Maine 04957 (ph 207 696-5442).



Processor handles logs up to 10 ft. long and up to 22 in. in dia.

TWO PEOPLE CAN CHOP UP TO 50 CORDS A DAY

Automatic "Processor" Cuts, Splits Logs

If you've been thinking about getting into the firewood business in a big way, you'll be interested in this automatic firewood processor from the LaFont Corp., Prentice, Wis. Operated by two people, it cuts and splits up to 50 cords of wood a day.

The processor is made to handle logs up to 10-ft. long, and anywhere from 4 to 22 in. in dia. Logs roll off a conveyor and onto the cutting table where they're cut into lengths (varying from 12 to 26 in.) by a 42-in. hydraulic-powered chain saw. Pieces move up an elevated conveyor to the splitter, a 25-ton hydraulic ram that splits the chunks into 2, 3, 4 or 5 segments. Then it's on to the final conveyor to be carried away for stacking.

The entire system is hydraulic and conveyorized, explains Howard Heikkinen, sales representative. It's

operated by two persons who load the machine and watch for problems that naturally crop up from handling an irregular-shaped product. A 50 hp. electric motor, or 353 diesel engine, supplies the power.

Heikkinen says several farmer-owners are using the processor to cut and split wood salvaged from clearing operations, and to process low-grade timber purchased from government or private forestry operations.

Cost for the standard stationary processor is about \$38,000. A trailer-mounted portable unit is slated for introduction soon.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, LaFont Corp., 1319 Town Street, Prentice, Wis. 54556 (ph 715-428-2881).

THE "WOOD GRENADE"

New Way to Split Wood

They call it the "wood grenade" because it practically explodes firewood chunks into split pieces. It's a new idea in a splitting wedge and so simple you wonder why someone didn't think of it long ago.

The Wood Grenade is a cone-shaped wedge that tapers down to a point rather than a splitting edge. It can be set in a chunk of wood by hand because of its point.

When struck with a maul or sledge hammer, the wedge penetrates into the wood, seeking the line of least resistance because of its conical shape.

The Wood Grenade comes in two styles and sizes. One is a 9-in. aluminum wedge designed for all wood



species. Its suggested retail price is \$20. The other model is a 6-in. steel wedge designed for splitting hardwoods. It has a suggested retail price of \$15.45.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Omark Industries, 9701 S.E. McLoughlin, Portland, Oreg. 97222 (ph 503 654-6531).