

## "BEDS" 80-COW BARN IN 3 MIN.

# "Bedding Slinger" Mounts On Electric Feeding Cart

"It's the slickest little rig you've ever seen for spreading wood shavings, sawdust, or chopped straw in stanchion barns. I use it every day," says dairyman Glenn Morin, Niagara, Wis., about his home-built "bedding slinger" that attaches to his feed cart.

The "bedding slinger" consists of a 38 1/4-in. long, 8 1/2-in. wide cleated belt that's powered by a 3 hp Briggs & Stratton gas motor. The belt slings bedding material up to 15 ft. into stalls lining both sides of Morin's 80-cow, 184-ft. long stanchion barn. A 7 1/2-in. high steel plate on each side of the belt keeps material from falling off. The 18-in. long, 35-lb. unit quickly snaps onto Morin's 32-bu. Clay electric feed cart just below the cart's discharge apron.

"Other farmers are amazed at how well it works," says Morin, who built the unit two years ago for \$300.

Morin controls bedding thickness by controlling belt speed and feed cart travel speed. "When the cart is in high gear and the belt is running at full speed, the cart can't deliver material fast enough. However, it does a perfect job in high gear if I hold speed down by using the hydrostatic-control foot pedal. I use a hand clutch lever on the bedding slinger to engage the belt, which I



Bedding slinger is equipped with receiving slots which snap into two spring-loaded latches permanently mounted on each side of cart's unloading apron.

bought from a local paper mill."

Morin says his bedding slinger will fit all feed carts equipped with an apron-type discharge. "It won't work on feed carts equipped with auger-type discharge because the bottom of cart runs too close to the floor. It would fit on them but the slinger's frame would bump the floor if it was uneven."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Glenn Morin, N21411 Morin Road, Niagara, Wis. 54151 (ph 715 251-3516).



"Bonded" sheep graze in and among cattle for protection from predators. When threatened by a predator, they head straight for the middle of herd and huddle there.

## "BONDING" MAKES IT WORK

# Cattle Protect Sheep From Wily Coyotes

By Elizabeth J. Natelson

Running sheep and cattle together is a natural solution to the ancient and costly problem of providing protection from coyotes.

It works like this: By nature cattle will fight off coyotes, so researchers have trained sheep to graze in and among cattle. The cattle may not care about the sheep, but they'll tolerate them and ward off any coyotes who come too near. The idea of bonding sheep to cattle is based on some tried and true ideas. It's been known for a long time that sheep can become attached to other animals, such as goats or donkeys, and then follow them around. Moreover, raising sheep and cattle on the same land is not new and is, in fact, common in the Southwest, especially Texas.

But the idea of bonding sheep to cattle for coyote protection is new. It came out of

work at a USDA experiment station in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Two Jornada scientists, Dr. Dean M. Anderson and Dr. Clarence V. Hulet, were looking for ways to combine sheep and cattle on the same range, figuring this would create more productive use of land than with either sheep or cattle alone. They found the cattle did well, but the sheep fell easy prey to coyotes.

The scientists say that when they first started running sheep at the station they lost half the flock to coyotes. They tried electric fences but they couldn't always maintain them to keep the coyotes out. They also tried guard dogs, which are effective, but they're costly and couldn't protect all the sheep at once. That's when they got the idea of bonding the sheep to a larger animal.

## LOW OVERHEAD, LOW PRICES

# Remodeled Barn Houses Booming Parts Business

Three Indiana innovators, operating out of a remodeled barn, are doing a booming business selling tractor engine overhaul kits to farmers and independent mechanics.

The business, started by Bill Howard and called Howard Enterprises, was literally born in a barn, says Tim McCoy who, with partners Bill Howard and Carl Howard, Bill's father, specializes in tractor overhaul kits made up of major brand pistons, bearings, rings and gaskets. "We buy in bulk which, coupled with our low overhead out here in the country, lets us sell parts for 10 to 20% less than going rates. We've also developed a reputation for being able to supply hard-to-find parts for older tractors. If we don't have a particular part, we can usually get it in a day or two," says McCoy.

He and assistant manager Bruce Canor are both excellent mechanics and, in many cases, they're able to offer farmer-custom-

ers tips on overhauling a particular make and model tractor. They offer the same general warranty coverage on parts that implement dealerships offer.

Here's a sampling of their costs for "in-frame" tractor overhaul kits made up of pistons, rings, bearings, gaskets:

**Deere:** 4020, 4010, 4000 - \$845; 5020, 6030 - \$1,195; 8630, 8640, 8450, 8650 - \$1,575.

**International:** 806, 1206 - \$1,075; 4366, 4386, 3588, 3788 - \$745; Farmall H - \$350; 856, 1026, 1256, 1456 - \$1,050.

**Ford:** 8N and 9N - \$224; 9000, 9600, 9700, - \$975; 800, 900, 4000, 4100 - \$325.

Howard Enterprises also offers automotive engine overhaul kits for cars, trucks.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Howard Enterprises, Winchester, Ind. 47394 (ph 1-800 342-2545).

## EXTENDS AS MUCH AS 6 FT.

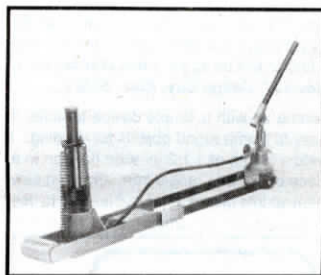
# Long Reach Lift Jack

You can be as much as 6 ft. away from the lifting point of this new extendable lift jack.

Meyer Hydraulics says the 50,000 lb. jack can slip back into a space as small as 9 1/4 in. tall and 6 in. wide. The jack handle and pump stay at the outer end and a high-pressure line runs to the cylinder. The 68-lb. all steel jack compacts into a small package for transport.

Sells for \$425.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Meyer Hydraulics Corporation, Centreville, Mich. 49032 (ph 800 2533-2076 or 616 467-6302).



The 50,000 lb. jack can slip into a space as small as 9 1/4 in. tall and 6 in. wide.

They knew that a nursing calf beside its mother is almost never killed by predators. A cow can and will chase off a coyote or whatever else threatens her young. Even when there are no calves to protect, cattle have a natural hostility toward coyotes.

Normally when sheep and cattle graze together, they go off to opposite ends of a pasture. To create mixed herds, newly weaned lambs, about 45 days old, are put in a small feedlot pen with young cattle for 60 days. A mix of two lambs per heifer works well, with a maximum of 7 lambs and 3 heifers in any one pen. When the 60 day period is over, the animals are turned loose on the range, where the now bonded sheep continue to flock with their larger friends, the cattle.

Bonded sheep, when threatened by a predator, will head straight for the middle of the herd and huddle there. If the herd moves, they move. Because the cattle face to the outside and toward the approaching coyotes, the sheep behind them are naturally protected.

"It's dramatic," says Hulet. "We tried an experiment where we put bonded and unbonded sheep in adjoining pastures and we switched sides after every kill, so we'd know that the predators weren't choosing one pasture over another. We stopped after we had lost 50% of the unbonded sheep, but none of the bonded sheep had been killed."

One problem is that bonded sheep stick

so close to the cattle that it can become difficult to separate them from the herd when necessary. Another problem is that some cattle just don't like sheep and will butt them, kick them and chase them off. Out of the 80 cattle tested, the scientists found two like this.

Anderson points out that sheep don't bond with individual cattle. They just become attracted to cattle in general. This has some potential to cause problems. "If sheep see other cattle in a neighboring field, they may wander over to them. One cow is as good as another to a sheep. This is where good fencing and management are essential."

Mixed cattle and sheep makes at least one job easier. "Unbonded sheep wander off and can be hard to find among the tall brush," Hulet explains. "But it's easy to find cattle, and now the sheep stay with the cattle."

Cattle ranchers also benefit from mixed herds. Because cattle eat grasses while sheep prefer broad-leaved weeds, a mixed herd increases the total livestock the land will support.

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