



Wooden box rides in bed of pickup and is heated by hoses running from heater.

HOSES FROM CAB HEATER KEEP BOX WARM Truck "Hot Box" For Newborn Livestock

If you've got livestock out on pasture during winter months, you'll like this new "hot box". It consists of a wooden box that rides in the bed of a pickup and is heated by hoses running from the heater.

"I've been using this idea for 8 years and it works great, even in sub-zero weather. The box is fully insulated and built to last. I tried making a prototype out of plastic but it was too expensive," says farmer-inventor Robin Altin, who's started manufacturing the boxes.

The box runs across the full width of the pickup and holds up to 3 calves at once. "I simply adapt a 3-in. flex hose to the heater in the truck and it blows hot air through two hoses into the box. It works well for reviving near-frozen newborns and is ideal for

trips to the vet, eliminating the need to put animals in the cab. Can be used for any type of small livestock or any other application around the farm where you need to keep something warm," says Altin.

The box rides far enough forward that it doesn't interfere with a fifth wheel hitch. Seams are silicone sealed and the inside is painted so the box can be pressure-washed for clean-out.

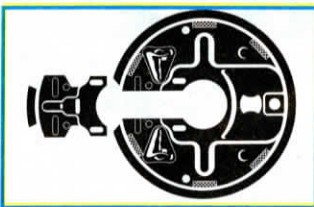
Sells for \$400.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robin Altin, Port-A-Calf Ltd., Rt. 1, Byemoor, Alberta Canada T0J 0L0 (ph 403 364-2150).

New Way To Repair Brakes

A Canadian inventor is doing a booming business with his new-style brake repair for GM vehicles.

Since last October, Jim Jones has already sold more than 30,000 of his "backing plate" kits for 1978-92 GM cars and light duty trucks fitted with 9 1/2 in. brakes. The kit allows you to simply cut away the brake backing plate and then bolt his 2-piece



backing kit in place.

"Without this kit, it's a major repair. You have to pull the axle to get the plate off. If there's any problems - such as a broken bolt - the 2 to 3 hour job can easily take 5 hrs. Our plate is like a pie with one piece missing so you can slip it behind the hub without removing the axle. Fastens in place with two bolts and takes just 10 to 15 min. to cut off the old plate and install the new one. Besides the savings in labor, it costs less than the GM part," says Jones, noting that the problem first arose in 1978 when GM replaced their thicker brake-backing plate with a thinner one to reduce weight and improve fuel economy.

Fits many Buick, Chevy, Oldsmobile and Pontiac models. Sells direct for \$69.95. Jones is looking for distributors.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jones Brake Technologies, Inc., 130 Woodworth Ave., St. Thomas, Ontario N5P 3K1 Canada (ph 800 465-2451 or 519 631-5901).



Flow divider's outlet nipple is mounted on side at 45 degree angle. On Deere drills, Smick cuts part of seed cup off and welds flow divider onto bottom.



PLACES SEED AT TWO DIFFERENT DEPTHS IN ROW FOR BETTER GERMINATION

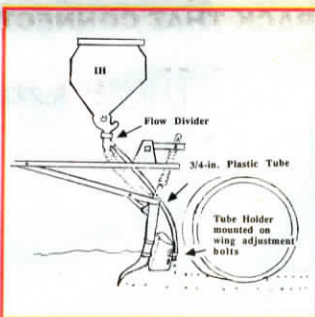
New "Double Depth" Grain Drill Seed Tube

"It lets you seed small grains at two different depths in the row and greatly reduces the odds that you'll have to replant," says Neal Smick, Connell, Wash., who telephoned FARM SHOW recently to tell us about his home-built seed flow divider that mounts on the seed cups of any deep furrow drill.

Smick lives in an area that gets only 7 to 10 in. of rain each year. To overcome the dry conditions, most farmers use a deep furrow drill that places seeds 5 to 6 in. deep. "If it rains before seedlings emerge they have trouble breaking through the crust, and the result is either a complete loss or a thin stand," says Smick. "Dry years can also cause thin stands and bald spots. Deciding whether or not to replant can be agonizing. It always seemed to me that if there were just a few more plants per foot of row, the replanting decision would be much easier."

The flow divider is made from 1 3/4-in. dia. steel tubing and is equipped with a 1 3/16 in. dia. outlet nipple mounted on the side at a 45 degree angle. A 3/4-in. dia. plastic tube runs from the nipple and down the back side of the boot. The extra tube places seeds 1 to 1 1/2 in. deep, above conventionally planted seeds placed 5 to 6 in. deep.

"The flow dividers provide insurance against poor germination by allowing me to plant an extra 20 lbs. or more per acre of seed in shallow dry soil where it will sprout after the first rain. I plant about 40 lbs. per acre deep. I've used my flow dividers for the past 12 years and have never been disappointed with them. They've saved me thousands of dollars in seed and lots of time. The only time I had to reseed was when extremely cold temperatures and high winds in the winter killed the wheat. One year the



Tube runs from nipple and down back side of boot to place seeds 1 to 1 1/2 in. deep.

ground was wet and crusted over and of the 60 lbs. per acre I planted (in late August), only the 20 lbs. per acre planted shallow came up yet I still got a good yield. I can divide the flow between deep and shallow seed at whatever ratio I want by simply using a wrench to turn the fitting on the end of each tube."

To install the flow divider, the drill's seed tube is removed from the bottom of the seed cup and the flow divider is then clamped or pinned onto the cup. The seed tube is then clamped onto the bottom of the flow divider. On Deere drills, Smick cuts part of the seed cup off and welds the flow divider onto the bottom.

The flow divider system for International drills sells for \$24.50, and \$26.50 for Deere drills if you send in your old seed cups. It sells for \$31.50 with new seed cups.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Neal Smick, Box 158, Connell, Wash. 99326 (ph 509 234-7110 or 234-7111).

Vol. 16, No. 3, 1992

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FARM SHOW is published bimonthly for \$13.95 per year (\$16.95 in Canada and foreign countries) by Farm Show Publishing Inc., P.O. Box 1029, 20088 Kenwood Trail, Lakeville, Minn. 55044. Second class postage paid at Lakeville, Minn., and Madelia, Minn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FARM SHOW, Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 612-469-5572; fax 612-469-5575). Single copy price is \$3.00 (\$3.50 Canada). Publication No. 470870

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May-June, 1992