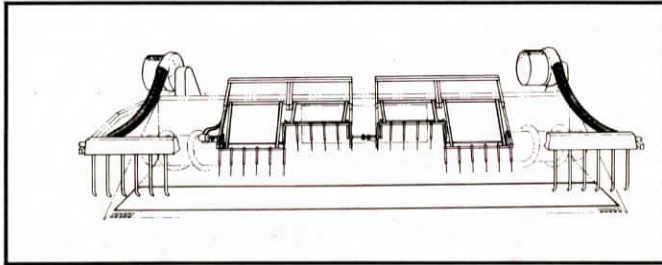


Best New Ideas From Australia

(Continued from previous page)



"Air Reel" Platform Sweeps

Air reels work best in short-stalked crops but they have trouble in crops that are tall and viny. In the U.S., Crary Co. recently introduced a new combination air and batt reel (Vol. 12, No. 6) that combines the best advantages of both air and conventional batt-type reels. The Crary reel features a 4-batt reel rotating around a center-mounted air reel manifold. The batts help feed tall, tough crops that might otherwise be difficult to harvest with air alone.

In Australia, where the Crary air reel was invented, farmers using air reels have also had problems with tall and viny crops. The manufacturer of the air reel, Harvestaire Ltd., has come up with its own solution to the feeding problem. They've fitted twin

platform sweeps to the center of the platform that reach forward, pull material back from the knife, and force it into the feeder auger before lifting clear for the next sweep. They work directly over the platform so that when loose grain from easily shattered crops - soybeans, lupins, etc. - is knocked off, it stays on the platform.

The twin platform sweeps mount on brackets attached to the back of the platform and are powered by a small hydraulic motor and fitted with long nylon fingers. Each sweep section is 3 ft., 6 in. wide.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harvestaire Pty. Ltd., 18 Mumford Place Balcatta, Western Australia, 6021 Australia (ph 09 344-7433)

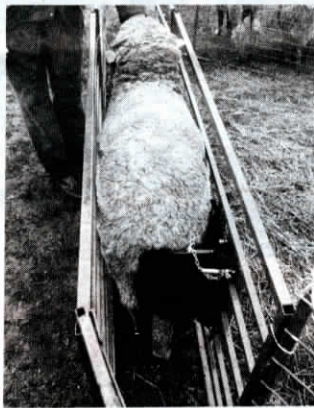
Backup Gate For Sheep, Cattle

"It's like having another hired worker around," says John Moore, inventor and manufacturer of a new spring-loaded backup gate for livestock chutes that lets animals pass but prevents them from backing out.

The gate simply bolts to one side of the race, positioned so that it's about halfway open. "As the animal pushes through, the gate opens to the side of the race and then swings back to its half-open position once the animal has passed. If for some reason the animal tries to back out, the gate opens up all the way, holding the animal in place. If the chute is full and the animal only gets halfway through, it can back out without injury," Moore told FARM SHOW.

A sheep-sized backup gate sells for \$45. Moore is also developing a heavy-duty model for cattle.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John A. Moore, Moor-



will Products, RMB 3110, Springhurst, Victoria 3682 Australia (ph 057-265-260).

Bird Scare Cartridge For Shotguns

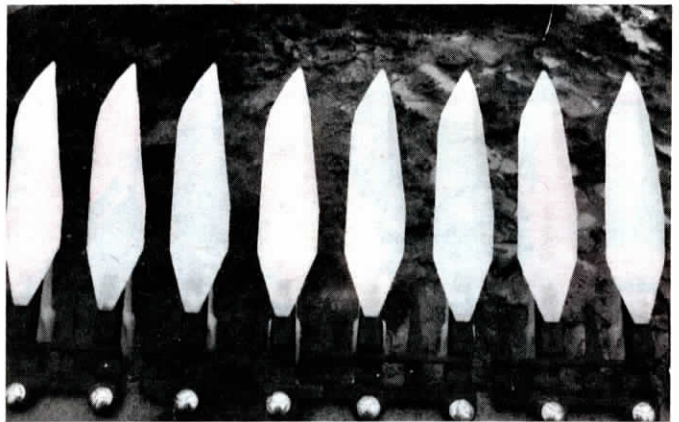
"They were developed by the Australian government for use around airports but they work great to scare birds out of orchards and crops," says Randall Walker, about Bird Frite cartridges for 12-ga. shotguns that recently became available for use by farmers on pest birds.

The bird-scare cartridges look like ordinary 12-ga. shotgun shells and can be used in an unmodified gun. When fired, a delay fuse is ignited by the charge in the shell. The fuse is attached to a projectile that's shot out of the cartridge. The fuse burns for 2 to 3 seconds and then sets off an explosion accompanied by a brilliant flash and a cloud of white smoke. The explosion takes place 200 to 300 ft. from the shooter and should be aimed to explode 20 to 30 ft. off the ground. It produces about a 145-decibel sound.

"The explosions are extremely frightening to the birds because they're usually starting to fly up into the air in reaction to the shot when the shells explode in and around them. One or two shells have a lasting effect on all the birds in an area. It's a long time before they come back," says sales manager Randall Walker, noting that unlike poisons, Bird Frite shotgun shells don't threaten livestock or other domestic animals.

Bird Frite cartridges sell for \$35 for a box of 25 shells. The company is looking for a U.S. distributor.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bird Frite, Office of Defense Production, Anzac Park West Bldg., Constitution Ave., Canberra ACT 2600 Australia (ph 61 62 482-111).



Grain-Saving Fingers For Cutterbars

You'll like these new grain-saving fingers for cutterbars that catch loose grain that would otherwise be lost in shatter-prone crops.

Made from a super-tough polypropylene, the 10-in. long by 2-in. wide fingers are formed in the shape of shallow, pointed trays that catch grain and roll it backward onto the platform.

"In addition to saving grain they also improve the flow of grain into the sickle to

reduce plug-ups," says Don Riley, company representative. There's a steel insert at the base of each finger that fits over hold-down bolts on the underside of any cutterbar. "They're so tough they'll last the life of the cutterbar," says Riley.

The fingers sell for \$4 apiece.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Harvestaire Pty. Ltd., 18 Mumford Place, Balcatta, W.A. 6021 Australia (ph 09 344-7433).

First-Of-Its-Kind Cattle Trap

You've never seen anything like this new "cattle trap" that effortlessly rounds up range animals, eliminating the need for labor-intensive roundups that can cause stress and damage to cattle quartered in remote areas.

John Beattie, of Queensland, developed the cattle trap to bring in cattle from remote outback areas. The trap can also be used on wild horses, deer, elk, and other wild animals.

"It's a tremendous labor-saver and works 24 hrs. a day without supervision. When you've caught all the animals you can catch in an area, two men can break it down in about 15 min. and haul it in the back of a pickup to a new location. It's also extremely gentle, reducing cattle stress to a minimum," says Beattie.

The trap consists of a circular corral about 25-ft. in dia. A gate runs across the center of the corral, pivoting on a center chain-driven shaft. Cattle enter the open gate to get to a hay feeder and waterer on the inside. As they approach the feeder, they break a beam of light from an electric eye that activates the gate motor. The gate pivots at



When cattle enter circular corral they trip an electric eye that causes the pivoting gate to swing shut behind them.

center, moving up slowly behind the cattle and shutting off their escape route from the corral. The gate nudges cattle into the far side of the corral and into a holding area.

The electric motor that turns the gate is operated by 12-volt batteries which are recharged each day by a solar panel. The cattle trap sells for \$5,500.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Beattie & Son, 1 Vaughan St., Mareeba, 4880 Queensland, Australia (ph 070 922-036).

"Wide Wing" Pickup Topper

When Peter Males decided to put a topper on his pickup, he didn't like the ones he found on the market. Rear access doors made it hard to use all the space in the box without constantly climbing in and out on his hands and knees. He decided to design his own topper and it worked so well he now manufactures and sells it.

The innovative "wide wing" topper has full-opening doors on each side that make the entire pickup bed easily accessible and yet can be closed to provide water tight protection.

"It's almost unbelievable how much more usable it makes your pickup. The doors are made out of lightweight fiberglass-laminated plywood and lift up effortlessly on gas struts. It's got as much height as any other topper and the side doors open up right down to the bed of the truck," says Males, who removes the entire pickup box to install



his topper. The doors are rubber-sealed and fitted with locking handles. A roof rack on the topper can handle up to a 250 lb. load. There's an interior light for night time use.

Sells for about \$1,800 for a full-sized pickup. Males is looking for a U.S. distributor.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Peter Males, Innovative Ideas, 19 Upper Colo Road, Colo, N.S.W. Australia (ph 045 755-333).