

**AUTOMATICALLY TEACHES THEM TO KEEP QUIET**

## Electronic Collar Helps Train Barking Dogs

An electronic collar that zaps dogs that bark when they shouldn't is catching on fast with dog owners whose animals make too much noise.

Problem dogs that won't stop barking on their own learn to keep silent after just a few days use of the collar. Thereafter, they'll keep quiet except in times of emergency, or when needed for watchdogging, says the manufacturer.

The water-tight electronic collar, developed by Tri-Tronics, Tucson, Ariz., fits around the dog's neck. An electronic detector is positioned over the dog's larynx. When the dog barks, he gets a mild electrical shock that can be set at different levels of intensity, depending on how bad the problem is. At worst, the shock is only a mild vibratory sensation that most dogs experience as uncomfortable, according to Dr. Daniel F. Tortora, a vet working with the company to develop training programs for use in conjunction with the training collar.

According to the company, some experts feel excessive barking is genetic, thus making "debarking" training extremely difficult. Other dogs with a strong attachment to their



**Electronic detector fastens over larynx. When dog barks, he gets a mild electrical shock.**

owners only bark when the owner is away. That's not a problem if you don't have close neighbors, but it can be disturbing to livestock on the farm.

The sophisticated electronics of the collar can be programmed for various training cycles when first in use on a dog. According to a kennel in New Jersey that has begun using the collar to run a "debarking" school, most dogs become calm, quiet, and relaxed after just 30 min. use with the collar. That training is reinforced over time in such a way that the dogs

## Self-Cleaning Rake

With the "Self-Cleaning Lawn and Garden Rake" you'll save the back-bending job of pulling tangles from the rake by hand, says John O'Connell, president of RFE Ltd., Green Bay, Wis.

Key to the rake's self-cleaning action is the spring-hinged head. To clean out the teeth, put slight pressure on the rake handle to flatten teeth to the ground. Then, slide the teeth away from you along the ground letting friction do the work.

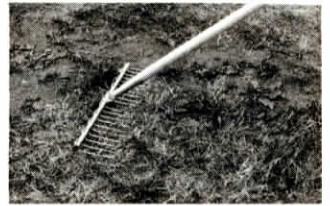
The 20-in. wide rake has 2 to 3-in. long teeth. O'Connell says the varying sized teeth produce better thatching action in long grass.

Suggested retail for the self-cleaning rake is \$14.95, plus shipping.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, RFE Ltd., P.O. Box 12183, Green Bay, Wis. 54307 (ph 414 497-9440).



**Top photo shows rake in typical raking configuration. Rake teeth flatten, lower photo, when you push it forward to clean off debris.**



are still effective as watchdogs. A comprehensive training book is supplied with each collar.

The Tri-Tronics collar sells for \$195. The company says that individuals who do not want to purchase a unit on their own may want to encourage their veterinarian, or local pet shop

owner, to buy one to rent to customers.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tri-Tronics, 7060 E. 21st Street, P.O. Box 17660, Tucson, Ariz. 85371 (ph 602 747-1111).

**HERE'S A NEW KIND OF FUN**

## Zoom Swing Glides Along Roller Coaster Track

You've never seen fun like the new Zoom Swing invented "down under" by New Zealander Al Forbes. Instead of hanging from a stationary beam and swinging like a pendulum, the Forbes Zoom Swing suspends from rollers running in a pair of tracks. Designed for kids of all ages, you start your ride as with any swing but then you take off on an exciting roller coaster ride.

Instead of bottoming out when you get close to the ground, you zoom the length of the track and go up in a normal swing before zooming back along the length of the track (see sketches). You can get 5 or 6 runs out of a single swinging start. And, once you — or your kids — get the hang of it, you can learn to pump your legs to keep going as long as you wish.

Forbes explains that, as you zoom across the length of the swing, you stay in a vertical position. "It adds an exciting dimension to swinging that no one's ever experienced before. Kids catch onto it right away. They love it."

The swing is suspended from a pair

of specially designed 4-wheel rollers fitted with nylon wheels and precision ball bearings. The rollers ride in a specially designed 14 ga. galvanized steel track protected from dust, dirt, sunlight and weather. Although Forbes says an adult could glide 120 ft. on a single push, production models are limited to a more practical 13 ft. The frame of the swing is an extra wide 6 ft. and it's 7 ft., 3 in. high. The main frame of the swing is made out of 1 3/8-in. galvanized tubular steel. "It's built strong enough so adults can use it too," Forbes notes.

Plans are available for do-it-yourselfers for \$1 to make their own Zoom Swing out of wood from Zoom Swing, FARM SHOW, Box 1029, Lakeville, MN 55044. Forbes would also like to compare notes with North American Manufacturers interested in producing the Zoom Swing for the U.S. and Canadian markets.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alfred Forbes, J-Bird Products, C/O Oratia Post Office, Oratia, Auckland, New Zealand.



**New-style swing glides 13 ft. on a specially designed steel track.**

