

Totally Automatic Self-Stoking Boiler

"You can heat with wood or paper pellets for less than half the cost of propane or natural gas," says Howard Johnson, Johnson Mfg. & Sales, Inc., manufacturer of a new self-stoking hot water furnace that's got a new-style auger-feed system that's totally automatic and even cleans out the ash automatically.

The new pellet-stoking system is matched up with an Aqua Therm outside wood burning furnace. Aqua Therm wood burners consist of a firebox surrounded by a boiler water jacket and a pump that sends hot water through underground pipes to radiator units in the house. (If the house has a forced air furnace, a radiator unit is placed inside the plenum of the existing furnace).

To use, you just fill the hopper, set the thermostat and the furnace takes over from there. When water in the water jacket reaches the temperature you've set, the forced draft fan shuts off and the pellet-feeding auger stops. When the thermostat calls for more heat, the fan and auger start up again, creating a hot fire for as long as needed. When no heat is called for, a timer starts the fan and auger periodically so the fire will not go out.

The stoker has three augers, all driven by a single 1/4-hp. heavy duty gear motor through a unique drive system. A 3-in. auger brings pellets out of the hopper and drops them into a 3-in. auger that feeds the fire. A 2-in. auger pulls ash out of the bottom of the firebox. Auger speed can be easily adjusted to adapt to whatever type of fuel is being used.

"Wood and paper pellets are becoming much more widely available and they're very cheap. Once you fire up this furnace, it'll run all winter without any maintenance other than filling it with pellets," says Johnson, noting that the 7 cu. ft. capacity of the pellet hopper can be increased by building extensions onto it. Johnson doesn't recommend burning straight corn in the furnace, because of problems with "clinkers" that form in the ash, but says it can be mixed in with paper or wood pellets which prevents formation of clinkers.

Sells for \$3,500.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Johnson Mfg. & Sales, Inc., N5499 Cty. E., Ogdensburg, Wis. 54962 (ph 414 244-7581; fax 414 244-7580).

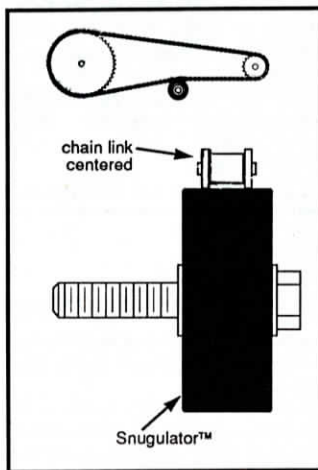
New "Snugulator" For Roller Chain

Latest new way to prolong the life of roller chain, and make it run quieter and smoother, is the Black Ace "Snugulator" from Terog Mfg., Stephen, Minn. Resembling a small, solid rubber tire, it replaces the idler sprocket and may also replace expensive tightening mechanisms.

"Unlike conventional sprocket idlers, our Snugulator tightener automatically absorbs varying tensions caused by sprocket runout. It takes the whip and lash out of roller chains, quieting vibrations and noise, and prolonging chain life," the manufacturer points out. "Roller chain wears two shallow grooves in the Snugulator's molded rubber surface. The chain follows the path of least resistance from sprocket to sprocket, thus eliminating side deflection, the leading cause of downtime and expensive repairs and replacement."

Easy to install, the Snugulator comes in two widths (1-3/8 and 2-1/8 in.) and three bolt hole sizes (1/2, 5/8 and 3/4 in.) to fit most chain widths and pitches.

Also new from Terog are split steel feeder shaft sprockets for Deere and Case-IH combines that let you replace worn sprockets without having to pull out the shaft. For Case-IH combines, Terog offers a noise-dampening rubber roller assembly to re-



duce wear on the feeder bars, and on the roller chain and wear plate. Comes with double-bearing roller, bolt with nut, and mounting shaft. All you need to do is drill the mounting holes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Terog Mfg., 387 Atlantic Ave., Stephen, Minn. 56757 (ph 800 423-3918, or 612 478-3395).

LP-Fired Engine Heater

"It eliminates the need to idle diesel engines in cold weather," says Chuck Dahlgren about the new Hilton Heater, an LP-fired, cordless engine heater that you can use anywhere without the need for an electrical plug in. Works on both diesel and gas engines.

On semi-trucks and other high-use equipment, the heater can be mounted permanently so that when on the road, operators can simply flip a switch to turn on the heater rather than leave rigs idling for hours on end, says Dahlgren, president of Acucraft, the manufacturer. On the farm, the unit could be mounted on a portable stand, together with a small LP tank, and fitted with quick couplers so you could wheel it around for use as needed on any equipment.

Developed after 25 years of experimentation by a Minnesota inventor, key to success of the unit is the catalytic "flameless" burner it uses, ignited by a wire running to the unit from the electrical system. Once ignited, it burns without the need for electricity, heating water which circulates by convection through the unit and around the engine block. Uses just 6 oz. of LP-gas per hour, at

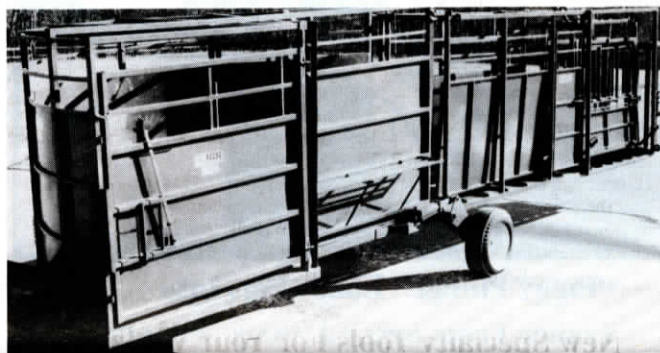


a cost of about 15 cents.

"Savings in fuel and wear and tear to engine will pay for it in a short time," says Dahlgren.

Sells for \$795.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hilton Heaters, Inc., 20100 W. Highway 10, Big Lake, Minn. 55309 (ph 612 263-3156).



"Trail-N-Catch" Cattle Handler

In only ten minutes or less, one person working alone can set up the new "Trail-N-Catch" cattle handler from Roose Mfg. Co., Pella, Iowa.

The versatile rig combines a 7 ft. half-circle crowding tub with a floor, an 8 ft. telescoping alleyway, palpation cage, and a squeeze chute with manual or automatic head catch.

"When moving from one site to the next, the entire rig (41.5 ft. long) trails behind a pickup.

Total weight is 6,000 lbs. Transportation height is 27 in. Total width is 8 ft. Avail-

able options include a 12-V hydraulic pump with reservoir which lets you raise or lower the Trail-N-Catch with your pickup's 12-V battery, electric brakes, scale system and a gooseneck tongue.

"The squeeze chute is large enough to handle the exotic breeds, yet versatile enough for calves," says Roose. Both side release gates open, allowing cattle to exit on either side."

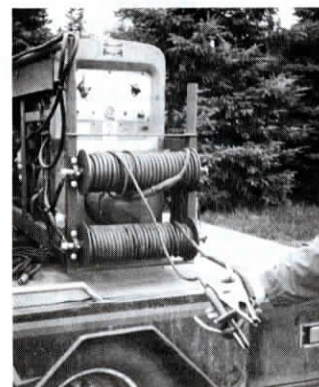
For more information contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Roose Mfg. Co., PO Box 322, Pella, Iowa 50219 (ph 1 800 552-3276, or 515 628-2529).

"Welder's Helper" Winds Up Both Cables

Getting tangled up in the lengthy cables on his truck-mounted welder led Alberta welder Dale Schafers to come up with a new "welder's helper" that'll roll up both welding cables instead of having to wrap them up by hand.

"It's a must for every welder," says Schafers, who says the time saved by being able to quickly store cables will "pay for the unit a hundred times over."

"Now when I need the welder, I just grab the ends of the cables and walk away. The cables roll off quick and easy, and then roll up again just as quickly with a small hand crank. You never touch the cable itself. There are some commercial units on the market designed to do the same thing that cost upwards of \$450. I've been building these units for local welders for 1/3 the cost, and could sell detailed do-it-yourself instructions if people are interested," says Schafers, noting that the unit can be mounted



on most any welder, portable or in a shop.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dale Schafers Welding Ltd., Box 49, Site 3, Rt. 1, Calahoo, Alberta T0G 0J0 Canada (ph 403 459-4802).