

# "Best & Worst Balers"

Continued from previous page

ter-turn chute. I wish the grease fittings were grouped together better and double twine capacity would be helpful."

• "We put a bale ventilator on our International 435T small square baler that was supposed to put a hole through the bale but it didn't seem to help at all. It just made it harder to produce a good tight bale," says Wayne Carver, Wilmington, Ohio.

• "We bought a Pro Quality bale basket (St. Cloud, Minn. ph 612 363-7209) which lets us run our Deere 337 baler at a higher speed than if we had to have someone standing on a bale rack. It unloads all the bales at once in a pile and then we can stack them later when we have labor available. It works well in grass, alfalfa, and straw. We hoped it would work in soybean stubble but it didn't. The bales were too tight and dry. They broke as they dropped into the basket," says David Struthers, Collins, Iowa. "Some of the parts on the knotters could be made a little sturdier. We've had some breakage in tough hay."

• Gideon Stoltzfus, Gap, Penn., owns New Holland 273 and 311 square balers. "Both do a good job with little maintenance. It's more difficult to keep bale density consistent with the 311 in fields where you might have some variation in moisture than with the 273. This might be because the chamber knife is flush with the bale chamber instead of being inset. We added liquid acid hay preservative applicators to both balers."

• "Our 1990 Deere 348 square baler has three options on it that make it an outstanding baler - electric thrower control, grease bank, and a cylinder on the tongue. The baler has lots of capacity in both hay and straw," says Don Fitzsimmons, Mineral Point, Wis.

• "We bale approximately 20,000 bales of hay and straw per year," says Dale Mohnhey, Three Rivers, Mich., owner of a "best buy" 1984 New Holland 311 square baler. "It's equipped with a model 70 bale thrower that works well. Workmanship and paint on the baler is excellent. It still runs and looks like new. We bought three Bale Queen racks at the same time we bought this baler and I've been pleased with them. They're sturdy."

• Jeffrey Goldstein, Sauquoit, N.Y., says he's well-satisfied with his Deere 346 baler with tosser. "Makes good bales and is easy to work on. The only problem has been with the front and back hitches. The front one broke and we had to reinforce it and the wagon hitch on back has broken off several times. The main reason we bought this baler was the wide pickup which works good in both heavy wheat straw and light third cut hay. However, 7200 twine is almost a necessity or bales will break by the knot when they hit the wagon."

• "I pull my 1970 Deere 24T baler with my antique 1947 Deere A tractor. It's been a reliable baler but one problem I had originally is that it was difficult to pick up light windrows going down wind. I added some contoured 3/8-in. rods curved to fit the pickup reel just ahead of the tines that keep hay from rolling forward. A couple years later, Deere came out with the same idea on their newer balers," says Robert J. Cox, Rosedale, Ind.

• "I've only replaced one bolt since I

bought it in 1968," says Eugene Reed, Racine, Minn., pleased with his New Holland 273 square baler. "It's always been a good-tying baler. I leave it in the shed all winter and when I go out in the spring, it never misses a bale."

• "It never makes two bales the same," says Randy Mehlinger, Jasper, Ind., about his 1985 Deere 437 wire-tie square baler with bale thrower. "We make 10,000 bales of straw a year. If you feed it heavy it makes long bales and if you feed it light it makes short bales. I installed hydraulic bale tension to improve bale length but it didn't help. However, the baler has outstanding capacity and the thrower works real well."

• "The knotters on our 1984 New Holland square baler tend to lay loose 1-in. pieces of twine on top of the bales. Some sheep men say it gets caught in the wool. Also, we don't like the high-speed plunger - we operate it at a reduced speed. Because of the speed and vibration, we don't think it will last as long as the IH 440 we had before," says Viggo Anderson, Great Falls, Mont.

• "I put a small hydraulic cylinder on the pickup so I could lift it without getting off

**"I put a small hydraulic cylinder on the pickup so I could lift it without getting off the tractor."**

the tractor," says Craig R. Schuster, E. Greenville, Penn., owner of a New Holland 276 small square baler.

• Eric Howard, Woodstock, Ontario, makes 8,000 to 10,000 bales a year with his 1967 Massey Ferguson 10 square baler. "It's so old new parts are either not available or cost too much so I get parts by buying the same model at auctions. We try to keep it in top shape. The main problem with this baler is that it needs one more row of tines on each end. In the 1950's we had a 50T IHC custom baler with a motor on it and hay that lodged on the ends of the pickup rarely dropped off, but with this MF it almost always drops away."

• "We've tried making bale silage with 4 by 5-ft. round bales. It worked fine. There's only two things wrong with it. 1) Cows tested higher for butterfat and since we're now getting paid a premium for protein, we don't want extra butterfat. 2) The leftover plastic is hard to get rid of since it can't be recycled. We burned some of it in our maple syrup evaporator fire."

• Jerry Morgenweck, Ogilvie, Minn., is happy with his Deere 327 small square baler bought new in 1983. "I've only made two repairs on it - a small bearing and one spring. It would be nice if Deere gave their smaller models more strokes per minute like they do on the larger models. Also, this baler has a poor paint job. It's always been shedded but the paint has faded."

• "My New Holland 275 square baler has a super pickup and hardly ever misses tying a bale. Very dependable," says Earl Edmundson, Ruthton, Minn.



Bale unroller bolts to steel frame that mounts at back of pickup box. Bale spear mounts on plate that's rotated by 2 1/2 hp electric motor wired to pickup battery.

## POWERED BY ELECTRIC MOTOR

# New Pickup-Mounted Bale Unroller-Wrapper

"It eliminates the need for a hydraulic system," says Pete Kimball, Kimball Sales Co., Lake St. Louis, Mo., about the company's new pickup-mounted bale unroller that's powered by electric motor.

It bolts to a steel frame that mounts at the back of the pickup box. The bale spear mounts on a plate that's rotated by a 2 1/2 hp electric motor wired to the pickup battery. A winch at the front of the pickup bed raises the bale up to a 45° angle and a toggle switch

is used to unroll the bale in either direction. It can be fitted with an optional bale wrapper.

Also adapts to any 3-pt. hitch or front-end loader. Sells for \$1,695. Wrapping attachment sells for \$100.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Pete Kimball Sales Co., 5 Cadillac Ct., Lake St. Louis, Mo. 63367 (ph 800 548-2529 or 314 625-2690).



Steel bracket bolts under top plate of bucket, close to front edge. Spear is secured inside bracket by 3/4-in. dia. steel pin.

## VIRTUALLY ELIMINATES BUCKET DAMAGE

# Bale Spear Mounts On Top Of Bucket

"It mounts on the top edge of the bucket so weight is distributed equally between the top and bottom edges of bucket, virtually eliminating damage that occurs with bottom-mounted bale spears," says Dick Hauser, Neptune Enterprises, Richland Center, Wis., about his new bale spear.

A steel bracket bolts under the top plate of the bucket, close to the front edge. The spear is secured inside the bracket by a 3/4-in. dia. steel pin.

"Most bale spears mount on the bottom edge of the bucket where the bale's weight can bend the bucket or break the bale spear bracket. Also, you have to remove the spear every time you use the bucket."

Sells for \$139. For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Neptune Enterprises, 1000 E. Kinder St., Richland Center, Wis. 53581 (ph 800 272-7547 or 608 647-8182).