

Mini Square Baler Just Right For Small Acreages

If you have a small acreage with livestock, you'll be interested in these new mini square balers designed specifically for 15 to 40 hp tractors.

The Star (soon to be renamed IHI) mini balers are made in Japan and imported by Small Farm Innovations of Caldwell, Texas. Square bales measure 13 by 17 in., with lengths from 15 to 32 in.

"Bale size is about 60 percent the size of a regular square bale which makes them easier to handle, especially for female equine enthusiasts," says Phil Livengood. "These balers let you make hay without having to spend the money for a bigger tractor and baler, and without having to depend on custom operators to make hay for you. They're built rugged and are easy to maintain and safe to operate. A tractor and baler can be loaded on an 18-ft. flatbed trailer and pulled with a 1/2-ton pickup."

The square baler is available in two mod-

els. Model 1031 has a pickup width of 34 in. and weighs 1,435 lbs. The machine can produce bales averaging 10 lbs. and up to 70 lbs. or more, if desired. Model 2031 has a pickup width of 50 in. and weighs 1,766 in. It makes the same size bale as the 1031 but has a wider pickup.

Model TRB 910 3 by 3 round baler is a big hit with small acreage farmers who have little help when it comes to handling hay, says Livengood. The baler has its own hydraulic system; therefore, remotes aren't required. It has three density settings and a fast twine binding system. Bales weigh from 300 to 600 lbs. depending on moisture content. Livengood says 2 by 2 round net wrap balers are also available for pine straw balers and people who have small hay fields of 5 acres or less.

"Our most popular TRB 0910 and THB 1031 balers sell for \$13,999 each," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Phil



Mini baler lets you make bales without having to spend the money for a bigger tractor and baler. Bales are about 60 percent smaller than regular square bales.

Livengood, Small Farm Innovations, 3701 State Hwy. 36 South, Caldwell, Texas 77836 (ph 979 200-1473 or 979 567-1346; smallfarminnovations@hughes.net; www.smallfarminnovations.com).

Bi-Fold Doors Turn Horse Barn Into Arena

Charles Longo built a horse barn that converts into an open-sided arena, by installing large bi-fold doors on three walls. The Maryland horse owner's 40,000 sq. ft. building has four 60-ft. doors and two 30-ft. doors built by Schweiss Bi-fold Doors.

Longo says it's like having two buildings in one. Since the doors operate individually and can be stopped anywhere, they can be adjusted to any height according to the weather and time of day. The doors fold up and outward, creating a protected overhang for spectators or riders waiting their turn in the arena.

The doors are insulated since he uses the facility year round. Schweiss custom-builds doors to meet customers needs, explains Dick Hagen, who handles Schweiss' public relations. Besides insulation, doors can include windows of all shapes or walk-through doors.

"The doors use any kind of skin (siding material) the customer wants - steel, redwood siding, even stucco," Hagen explains. "Typically the local contractor puts it on but Schweiss will do it, too."

Schweiss doors are also raised differently than other bi-folds. Instead of mechanical cables, Schweiss developed and patented a Lift-Strap system, using nylon web with 29,000 lbs. tensile strength that wraps on a take-up spindle operated by an electric motor.

"The system is quiet, strong, durable and doesn't rust," Hagen says. "Sliding doors get worn on the bottom and soon they're hard to



Maryland horse owner's 40,000 sq. ft. barn has four 60-ft. doors and two 30-ft. doors.

push open. Or in winter, freezing ice and snow can lock them shut. Bi-folds open up, so weather never bothers them."

An auto latch system and weather boot on the bottom keeps the doors snug to the building for weatherproofing and security. Doors also have hand cranks in case the electricity goes out.

Mike Schweiss, owner of the company, liked the Maryland horse barn design so well that he is building a horse arena for his daughters and their horses, which will also be used to show customers how bi-fold doors can transform a horse barn into an arena.

Costs for bi-fold doors vary according to options, but are about \$110 to \$130/linear ft., including installation. The Lift Strap System has a 7-year warranty.

Since the doors operate individually and can be stopped anywhere, they can be adjusted to fit the weather and time of day.



Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Fairfax, Minnesota 55332 (ph 800 746-8273; schweiss@bifold.com; www.bifold.com).

Bee Stings "Cured" His Arthritis

While crushing apples to make cider at his Glen Mills, Penn., home, Jack Nachamkin had the misfortune to be stung multiple times by yellow-jackets.

"I was surprised to notice after being stung that the yellow jacket stings, while painful, actually cured my two arthritic fingers for a time," Nachamkin explains.

He received three stings directly onto his arthritic left hand fingers, and one sting on his left thigh. Nachamkin says the stings on his fingers left them stiff with pain for only a day, and then the arthritis in the fingers went away. Arthritic pain in his hip also diminished. The beneficial effect lasted about twelve days before wearing out.

"The sting on my leg developed into an

itchy circular welt about 3/4 inches in diameter and took nearly three weeks to heal," he says. "The stings on my fingers didn't itch but there was slight irritation at each of the sting points for several days."

"When the stings first happened, they were more painful than the arthritis had been, but the stinging pain didn't last too long and ultimately resulted in a nearly two-week period of completely pain-free time."

A search on the internet quickly showed that bee stings are an ancient treatment for a variety of ills.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jack Nachamkin, 51 Broomall Lane, Glen Mills, Penn. 19342 (ph 610 455-3897; jackn1@verizon.net).

Some of the best new ideas we hear about are "made it myself" inventions born in farmers' workshops. If you've got a new idea or favorite gadget you're proud of, we'd like to hear about it. Send along a photo or two, and a description of what it is and how it works. Is it being manufactured commercially? If so where can interested farmers buy it? Are you looking for manufacturers, dealers or distributors? Send to FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or call toll-free 800 834-9665. Or you can submit an idea at our website at www.farmshow.com.

Mark Newhall, Editor

FARM SHOW

"Made It Myself"