

## Latest New Products From New Zealand

Associate Editor Bill Gergen recently attended New Zealand's largest farm show - the National Fieldays near Hamilton. Featured here and on the following page are some of the new products and ideas that caught his eye.



Extending a cylinder raises curved steel cradle which feeds bale into beaters.

### “Chainless” Bale Unroller

Feeding round bales is a low maintenance job with this “chainless” 3-pt. bale unroller built in New Zealand.

It consists of a curved steel cradle with a pair of beaters at one end that are chain-driven by a hydraulic motor. Extending a hydraulic cylinder raises the cradle to feed the bale into the beaters, which rotate the bale and also peel hay off at the same time. As the bale gets smaller, the operator con-

tinues to raise the cradle as necessary.

The simple, rugged design eliminates the need for apron chains and results in a more even windrow.

Sells for \$3,740.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Michael Bloeman Engineering, 92 Victoria St., Kaponga, New Zealand (ph 64 6 764 6008 or 6819).



Side-opening topper fits special-built deck with fold-down, 1-ft. high sides.

### New-Style Pickup Topper

You'll like the side access (either or both sides) on this new pickup topper.

The side-opening topper was specifically designed to fit a special-built deck with fold-down, 1-ft. high sides. Provides easy access to every part of the bed.

The topper sells for \$1,564; the deck for \$1,088.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, TDC Construction, 13 Triton Ave., Mt. Maunganui, Tauranga, New Zealand (ph 64 7 575 0494; fax 8610).

### Cow-Friendly “Hoof Mat” Exported To North America

Your cows won't balk at using this new type of hoof bath that really isn't a bath at all, says Peter Quail of The St. George Company Ltd., Paris, Ontario.

Developed in New Zealand, the “Hoofmat” is an alternative to conventional foot baths used to prevent hoof problems. The 3-ft. wide, 6-ft. long, 1-in. thick mat is made from a soft foam-filled porous material that can be saturated with 8 gal. of foot treatment - enough to treat about 80 cows. The disinfectant solution is simply poured onto the mat (a watering can works good) where it soaks in. Cows walk over the mat

as they enter the milking parlor or feeding area. As they step onto the mat their feet sink in about a half inch, allowing the solution to well up to the top of their claws.

“It works much better than conventional foot baths because cows don't like to walk through water. You often have to drive them through the bath and they sometimes try to jump over it,” says Quail. “The Hoofmat hides the solution inside the mat so cows will walk right over it. To get them used to walking on the mat we suggest you first unroll the mat, soak it in plain water, and place it in the exit race of the milking shed

for a few days. After cows get used to walking on the mat you can place it in the entrance to the milking area. Any disinfecting solution acceptable for cows can be used.

“It's best to have a smooth floor under the mat to reduce wear. If the floor is rough you can put a sheet of plywood under the mat to extend its life. The mat can also be turned over to even out the wear. Under normal conditions the mat will last about 100,000 cow passes.”

Sells for \$249.95 (Canadian).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The St. George Company Ltd., Box 430, 20

### Air-Powered Tree Feeder

This air-powered tree feeder is designed to shatter and aerate compacted soil around trees that aren't doing well. It can also be used to inject fertilizer.

A shot of compressed air is used to loosen the soil which allows roots to grow more freely and also adds oxygen to the soil, allowing trapped nutrients to be released.

The unit consists of a probe and an accumulator that's fed by an air compressor. You insert the probe two or three inches into the ground, then flip a lever to allow compressed air (at 120 to 150 psi) to blast through a pair of holes near the tip of the probe and into the ground. Compacted soil is shattered and literally “lifted” for up to one square yard around the probe. Slow release granular fertilizer or other additives can then be blasted into the shattered soil, if required. Fertilizer is poured into a container at the top of the unit and gravity fed into the air stream.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Barry Daniel, Tree Tech, 245 Station Road,



Feeder uses a shot of compressed air to loosen soil around tree, allowing roots to grow more freely.

Te Puna, RD 6, Tauranga, New Zealand (ph 64 7 552-4087; fax 4318).



Detachable aluminum frame can carry two wire reels and up to 26 posts.

### Fast New Way To Put Up Fence

New Zealand farmers lead the way in controlled grazing techniques and they make extensive use of portable electric fences to divide their pastures. This ATV-mounted system makes putting up fence faster and easier.

The farmer-invented “Reel Fast” is a detachable aluminum frame that pins onto the front ATV rack. It's designed to carry two wire reels as well as up to 26 special posts, which hang from a rack along the side of the ATV. You thread the fence wire

through the loops on the posts. To make the fence you simply drive ahead, pull a post off the rack, and use your foot to push it into the ground. No need to get off the ATV. Up to 12 spare posts can be carried in a holder on front. There's also room for a spare reel.

“It eliminates a lot of walking,” says the inventor.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Reel-Fast, 143 Fermah Road, RD 2, Whakatane, New Zealand (ph 64 7 304 9631; fax 8497).



Mat is made from soft foam-filled porous material that can be saturated with disinfectant solution.

Consolidated Drive, Paris, Ontario, Canada N3L 3T5 (ph 519 442-2046; fax 7191).