



New Gleaner L-4 is a continuation of Allis Chalmers' popular L-Series combines which have not been available in the U.S. and Canada since 1985.

MEXICAN MANUFACTURER BUYS RIGHTS TO ONCE-POPULAR CONVENTIONAL COMBINE

Gleaner "L" Combine Back On The Market

One of the most popular conventional combines ever built is back on the market thanks to a Mexican manufacturer who bought the license rights to the Gleaner L-Series and is now marketing a new L-4 model in the U.S. and Canada.

Built in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, the L-4 is a continuation of Allis Chalmers' popular L-series combine which was a big seller until the Gleaner rotaries were introduced in the 1980's. "L-series conventional combines were sold in the U.S. and Canada from 1972 through 1985. In the late 1970's, the L-2 model had 40% of the U.S. combine market," says Darold Swenson, Canadian distributor. "The combines originally were made at the Allis Chalmers plant in Independence, Missouri. In 1985 the Missouri factory, under Deutz-Allis ownership, stopped making the model to promote the company's rotary combines. Since then no L-series models have been available in the U.S. or Canada."

In 1980, A.C. Mexicana, a joint venture corporate partner with Allis Chalmers since 1963 but now totally Mexican-owned, acquired the marketing and licensing rights for the L-series and started making them for the Latin American market. In 1985 A.C. Mexicana bought total control of the mar-

keting and licensing rights to the L-series combines. Due to the interest and demand for the combines they recently introduced an improved 1990 L-4 combine for export to the U.S., Canada, and other countries.

According to Swenson, the L-4 model is less expensive than any other comparable size conventional combine on the market due to the low cost of Mexican labor. It offers improvements over the previous L-3 model including a Cummins 6BTA 5.9C 177 hp turbocharged, intercooled engine (20 more hp than the L-3 model), a heavier duty final drive, heavier duty rear axle and spindles, heavier front axle assembly, heavier gauge steel in the main frame assembly, heavier rear deck and ladder, heavier engine drive, and 100% heavier main threshing clutch shaft. All moving and service parts are the same as the late L-3's.

Suggested retail price is \$115,000 in Canada and \$98,000 in the U.S. Swenson, who's the distributor for both the U.S. and Canada, has set up dealers in North Dakota and Montana and is looking for more.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Darold Swenson, Swenson, Inc., Box 1030, Preeceville, Sask., Canada S0A 3B0 (ph 306 547-2260 or 306 547-2125).

INVISIBLE BEAM SETS OFF HIGH-DECIBEL WARNING BLAST, FLASHING STROBE LIGHT

"Laser Beam" Cattle Gate

New electronic "gate watch" works by projecting an invisible infrared beam across the gate opening.

A photo-electric sensor mounted on one side of the gate sends out a beam toward a reflector mounted on the other side. When an animal breaks the beam, a high-decibel warning blast goes off along with a flashing strobe light frightening the animal into turning back.

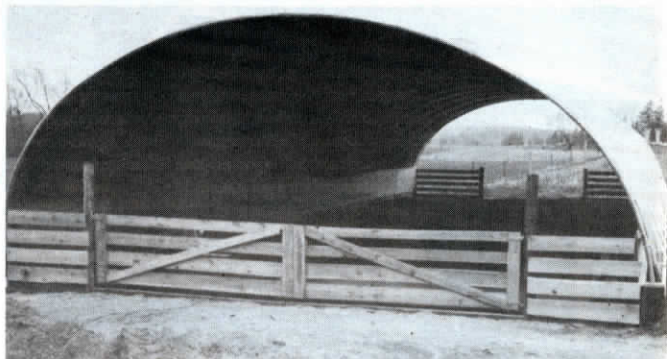
"Unlike conventional cattle guards, it's portable and can be moved to any location," says John States, general manager. "There's no need to dig a pit, and it doesn't cause damage to vehicles or injuries to livestock.

After the first time they set off the horn and light, cattle quickly learn to avoid the gate altogether. People on foot and horseback riders press buttons on the sensor box to deactivate the system so they can go through the gate without setting off the horn and light."

Unit is powered by a 12-volt AC battery charger that runs off an electric fence, or by optional solar panels.

Sells for \$489.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Parkpro, 1814 E. Madison, Phoenix, Ariz. 85034 (ph 602 254-0770).



Crow doesn't heat his hog tents but says that even at 40° below zero hogs remain comfortable. He puts pigs into the inexpensive housing when they reach 50-lbs.

"LETS ME RAISE FEEDER PIGS CHEAP"

Arch-Span "Tarp Tent" For Hogs

An Ontario farmer who didn't like the price tag on confinement hog buildings says his new arch-span "tarp tent" is a cost effective way to raise feeder pigs.

Bill Crow, Cambridge, Ontario, feeds 150 hogs inside a 30-ft. wide, 72-ft. long, 11-ft. high "tarp tent" made up of 13 steel arch spans covered by a single tarp made from ultraviolet-resistant, aluminum-coated polyethylene. The floor is bedded with straw over an 8 to 10-in. sand base. A large feeder and water bowls are located on a 10-ft. long, 30-ft. wide concrete pad at one end of the building. Crow uses additional tarp in the winter to close both ends of the building.

"There's nothing fancy about it, but it works and lets me raise hogs cheap," says Crow, who put up a pair of "tarp tents" two years ago and liked them so well that he became the distributor for eastern Canada and recently began advertising in the U.S. "Tarp tents work great for farmers who'd rather finish their feeder pigs than sell them, but can't afford a new finishing barn. They cost about \$2.50 per square foot. Conventional hog barns cost \$10 to \$12 per square foot and deluxe conventional finishing barns cost up to \$40 per square foot. I put my pigs in when they weigh about 50 lbs. With sand floors, natural ventilation, straw bedding, and lots of room to run around the hogs do very well. I don't try to heat the buildings, but even at 40 below the hogs stay comfortable especially when I put in extra bedding. The main tarp takes only one day to put up and one day to take down. Small tears are easy to patch up. A replacement tarp would

cost about \$2,000."

The 2 1/2-in. dia. galvanized steel arch spans are connected by spacers. Each end of the arch span is fitted into a drilled-out 2 by 6 that's nailed to the top of a 6-ft. wood post driven 4 ft. into the ground. The tarp is tied down by a series of ropes strung through eyelets to 2 by 4's that run horizontally along the length of the building and are nailed to the sides of the posts. A 4-ft. high plywood wall protects the sides of the tarp and ropes from curious hogs. A 3-in. air space between the tarp and plywood wall provides ventilation. Gates are located at both ends of the building.

"If I could do it again I'd raise each post another 12 in. so the tarp would overlap more of the plywood wall. The tarp is a trifle short which allows rain to sometimes drip inside," notes Crow, who adds that he plans to build another tarp tent for storing round bales. "I'll extend the posts 4 ft. above ground to provide a clearance of 15 ft. at the center of the building which will let me stack round bales three high."

Crow spent about \$8,000, including concrete pad and feeding and drinking facilities, to build the tarp tent. The tarp tent sells for about \$88 per running foot (\$100 Canadian). Estimated life is 10 years.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bill Crow, RR 2, Cambridge, Ontario, Canada N3C 2V4 (ph 519 822-8559) or in western Canada contact Ron Floyd, Box 216, McCreary, Manitoba, Canada R0J 1B0 (ph 204 835-2495).

