

Low-Cost Goat Milker Easy To Use

Millie the “test goat” has experienced her share of prototype milkers since her owner, Mike Henry, decided to make a better, less expensive goat milker. Both goat and man are happy with the Henry Milker, a closed system operated by a hand vacuum. The Palmer, Alaska, inventor used common parts to keep the milker’s price down to \$119 plus shipping.

The former vo-ag instructor and FFA advisor, and current school administrator, designed the milker out of necessity. He has a number of dairy goats on his hobby farm but now that he’s older, it has been painful to milk by hand.

“Since I only had a couple of does I wasn’t interested in spending a lot of money on an expensive commercial milking machine,” Henry says. “So, I decided to try and put something together myself.”

He started experimenting with the pump off a brake bleeding kit he purchased at an auto parts store. Four pumps later, Henry has found what works best. The milker is simple: a teat cup, a line that leads to a container, and a line out of the container that runs to a hand

vacuum pump.

“The pump has a gauge and relief valve so you know how much pressure. The gauge is a critical part of it,” Henry says.

Instructions warn not to pump the vacuum higher than -10, well within a very safe range to operate. Also, all goats require different vacuum pressure.

“Once you have determined the correct, optimum milking pressure for your goat, you can maintain that level with the use of the gauge,” Henry says. “It takes all of the guesswork out.”

The milker uses a wide-mouth canning jar. It works on one teat at a time. Henry says it takes an average of 10 min. to milk a goat. It’s meant for people with a couple of goats — especially those who can no longer physically hand milk them.

“The best part of selling this milker is the testimonials. I got ‘God-blessed’ again today,” Henry explains. “People having troubles with their hands are able to keep their goats.”

Henry offers a 30-day money back guarantee.



The Henry Milker is a closed system operated by a hand vacuum pump.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike Henry, Red Fence Farm LLC 5501 N Maverick Dr., Palmer, Alaska 99645 (ph 907 529-4496; www.goatfinder.com/goat_milk_machine.htm).

“High Lift” Dump Trailer

We spotted this new “high level dump trailer” at the recent Wisconsin Farm Technology Days show.

The MX-8 dump trailer from NTH, Inc., measures 120 in. long by 80 in. wide by 40 in. high and rides on tandem walking beam axles. It has a load capacity of 8 tons. What makes the machine unique is the box raises straight up and dumps out the back like a dump truck, allowing you to make piles up to 4 1/2 ft. high with no hand unloading. A pair of 4-in. dia., 24-in. stroke hydraulic cylinders, attached to linkage that’s built onto the trailer’s axles, does the lifting.

The back end of the box angles back 45 degrees and is hinged at the top. The cylinders raise the box until it stands straight up on end, and the material slides off.

“It unloads fast and works great for hauling manure, topsoil, wood, rocks and many other jobs,” says Clinton Nesseth, NTH, Inc., Barron, Wis. “It’s especially effective at dumping wood compost into windrows. A lot of farmers will use it to haul manure out to the field during the winter and make piles on top of the snow, because new rules prevent spreading manure during the winter. The manure can then be loaded and spread during the spring.”

The trailer is available with various size tires. It sells for \$9,600.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, NTH, Inc., 5 Berger Ave., Barron, Wis. 54812 (ph 800 236-1570; www.NTHUSA.com).



The NTH MX-8 “high lift” dump trailer rides on tandem walking beam axles and has a capacity of 8 tons (above). The box raises straight up and dumps out the back like a dump truck, allowing you to make piles up to 4 1/2 ft. high with no hand unloading (above right). With the tailgate lowered to the ground, the rig can be used to haul a skid loader down the road to the next job.



Have You Ever Seen Rubber Shingles?

Rubber “shingles” are a good alternative to expensive slate or shake roofing and are more resistant to hail, extreme wind, heat or cold, according to the companies that make them.

Euroshield Roofing has had its rubber-roofing product on the market for 10 years. They say they have a unique process for recycling rubber tires into roofing. An average-sized home will use 800 tires that might otherwise end up in a landfill.

Euroshield also makes slate and shake style products. Recycled tires make up approximately 75 percent of the product, with trim and scraps from both manufacture and installation being recycled in turn.

Euroshield also points out that when it’s time to replace Euroshield roofing, it can be recycled into new roofing, again eliminating landfill costs and waste.

Euroshield points to small cubical chambers on the underside of their roofing panels. These cubicles trap air for enhanced insulation and soundproofing. The company also claims its interlocking tongue and groove design resists wind uplift and ties the roofing together for a tight, water resistant seal.

Weight of the 1 1/8-in. thick Euroshield tiles is comparable to slate and shake roofing products, depending on the profile selected. A variety of shapes, sizes and colors are available. Rubber shingles are generally two to 2 1/2 times the cost of asphalt shingles.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Euroshield, 9330 48th Street S.E., Calgary, Alta., Canada T2C 2R2 (ph 403 215-3333; toll



Made from recycled rubber tires, rubber “shingles” are a good alternative to expensive slate or shake roofing, says the manufacturer.

free 877 387-7667; info@euroshieldroofing.com;

www.euroshieldroofing.com). Another company, EcoStar, recycles industrial rubber to make its roofing products. “We’re probably the oldest manufacturer of rubber roofing. We’ve been in the roofing market for 20 years,” says Staroba.

“Our rubber roofing looks like natural slate or shakes,” says Miro Staroba, president, EcoStar, LLC. “It costs less than slate and has a better life expectancy than shakes.”

The 1/4-in. thick EcoStar products are considerably lighter at 212 lbs./square with a 10-in. tile and 7-in. exposure.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, EcoStar LLC, 42 Edgewood Drive, Holland, N.Y. 14080 (ph toll free: 800 211-7170; www.ecostar.carlisle.com).



Pull-type, ground-driven yard rake works great for raking pine needles, acorns, and leaves. It also does a great job dethatching.

Ground-Driven Yard Rake

You can rake leaves, acorns, pine needles and dead grass using this new pull-type, ground-driven yard rake that can also double as a sidewalk or driveway sweeper.

The 48-in. Graetz Mfg. “yard and trail rake” is equipped with planetary-driven rotary tines that turn simultaneously with the rake drum. The drum is set at an angle and is driven by a small rubber wheel, which rubs against one of the rake’s two 20-in. chromed spoke wheels. A lever is used to adjust tension on the drive wheel.

The drum’s height can be set for either raking or dethatching by adjusting a pair of set screws. A weight tray on back of the machine is used to accommodate sand bags or concrete blocks for heavy dethatching work.

“It works great for raking pine needles and acorns, as well as leaves, and also does a great job of dethatching,” says inventor Alton Graetz. “The drum has 54 double tines that are staggered and spaced 2 in. apart. However, because the drum is set at an angle there’s only 1/2 in. between the tines. You can use a garden tractor, ATV, or even a golf cart to pull it. By removing 4 bolts the rake can be replaced with an optional sweeper equipped with heavy-duty nylon bristles.”

Sells for \$795. The sweeper sells for \$150. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Graetz Mfg., W11094 State Hwy. 64, Pound, Wis. 54161 (ph 920 897-4041 or cell 715 927-2671; graetz@centurytel.net; www.graetzmf.com).