

Bucket Post Driver Is Speedy, Safe

Mike Zweifel's simple, inexpensive bucket attachment makes driving T-posts faster, easier and, more importantly - safer.

"Bucke-T-Driver is far safer than trying to level your loader bucket out and slamming a T-post into the ground while a worker-helper is holding on to the T-post for dear life," says Zweifel, who invented Bucke-T-Driver at a friend's request a few years ago.

He developed five models - each with 2-in. inner diameter barrel drivers that connect to mounting brackets bolted or welded to the front edge or side of a loader bucket.

The most efficient method is to load T-posts in the bucket - the bucket is completely upright and the extra weight helps drive the posts. A helper on the ground slips the post into the Bucke-T-Driver barrel. Most models use a clamp at the bottom of the driver to hold the T-post long enough to set it in place on the ground. The helper releases the clamp, steps out of the way and the bucket operator pushes the T-post into the ground.

"The barrel hangs straight up and down, so it's self leveling," Zweifel says, though some fencer installers also use a torpedo

level to ensure the posts are straight. Two of the Bucke-T-Driver models have 3/4-in. welded hitch knuckles for the head components for faster alignments with a tighter head fit that works well on extremely dry or hard ground. Driver-V is the most advanced unit with a convenient spring latch to hold a T-post, which releases by simply lifting the bucket after the post is driven in place.

Zweifel recommends using better quality, T-posts in hard ground. He tested his driver on a hard-packed driveway with good posts. The front of the tractor rose up, but the posts didn't bend and went into the ground without a problem.

"I loaned it to a doctor who put in 750 posts and only bent six of them and averaged a post every 60 seconds," Zweifel says.

He offers less expensive models for people who only need to put in fence posts occasionally and models for frequent fencers who may also be dealing with hard ground.

Zweifel makes, packs and ships the drivers from his Enid, Okla., shop. Drivers and mounts range from \$28.50 to \$119.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,



Zweifel's T-post driver hangs from the front edge of loader bucket.

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Reader Inquiry No.158

Livestock Ammonia Fighter

You can take the odor and more out of poultry and livestock barns with a Clean Air Plant (CAP) from VentilationUSA LLC. The proven CAP technology will help livestock producers meet the new government legislation requiring the reduction of ammonia (NH₃). Using a technique called biological oxidation, the CAP units capture and destroy gasses, volatile organic compounds, ammonia odors, as well as remove particulates from the air. All that is released is clean air, a little carbon dioxide and water.

"We have goals of reducing ammonia to save energy, improve animal health and growth while helping the environment," say Richard Egan, VentilationUSA. "If livestock producers can reduce the ammonia levels without using fans to exhaust it, they will save energy in the cold weather."

Egan says CAP technology has been used successfully in printing plants and ink manufactures to reduce pure ammonia levels by 90%. He is now wants to apply that technology to agriculture such as chicken grow houses and horse barns.

A fan at the top of the unit pulls pollutants up into the bio cartridge stack to be oxidized by the enzymes while cascading water washes out the system. Gasses and organic

particulates are consumed in the oxidation process. Even molds, fungal spores, viruses and bacteria are destroyed by the enzymes.

A small submersible pump recirculates the water over a cartridge where heavy metals and non-organic particles are washed away into the base.

A CAP 600 is 30-in dia at the top and narrows down to 26in. at the base. It is 48-in tall and is designed to control pollutants in areas up to 5,000 sq.ft. depending on the pollutant load. It is equivalent to a venting flow rate of 5,000 CFM, yet only releases CO₂ and water. The unit can consume and destroy up to 60 lbs. of pollutants per day.

Every situation is different, and the number and size of the units needed depends in the concentration of animals, explains Egan. Moisture can also be a factor. In a chicken or swine environment, you might need to use and air to air heat exchanger system to reduce the moisture in the winter, in conjunction with the CAP's.

Egan says the unit should pay for themselves in improved animal health, more efficient growth and better work environment with less pollution to the environment, with less neighbor complaints.

Contact: FARM SHOW follow up, Venti-



A fan inside the free-standing unit pulls air pollutants down through water and enzymes in the base. Can be used in any livestock barn.

lutionUSA LLC, P.O. Box 4360, Manchester, NH 03018 (ph603 622 1791 or 800 622 8078; email: info@ventusa.com; website: www.ventusa.com).

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