



During recent tests on a pair of Deere 7750 tractors, one tractor's air filter was cleaned once a day. Nearly 5 lbs. of dirt was removed daily and the tractor used 58 gal. less fuel per day than the tractor with the dirty filter.

Air Filter "Blaster" Pays For Itself

This new air filter cleaner uses a blast of air to instantly clean dirty canister-type filters.

"The Air Filter Blaster is designed to clean dirt from any canister-type air filter," says Dennis Grieve, Salmon River Innovations, Salmon, Idaho. "It lets you use your air compressor to blow dust out of the filter. It's not intended to permanently replace the purchase of new air filters. It'll just make them last as much as 20 times longer."

The unit comes with a cone-shaped, centrifugal force air induction chamber that pressurizes the filter from the inside out. To clean a filter, you hook up a compressor to

a fitting on the induction chamber. The pressurized air creates a vortex that causes a poly shaft with slots in it to rotate. As the shaft rotates inside the filter element, the pressurized air coming out of the slots dislodges dirt and dust from the filter.

"It has just one moving part and should last a lifetime," says Grieve. "The cone on top of the unit fits filters of various sizes and seals tight onto all of them. The air filter can be cleaned several times without applying more than 40 psi to the filter element. It works a lot better than damaging the filter by banging it on the ground, or holding an air

nozzle 1/4 in. away from the filter, which can tear the filter element."

The Air Filter Blaster comes with a duffel bag to store the unit. It sells for \$299 plus S&H. The company also sells a stationary shop model for \$599 plus S&H.

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Reader Inquiry No. 23

"Unwinder" Turns Big Bales Into Small Ones

You can convert big round bales into small square bales with this new bale "unwinder" from The St. George Company, Paris, Ontario.

The Altec 160 bale unwinder is made in France. It can handle bales up to 4 ft. wide and 6 ft. in diameter that weigh up to 2,200 lbs. The St. George Company imports the machines and modifies them so they'll unwind bales directly over the pickup reel of any small square baler. They added four steel legs to the machine and also added an on-off switch on one side of the machine. The legs put the bale 4 ft. off the ground where it's high enough to unwind into the baler's pickup reel. A manual control is used to set the speed at which the bale unwinds.

The bale unwinder is hydraulically operated from the same tractor that's used to pto-drive the baler. The finished small square bales can be carried away by a bale elevator for stacking or loading.

"Round balers do a much faster job in the field and require less labor. This machine lets you make small bales when you have more time," says Peter Quail. "It can be used with hay, straw, or silage bales. It

Machine unwinds bale directly over pickup reel of any small square baler. Here, a 4-ft. wide, 5-ft. dia. bale weighing about 800 lbs. is being unwound into a Deere 336.



doesn't break up the hay but instead gently unwinds it. The legs are needed only if the baler's pickup reel is more than 2 ft. off the ground. And when you're done using the unwinder to make small square bales, you can remove the legs and use it as a normal bale unwinder to deliver feed into bunks or onto pasture ground."

An optional loader is available for the unwinder that lets you load bales into the machine without a tractor loader. It can also be equipped with spinners on back, allowing you to use the machine to spread straw out

up to 22 ft.

Also available is the Altec DT 120 which can turn large square bales - up to 4 by 4 by 8 ft. - into small square bales. The Altec DT 120 can also handle 4-ft. wide round bales.

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Reader Inquiry No. 202