Latest New Products From Europe, New Zealand

FARM SHOW editors cover all major equipment shows in the U.S., Canada, Europe, and other countries in search of latest new products and ideas. Featured here on the next three pages is a roundup of new products from recent shows in France, England and New Zealand.



Ground-Driven Rotary Harrow

You'll like this new-style ground-driven rotary harrow that does the job of a powered harrow at a fraction of the cost.

David Skinns, who runs a small British manufacturing company, developed his new machine to compete with pto-driven harrows that are widely used in Europe. It has 5 rotors, each fitted with 9 straight tines. The rotors are arranged in a "V" formation behind the tractor. Each rotor is mounted at an angle, inclined toward the outside of the "V". The outer times dig into the soil and the forward motion of the tractor and implement cause the rotor to turn.

In heavy soil, Skinns says a couple trips over plowed ground with the rotary harrow is enough to prepare a seedbed for drilling.

The 12-ft, wide machine works best in driner conditions, according to Skinns, but will work under any conditions where you would normally use a conventional harrow, disk or field cultivator.

Sells for about \$5,500.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, E. Skinns, Woodhall Spa, England (ph 0526-352120). (Farmer's Weekly)



Giant Splitter Handles Logs Up To 10-Ft. Long

It's like splitting an entire tree at once, says the French manufacturer of this giant new wood splitter that splits logs up to 10 ft. long.

The pto-powered splitter is fitted with it's own hydraulic pump and oil reservoir and a big 4-in, dia. splitting cylinder with a 1 1/2 ft. tall splitting wedge on the end of it. The splitter can be fitted with a 2-wheel axle. The splitter table folds up in the middle for transport.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Productions Yanigav, 42460 La Gresle, France (ph 74 64 10 43; fax 74 64 12 34).



Air-Powered Feeder Wagon

"Makes it easy to fill a number of hog feeders without having to continually move your tractor and wagon," say manufacturers of this air-powered feed wagon that uses air pressure to push feed out a hose and into feeders.

The air feeder eliminates the need to line up an unloading auger which sometimes takes longer to do than filling the feeder. It consists of a large sealed tank that's filled through a porthole on top. Once the top port is closed, a pto-driven air pump pressurizes the tank, forcing feed out a flexible feed hose with an open-shut valve on the end that the operator can control as he walks from feeder to feeder.

Different size tanks available with varying size air pumps. Any length of unloading hose can be fitted to the outlet. It handles both whole grain and milled feeds.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dussau Distributing, Quartier Bourdos, 40320 Geaune, France (ph 58 79 93 28).



Fruit-Picking Robot

An automatic fruit-picking robot is in the works at the government-funded French research institute CEMAGREF.

The institutute says the idea has the potential to totally eliminate the need for human fruit pickers. In apples, for instance, the hydraulic-controlled picker arm uses electronic sensors to search out apples from among the leaves and branches. An onboard computer continuously analyzes shapes and sizes "seen" by the sensors. Once it finds the fruit - it can pick ripe fruit based on color - it uses vacuum power to pluck the apple off the tree and lay it in a foam-covered trough.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, CEMAGREF, B.P. 22, 92162 Antony Cedex, France (ph 1 40 96 61 88; fax 1 40 96 61 42).

Quonset Huts For Dogs

These little "quonset huts" for dogs, cats and other pets were a big hit with showgoers at the New Zealand National Field Days.

The manufacturer makes 8 different sizes ranging from 24-in. high to big 6-ft. units designed for calves. All are insulated, with elevated plywood floors.

A medium sized unit (3-ft. high) for dogs sells for right at \$150.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, C&S Tanks, Glenmore Dr., P.O. Box 153, Warkworth, New Zealand (ph 09 425 8803; fax 09 425 5191)

