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## New At The National Farm Machinery Show

The National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, Ky., always produces new inventions. Here are a few that caught our eye at this year's show.

**Self-Propelled Bale Baron** – The original Bale Baron was designed to be pulled directly behind a conventional baler and make 9, 12, 18 and 21-bale blocks. This new self-propelled, 4-WD model eliminates the need for a tractor and works faster. Powered by a 173 hp engine, it has an in-field pickup speed of 12 mph and can pack up to 1,100 bales per hour, allowing you to easily keep up with 3 small balers. The machine has a full catwalk at the top (ph 519 887-9910; www.marcrestmfg.com).

**Dual Power Hitch For Baler** – You can bale twice as much with one less man and one less tractor, with Marcrest's new dual power hitch designed for small square balers. The

unit takes the pto power from one tractor (90 to 150 hp) and splits it in two so your tractor can easily operate 2 balers at once.

Both arms independently swing in or out and are controlled hydraulically, allowing you to adjust them to varying field conditions on-the-go. The hitch works with any baler (ph 519 887-9910; www.marcrestmfg.com).

**Gravelly Utility Vehicle** – Two words describe Gravelly's new all-wheel-drive Atlas JSV utility vehicle – heavy duty. It has a fabricated steel cargo bed capacity of 1,250 lbs. and a 1,900-lb. total payload with a full ton of towing capacity. Heavy duty de Dion rear suspension distributes the weight evenly across the vehicle to minimize sag and maintain full ground clearance even when fully loaded.

The bed has 18 ft. of cargo space and is big enough to haul a fully loaded pallet. An



Self-propelled, 4-WD Bale Baron eliminates the need for a tractor to make tightly bound blocks of up to 21 bales.



PowerLinx dual power hitch lets you operate 2 small square balers at once. It takes the pto power from one tractor and splits it in two.

electric bed lift comes standard, so you can dump cargo with the touch of a button.

The vehicle is powered by a 3-cyl., 1028cc Kohler diesel engine to maximize torque and traction. A fabricated steel bumper guards the vehicle from front-end damage.

Two sizes are available. The JSV-3000 seats 3 adults comfortably and has a total payload capacity of 1,900 lbs.; while the JSV-6000 seats 6 adults across 2 benches and has a total payload of 2,100 lbs. (www.GravellyAtlas.com).



Ice bank in Paul Lisai's old milk cooler provides plenty of super cold water to cool milk fast.

## Iced-Up Milk Tank Cools Milk Fast

When Paul Lisai wants to cool down his pasteurized milk fast, he uses a bank of ice. The ice bank in an old milk cooler provides plenty of super cold water for a quick chill. The fast cool down ensures high quality, great taste for his bottled milk customers.

"Commercial systems to quickly cool the pasteurizer start at about \$25,000," says Lisai. "We have about \$3,000 in ours."

Most pasteurizers heat milk quickly to an extremely high temperature for a few seconds and then cool it. Lisai uses what he calls a gentle process. Hot water circulating through a jacket around the milk raises the temperature to only 145 degrees over an hour and 20 minutes and keeps it there for half an hour. Then the hot water is replaced by well water to remove the first 40 to 50 degrees of heat.

"Then we pump water from around the ice bank in the cooler to finish the cooling process. It brings the milk down to 45 degrees for bottling," says Lisai. "We try to complete the cooling in an hour."

To create the ice bank, Lisai installed two 50-ft. copper coils in the milk cooler. He hired a refrigeration specialist to hook the coil to the cooler's compressor. As he bottles milk only twice a week, the coils have several days in between to build up a 6 to 8-in. bank of ice.

"The rest of the week, milk is shipped to Cabot Agrimark Co-op," says Lisai. "I also make lots of soft cheeses, as well as cheddar and cheese curds to sell locally."

He started milking with only 8 cows and is now milking about 26 with very little debt. Turning an old milk cooler into an ice bank maker is one way he is keeping costs and debt down.

"I paid around \$1,200 for the tank," he says. "It cost another \$1,000 to get the refrigerant stuff and plumbing figured out."

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## Low-Cost 3-Phase Power

Gentec American Rotary's phase converters supply 3-phase power without 3-phase service or cost. Motors wired for 3-phase power, run smoother, draw less power and last longer than single-phase motors, but retrofitting 3-phase service is costly.

"A primary benefit of our converters is that we use VIT generators instead of a 3-phase motor," says Chris Feavel, Gentec American Rotary. "We provide a true soft-start application and require only a third the starting power of others. We also use a patented microstart controller that provides precise control and monitors voltage every 50 milliseconds. It offers fail-safe features unavailable with other converters. They prolong the life of the phase converter and the equipment it powers."

Rotary phase converters can be an economical alternative, whether for a single irrigation pump or one or more 3-phase motors in a shop.

"Our phase converters are often packaged with 3-phase equipment by the manufacturer or as part of an OEM application," says Feavel. "Irrigation equipment companies may build in a phase converter so the equipment can be used with either single or 3-phase power. We also have customers who simply got great deals on 3-phase equipment."

Gentec American Rotary offers a wide variety of phase converters from the EZ line for home hobbyists and small businesses to the newly introduced AI industrial line. EZ converters range from \$297 for a 1-hp unit to \$379 for a 5-hp unit.



American Rotary's phase converters supply 3-phase power without 3-phase service or cost.

"Our new AI industrial line is rain, dust and snow proof," says Feavel. "It operates in temperatures from minus 50 degrees to 120 degrees. It has dust filters, a sun shield, rodent screens, and comes with automated and wireless control options."

Sizes in the AI line range from 3 hp to 300 hp and start at \$879. In all lines, final price depends on upgrades and accessories, such as wireless remote start, internal breakers and delay on/delay off timers.

Gentec American Rotary sells only American-made equipment and offers an extensive warranty and 24/7 customer support and sales.

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