PROCESS YOUR OWN MILK

New Mobile Milk Processing Plant

“There’s an opportunity for dairy farmers to eliminate the middleman and receive $20 or more per hundredweight for milk produced on their farm,” says the manufacturer of the new mobile Canfield Unitized Milk Processing System. Packaged inside a 40 x 8 ft. trailer unit, it takes raw milk at one end and delivers pasteurized, homogenized, packaged milk out the other end at the rate of 500 gal. an hour.

The processing plant has its own power plant, which is an 80 hp engine to supply all the heating, cooling and mechanical operation. The plant can also be hooked up to a farmer’s own source of power and heat. All that’s needed is an approved water source and a drain for waste water.

The processing plant also comes in a portable model 50 ft. long and 10.12 or 14 ft. wide to be placed on a concrete slab.

“This system was field tested on dairy farms in Pennsylvania for seven years and is the answer to on-farm milk processing any place in the world,” says Richard Canfield, inventor and developer of the mobile unit. It’s marketed through Dutch Dairy Manufacturing Company, Manheim, Penn.

All the equipment is built to 3A standards of the dairy processing industry and includes a clean-in-place washing and sanitizing system. The mobile units have been approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, which has some of the highest standards in the United States.

“On-farm milk processing is both feasible and profitable,” says Canfield. “A recent USDA study showed that a farmer with a 200-cow herd can increase his net profits $25,000 by processing his own milk and wholesaling to retailers. Even greater profits can be made by selling at retail direct to customers.”

Canfield adds that the unit is not just for the large dairy farm, but can profit farmers with 40-cow herds when several of them use a mobile unit moved from farm to farm.

Better quality is also possible with the portable unit. Canfield feels that some stores have a long delay in delivery of milk from the farm to the store, and that lighting and refrigeration in the store can contribute to off-flavors and loss of nutrients.

The Canfield processor will package milk in bags, cardboard cartons or plastic jugs. It can also be used for processing flavored milk and fruit juices.

The portable plant occupies 400 square feet, only one-fourth the space of a conventional plant. The units are priced from $68,000 to $135,000, depending on size and options.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dutch Dairy Manufacturing Co., Route 1, Manheim, Penn. 17545 (ph 717 665-6335).

LOW-COST PROTECTION

New “Bale Bonnets” Stop Hay Losses

There’s no reason to lose hay to spoilage even in the field, says Alan Schafer, farmer-manufacturer from Bloomsdale, Mo., who puts “bonnets” on big round bales to reduce or eliminate spoilage.

The 5 by 9 ft. Bale Bonnets, made from heavy-duty mil. black plastic, cover only the top of big bales and are anchored in place with four 8-in. long barbed spikes. You slip the spike through attached grommets in each corner of the plastic and give it a twist, locking it into the hay.

Schafer explains that, because you can cover bales right after baling, exposed lower ends and sides can still sweat. Bales can be moved normally while covered.

Bale Bonnets have 100% more carbon black and ultraviolet inhibitors in them than ordinary grade plastic and should last up to six years in the open sun — much longer than regular plastic of that weight, according to Schafer.

Bale Bonnets come in 5-ft. rolls of 20 that sell for $77, including 80 bale spikes. At $3.65 apiece, you can cover a bale for around $65 a year over the plastic’s 6-year life. “You will probably save $5 or more each year per bale with Bale Bonnets on your hay,” Schafer points out.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bale Bonnet Co., Box 26F, Bloomsdale, Mo. 63627 (ph 314 481-2552).

CATCHES THEM WITH PLASTIC NETTING

First Snake Trap Now On Market

It’s the world’s first snake trap. Works automatically and inexpensively,” says Ken Holyoak, of Ken’s Fish Hatchery, Alapaha, Ga., about his company’s snake-staring invention called Snake Guard. “It needs no bait or electricity and is easy to install.

Snake Guard is simply plastic netting specially designed to catch snakes that try to crawl through it. Once they get their head into an opening, the netting grabs hold of their scales and makes it impossible to back out, short of shredding their skins.

“There’s no repellent, chemical or other means, besides manual killing, that we know of to control snakes. We own and operate a fish and frog farm and this has solved our problems. Works as well in water as on land,” points out Holyoak.

Snake Guard comes in lengthly rolls 12 to 15 in. high. You simply peg it to the ground around the area you want to protect, making sure there’s no room to crawl under, and remove the snakes as they’re trapped.

“Non-poisonous snakes can be bred, if desired. Snake Guard itself does not kill or mutilate the snake,” explains Holyoak.

If you have an area you want to protect — such as a yard or livestock barn — either encircle the area, or place Snake Guard netting in special configurations which Holyoak has designed to catch the majority of snakes. Campers place it around their entire campsite. It can be staked through ponds or streams.

Cost varies from 25 to 50 cents a foot, depending on quantity purchased.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken’s Fish Hatchery, Rt. 1, Alapaha, Ga. 31622 (ph 912 532-5395).