

On-The-Go Silage Baler Also Works Stationary

The Agronic silage baler can be towed through the field with a forage harvester blowing silage into the hopper, compressing and then dropping wrapped bales out the back. It can also be operated while stationary, feeding silage into the hopper from a silo or wagon.

While designed for silage, the Agronic MultiBaler is being used for a wide variety of source materials around the world. It works equally well baling peat, wood chips, and other materials as it does corn, grass or alfalfa.

Whether used in the field or stationary, materials are compacted and rolled into tight round bales before being wrapped in plastic. In the field, silage baling turns a multi-person job into a one or two-person operation. The baler can be towed directly behind a harvester or alongside.

Similarly, baling silage from a pile or pit requires only one person. The same front-end loader or tractor dumping silage into the hopper can be used to remove wrapped bales.

Made in Finland, the MultiBaler is marketed by Gebr. Knoll of the Netherlands. It is currently available in 2 models. The 820 requires only a 70 hp tractor to produce 33-in. wide bales ranging in diameter from 31 to 35 in. Bale weight can range from 550 to 1,000 lbs., depending on materials being baled. It is priced at \$87,500.

The 1210 requires a 90 hp or larger tractor to produce bales that are 39 in. wide and range from 39 to 47 in. dia. Weights, depending on materials, range from 1,200 to 2,200 lbs. It is priced at \$147,400.

"We don't have an appointed sales distributor in North America at the moment," says Jarold Knoll, Gebr. Knoll. "We would welcome finding one qualified to work with the MultiBaler."

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Towed through the field by a forage harvester blowing silage into the hopper, Agronic silage baler compresses and then drops plastic-wrapped bales out the back.



Silage baler can also be operated while stationary, by feeding silage into the hopper from a silo or wagon (above). Baler is made in Finland.

Self-Loading Hay Basket Still Going Strong

Back in the late 1980's Mark Kerkow, Jordan, Minn., bought a couple Pro Quality self-loading and unloading hay baskets for small square bales. He's still using them today.

FARM SHOW found him demonstrating one of the 10-ft. wide, 12-ft. high hay basket at a local threshers festival. The self-loading wagon holds about 100 bales and automatically unloads itself in seconds.

"We're dairy farmers and have used these baskets to make 6,000 to 8,000 small square bales every year. We've had very

few problems and have just replaced a few wheel bearings over the years," says Kerkow. "Pro Quality had just introduced these hay baskets, and we liked not having to spend the money for a bale thrower or hay racks. We paid about \$2,000. I don't know if anyone builds hay baskets like these any more."

Bales are pushed out of the baler up a metal slide into the basket. "When the basket is full, I pull up to an elevator, trip a lever, and the hinged back panel swings open allowing all the bales to fall out. The



bales spread out on the ground but don't get all packed together like they do with a bale thrower," says Kerkow.