Tractor-Mounted "Cherry Picker"

A tractor-mounted "cherry picker" that simply mounts on the rear 3-pt. and eliminates the need for an expensive self-propelled power unit is a hot seller in New Zealand.

Invented in Australia, the new Ezy-Pic tractor tower reaches as high as 20 ft. The operator moves the tractor forward or back with a foot pedal in the tower. Steering consists of a direct extension of tractor steering through a shaft that connects to the steering wheel. The tower raises and lowers via a hand lever.

"It turns picking, pruning, spraying, trimming, painting, and other work into one-man jobs. Both hands are left free and no one else is needed to shift the tractor and tower," says G.M. Drinnan, managing director of Drinnan Engineering Ltd., the New Zealand manufacturer.

The Ezy-Pic works up to heights of 20 ft. and moves 50° to either side of center. According to Drinnan, the unit is extremely stable, even on slopes and cultivated ground, because of its light weight in comparison to the anchoring tractor. Flow regulators control the speed of the hydraulics so that hydraulic rams cannot collapse suddenly, causing rapid descent.

The Ezy-Pic, designed to fit small to medium tractors, sells for around $4,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, G.M. Drinnan Engineering, Ltd., 291 Blenheim Rd., Christchurch, New Zealand (ph 485-893 or 485-322).

"Hot Foot" Bird Eliminator

"Birds hate to have sticky feet," says Brian Brown, New Zealand distributor of "Hot Foot," a new non-toxic bird control paste from New Zealand that, he says, can provide 100% control of pest birds in feedlots, confinement buildings, and around farmsteads.

Environmentalists have gained more clout in New Zealand than in either the U.S. or Canada. As a result, farmers in that country can no longer use poisons against pest birds, even when they endanger livestock.

Hot Foot is a sticky clear gel that's applied to ledges, eaves, beams, signs, poles and anywhere else birds are likely to land. When they land on Hot Foot, some of the goo sticks to their feet. Because it's so distasteful to them, they'll avoid any treated area.

"When used correctly it'll remain effective for up to two years," says Brown, noting that Hot Foot works against all types of birds.

Hot Foot sells for $9 per tube.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brian Brown, Wonder DCL, P.O. Box 176, Eltham, New Zealand (ph 7201).

Fence "Stepovers"

You'll like these new "stepover" fencepost steps from Brian Perry Holdings Ltd., Hamilton, New Zealand.

Nailed directly to wooden posts of all shapes and sizes, the steps are made from galvanized heavy metal. The two steps are connected in one piece that simply slips over the two sides of a post and nails in place. A hand grip fastens to the top of the post to help keep your balance while making the climb. The step kit sells for $14.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Brian Perry Holdings Ltd., P.O. Box 10668, Hamilton, New Zealand (ph 071-492-879).

New Zealand National Fielddays

FARM SHOW editors cover all major shows in the United States, Canada and foreign countries to keep you and other readers posted on latest new products. Featured here are just a few "best of the show" ideas which caught Editor Mark Newhall's eye at the recent New Zealand National Field Days held in Hamilton, New Zealand. The 3-day event attracts over 80,000 visitors from around the world. Although most visitors come to see new products displayed in the more than 500 exhibits, thousands gathered to watch the fencing competition — shown in the photo above — which involved some 15 teams from throughout the country. Competition is hot and heavy as crews work frantically to put up a 200-ft. length of fence that's judged for quality and strength, as well as for the speed with which it's erected. Long a popular spectator sport at New Zealand farming events, an American team entered the fencing competition this year for the first time. Unfortunately, the U.S. team finished behind the more experienced New Zealand competitors.

"Clam Shell" Tractor Loader

"It'll do twice the work of a conventional farm loader and take on tasks most farmers never even consider," says Merv Gray, manufacturer of a new "clam shell" type loader bucket for tractors.

Just one hydraulic cylinder operates the Eze Load's clam-shell type loading action. The strength of its digging action eliminates the need for pushing the tractor into piles of dirt, straw, manure or other materials when using conventional buckets. You simply lower the bucket down over the material to be moved and let the bucket and forks do the digging.

"It reduces wear and tear on tractors — especially clutches and tractor buckets," says Gray.

The Eze Load bucket hangs loosely from its pin-mounted boom and swings freely when in operation. It's strong enough to move dirt, fence posts, and can even handle big bales. The teeth can be replaced by a solid-sided bucket to handle loose materials.

The spring steel tines on the bucket open up to 4 ft. 2 in. The height of the bucket and boom is 5 ft. 6 in. and it weighs about 600 lbs. It'll fit either 2 or 4WD tractors and loaders equipped for either hydraulic or manual tipping. The Eze Load sells for about $1,500. The company is looking for a North American distributor.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Eze Load N.Z. Ltd., P.O. Box 160, Ngongotaha, Rotorua, New Zealand (ph Rotorua 81-479).