"This system saves about $4,000 over a comparable factory-equipped folding system," says the manufacturer.

**FOR RIGID 8 AND 12 ROW DEERE 7000's**

# Folding System For Max-Emerge Planters

"We can fold them to a transport width of 14 ft., 8 in.," says Dave Grollimund, Pendleton, Ind., designer of a new folding system for 8 and 12 row rigid Deere 7000 Max-Emerge planters.

Grollimund converts the planters to folding by first removing the tanks, disc openers and the disc opener bar. He then cuts the toolbar in half and installs his patented hinging system and cylinders that let you fold a 12 row planter, normally 32 ft. wide with markers, to a transport width of under 15 ft.

The wings lock in the planting position so they can't creep forward and, with the wings folded, you can still plant with the inside 4 or 6 rows.

Grollimund's folding system folds the wings forward and up so they're positioned just above the planter tongue which gives you a shorter turning radius. "With this system on your existing 12-row planter, you save about $4,000, compared to a comparable factory-equipped folding system on a new planter," he notes.

Hydraulically folded markers fold "on the go" to avoid tree branches or other obstacles without stopping.

Grollimund does the conversions in his shop or he'll do them at your farm. Cost to convert a 12 row narrow planter is right at $3,750, which includes the hydraulically folding markers.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dave Grollimund, R. 4, Box 153, Pendleton, Ind. 46064 (ph 317 778-2784).

Shown with "sliced" bale are (left) Cecil Stralow, vice president and general manager of Avco New Idea, and Earl Cummings, vice president of finance and administration.

**SLICES BALES FOR EASIER HANDLING**

# Avco Unveils First Big Bale "Slicer"

First on the market with a "slicer" for big round bales is Avco New Idea.

Available as an option on Avco's model 484 baler, the slicer knife cuts freshly-made big bales in half after they've been tied. Each half comes out of the baler tied and each half has sufficient "footing" to remain standing upright by itself. Bales can be completely sliced in two as they're made. Or, the operator can control depth of the knife so it scores the bale but doesn't cut completely through, leaving an uncut core about 10 in. in dia. in the center. If handled carefully, the "scored" bale can be transported to headquarters intact, then broken in half for easy handling as it's fed by simply bumping or jarring it with the tractor loader bucket.

Avco engineers note that the 484 has two tying arms, each of which start at the outside and work independently toward the middle to tie on half of the bale. This tying feature, coupled with the 484's endless belt design, make it possible to add the slicing-scoring knife. "It would be difficult to adapt to balers which use only one tying arm, or which use chains instead of belts to form the bale," they point out.

If, for any reason, the operator doesn't want the bales sliced or scored, he simply ejects them without activating the "slicer" knife control lever.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Avco New Idea, Coldwater, Ohio 45828 (ph 419 678-5294).

**"THE ROLLS-ROYCE OF CUBERS"**

# Forage Cuber Features "Go Anywhere" Portability

By Fred Walters

"Other mills will cube but this one is the Rolls-Royce of cubers," says Wyoming rancher Bob Clark, of Kinnear, who has developed a cubing mill — completely portable — that he thinks will solve many biomass handling problems. It will dry anything from up to 65% moisture down to 10% moisture and pack it into 1¼ inch square bricks about two inches long. If the material is at 65% moisture it will handle 4-5 tons/hr. input. It peaks out at the mind-boggling rate of 15 tons/hr. when cubing material is of only 10-12% moisture content.

The key feature of Clark's KR3 high-capacity cuber is that it's portable and can be moved to a sawmill, farmstead, or other location where it's needed. It requires 60 gal. of No. 2 diesel fuel per hour, equaling an input of 7,680,000 btu per hour. But, for example, the cuber can convert 20,000 lbs. of sawdust that is bulky and unmanageable into neat cubes in an hour. And this amount of sawdust contains about 200,000,000 btu of energy. So, with this new, efficient manner of handling, waste sawdust could be used in fuel gasifiers, which Clark thinks will ultimately heat our homes.

The material to be cubed is lifted into the tub of the hammer mill by a knuckle-boom-type crane that has changeable grabbers and a reach of about 30 feet. This method of filling the tub grinder would work best with bales, but the crane will also load grain or sawdust. These materials could also be augered into the tub. Either way, practice has shown that the mill can handle material as fast as it is filled.

Cuber makes up to 15 tons of cubes per hour.


Completely portable KR3 cuber handles most biomass materials, even with moisture contents up to 65%.