

VERMEER AND A BRITISH FIRM JOIN AUSTRALIANS IN NEW MARKET

Big Bale Wrappers Catch On Worldwide

"Silawrap" machines built specifically to wrap big bales in plastic have caught on worldwide since our report on the first machine, built in Australia (Vol. 9, No. 6).

Vermeer Mfg., Pella, Iowa, has developed a machine that picks bales up in the field and wraps a length of plastic around the outer circumference of the bale. Gerald Vennall, an ag engineer from Sandford near Weston-Super-Mare, in Britain, has come up with a bale wrapper that completely wraps the entire outer area of the bale with a saran-wrap

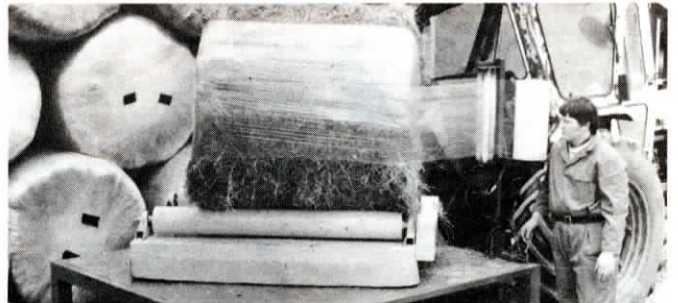
type plastic that clings to itself.

Both manufacturers are targeting the bale wrapper for custom operators. According to a report in POWER FARMING magazine by farmer David Wood, who's seen the new British bale wrapper in action, the bale wrapping machine is a big improvement over plastic bags.

"No struggling to tug bags onto misshapen bales and no sore hands from tying. You just lower the bale onto the machine, tuck one end of the 18-in. wide plastic into one of the strings, and less than a minute later you've got a completely sealed bale that can be lifted off with the front-end loader for stacking," says Wood.

The operation requires two men — a tractor driver and one to run the bale wrapper. More than 40 bales can be wrapped per hour at a cost of about 75¢ per bale. Hay or straw can be wrapped with a single layer for protection from the elements or you can double wrap wet-baled hay to completely seal it off to make silage at a cost of about \$1.50 per bale. The machine sells for about \$4,500.

The bale-wrapper itself consists of a free-standing table on which is mounted a pair of parallel rollers. The bale is placed on the rollers, which slowly rotate hydraulically. As the rollers spin around, the bale is wrapped in the transparent cling film that doesn't require any ties to



Power Farming Photo

British table-mounted bale-wrapper can be mounted on tractor 3-pt.



Vermeer's bale-wrapper picks bale up off ground and then spins it for wrapping.

hold it in place. The bale wrapping table can be used in a stationary position or it can be mounted on a 3-pt. and taken to the field.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gerald Vennall, Sandford, Weston-Super-Mare, United Kingdom.

Vermeer's bale wrapper, called the Plastic Wrapper, mounts on a 2-wheeled trailer. It consists of a hydraulically operated bale fork that lowers to the ground to pick up bales

and then raises to the vertical to spin the bale for the application of a couple layers of plastic. It also uses self-sticking plastic so no ties are needed. Once covered, bale fork drops the bale back to the ground. Plastic can be wrapped around ends of bale for a total seal. Cost per bale is about \$1.00.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Vermeer Manufacturing Co., Box 200, Pella, Iowa 50219 (ph 515 628-3141).

Hydraulic Jack

You can use tractor hydraulics to have your tractor "lift itself" when you need to change a tire or add duals, thanks to the Centaur Hydraulic jack.

Dick Spurlin, president of Centaur International, Edmond, Okla., explains that the jack uses tractor, truck or remote unit hydraulic power to



Tractor hydraulics power jack.

raise and lower a load. A hydraulic hose, connected to the base of the jack, couples to the tractor or truck's hydraulic port.

Spurlin says that lifting a tractor with its own power involves placing the jack in the desired spot, hooking up the hydraulic hose and operating the hydraulic lever to raise or lower the jack. Other uses for the jack include lifting heavy equipment tongues for hitching to the tractor, lining up points for welding, forcing bends and more. You can even use the jack upside down, or as a press.

A safety advantage to the jack, Spurlin points out, is that you're safely out of the way and not under heavy equipment when it's being lifted.

Jacks are available in three sizes, with a 6-in. base and a 21-in. jack height when fully extended. Model 40 lifts 4-tons, model 90 9-tons, and model 150 lifts 14½ tons. The models sell for \$69, \$89 and \$99, respectively.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Centaur International Ltd., 2501 E. Waterloo Rd., Edmond, Okl. 73034 (ph 405 341-7653).

SLIDE-IN "LIVE FLOOR"

Convert Your Truck Into A Forage Box

You can convert your straight truck into a self-unloading forage wagon with the new Kelly Ryan slide-in "live floor" from Blair Mfg.

It stands on its own legs when not in use. To load, you simply back up to let it slide up and in on its own. Cinch it tight, quick-couple the

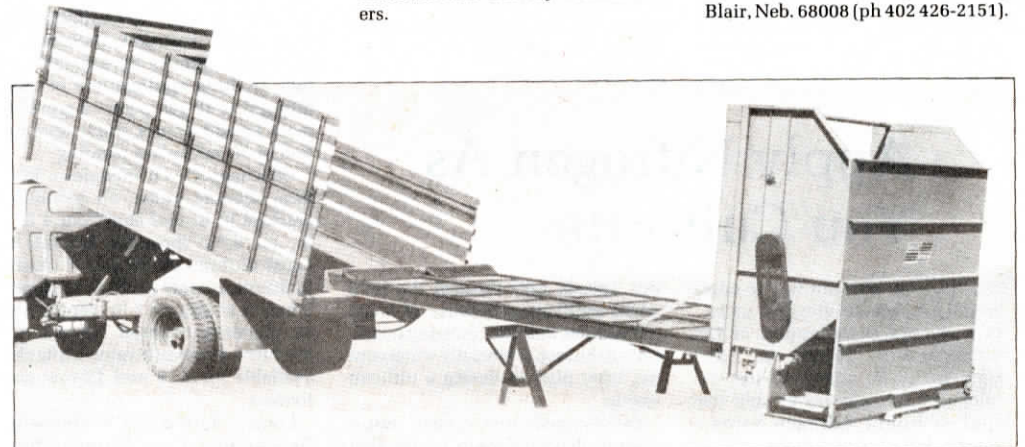
hydraulics and you're ready to load forage into a silo blower, silage bagger or into a fence-line bunk.

Available in 16, 18 and 24-ft. lengths in three basic models: 1. Side delivery with three beaters and an optional cross auger; 2. Rear delivery with a single swinging gate and single beater; 3. Rear delivery with no beaters.

The four-strand heavy-duty apron unloading chain (667H) is made in two parallel sections and has a rated capacity of 50,000 lbs.

An 18-ft. slide-in floor with three beaters and cross conveyor sells for \$6,832.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Blair Mfg., Blair, Neb. 68008 (ph 402 426-2151).



Slide-in "live floor" available with a cross conveyor for unloading into silo blowers, bunks.