

## New Ideas From Europe

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### Sight Guide For Fieldwork



"We think it's the easiest, most effective sight guide ever developed," says Jean-Claude Ruelle, inventor and manufacturer of the Optivision guide for tractors that's designed to help keep the tractor on the row for fieldwork.

The guide consists of long metal rods that form a "V" above the tractor hood in front of the operator. The sides of the "V" easily move in or out depending on the size of the implement in use. The operator simply lines them up with the previous row and follows the line.

"Once installed there's no need to continually turn around. You can look straight ahead with confidence that you'll stay on the row," says Ruelle.

Sells for about \$900.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jean-Claude Ruelle, Optivision, S.A., 10140 Magny-Fouchard, France (ph 25 41 34 35).

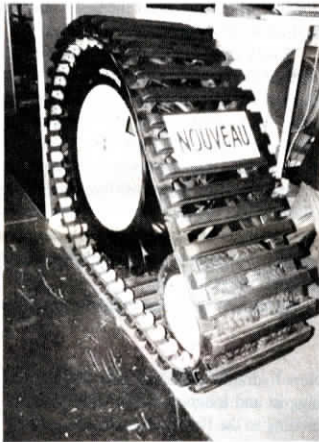
### New-Style Add-On Tracks

New rubber-coated steel cleat half tracks can be added to any tractor, combine, swather or other equipment.

The Dario tracks have a double bogie wheel that's mounted on a tightener arm that bolts to the axle of the wheel they're mounted on. With the rear end of the tractor jacked up, the tracks slip on over the wheels and then the arm is tightened to hold the tracks securely in place. Unlike steel cleats, the rubber-coated cleats can be driven over the road. And because of the easy-mount design, they can be mounted or dismounted with ease, unlike other add-on tracks which are often left in place when not needed because they're so difficult to install, according to company representative Pierre-Jean Cosmao.

A set of tracks sells for \$11,000. The tracks are also available with steel cleats, which sell for \$8,600.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dario



S.A., 75 Route Nationale 20, 31790 Saint-Jory, France, (ph 61 35 52-06).

### "Sit Down" Tree Climber

You've never seen anything like this tree climbing platform that lets you "walk" your way up any tree or pole simply by sitting down and standing up.

The platform consists of two parts that fit around the trunk of the tree. The operator starts by stepping onto the platform of the lower unit, and standing up with the top part, which is raised to waist level. He then sits down on the top part and raises up the lower part as high as he can with his feet. Then he stands up on the lower part and raises the top part again, repeating the process.

Once in the air, the unit provides a solid platform to work from, eliminating the need to use ladders or a crane. One person can carry the lightweight aluminum unit in one hand. Quickly adjusts to trees up to 28 in. dia. Sells for \$570.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Komet International, S.A., Zone Industrielle, 35-37, Rue de la Didauderie, B.P. 427, 18100 Vierzon, Cedex, France (ph 48 75 25 91).



### "Corn Flakes" For Livestock

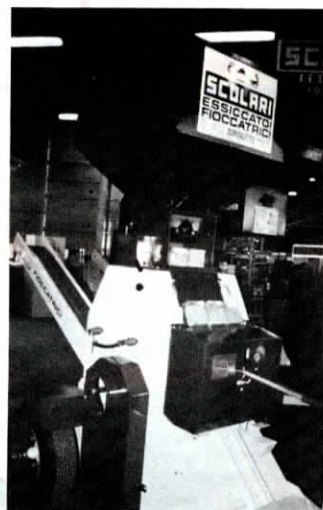
"It almost triples soluble protein and boosts digestibility," says Elia Cattaneo, representative of Scolari, the Italian manufacturer of a "flaker" machine for feed grains that rolls them out in flat flakes with hydraulic-powered, water-cooled steel rollers.

The machine turns an average kernel of corn into a flat flake about a half inch across, similar in size to Corn Flake breakfast cereal. Nothing is added to the grain and the process works best on grain at 17 to 18% moisture, although it'll work down to about 12%. Any feed grain can be flaked, including soybeans, wheat, barley, and oats.

"It increases the mass of the material which is good for the digestive system of all livestock. In dairy cattle there's less waste, milk quality is improved, and it even reduces mastitis. In beef cattle, feed conversion rates improve and utilization of forage improves. Hogs also make better use of feed when it's flaked and there's less digestive problems. Sows go into heat more regularly and fertility improves," says Cattaneo.

The flaking machine has four steel rollers mounted under an input hopper. Thickness of the flake can be precisely controlled as can the rate of flow of material. The hydraulically-controlled rollers automatically lock out should any foreign material enter the rollers and a system of magnets is designed to catch any metal that enters the machines. Water flows through the rollers to disperse heat generated during flaking.

The smallest machine flakes about 200



bu. of grain per hour and requires a 15-hp. electric motor or a tractor pto. Speed of operation depends on the size of grain or the thickness of the flake generated. Once flaked, Cattaneo says the grain has less storage losses even at the higher moisture contents. The company, which also makes grain and forage dryers, is looking for a North American distributor.

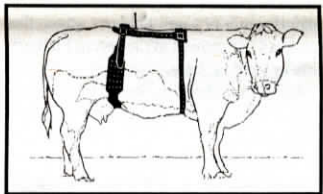
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Scolari Flli., Via Padana superiore 178, 25035 Ospialetto (Brescia), Italy (ph 030 640204).

### Cow Monitor Sends Signal At Birth

You'll like this new birth monitor for beef and dairy cows that monitors muscle movement in order to determine when an animal is about to calve.

The "Agrimonitor" consists of a sender unit that straps onto the back of the cow with two leather straps. For the first 4 to 6 hours after the unit is attached, it establishes base line parameters of muscle activity. After that, all future movement is judged in relation to the base line movement to determine when calving time is near. When muscle activity increases, the unit sends a warning signal to a receiver in the house, activating an emergency warning signal and a flashing light.

Each receiving unit can monitor up to 8 sending units. "You don't have to continually make inspections during calving sea-



son. The sending unit is so sensitive it lets you know when labor has started even before it's visible to the eye. The sensors are completely external and cause no distress to the animals," a company representative told FARM SHOW.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Agritronics S.A., 17 rue du Village, B-5854 Meax-La-Bruyere, Belgium (ph 32 81 56 78 58).

### Flow-Through Seed Treater

"It's simple but it works better than any other seed treater on the market," says Antonio Cerasaro, manufacturer of a new flow-through seed treater that attaches to an auger down spout, letting you treat only as much seed as needed.

As seed drops into the treater, it spreads out over an inverted cone. At that point the liquid treatment is sprayed onto the seed, coating it evenly as it flows by. A 3/4-hp. electric pump, with a 15 gal. per min. capacity, is used to pump chemical from a chemical drum to the treater at an even rate. It'll treat seed at rates of 900 to 1,100 bu. per hour, depending on the capacity of the auger. Rates can be adjusted by regulating either the chemical pump or the flow of grain from the auger.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Siapa, Spa., Via Yser 16, 00198 Roma, Italy (ph 06 84345).

