

Agri-Equipment gets award



Farm Hardware opens branch

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT — Farm Hardware, a division of G.P. Fasteners, Shoemakersville, recently opened a branch store in South Williamsport.

"We have had a great interest from farmers in the Northern tier of Pa. and New York in taking advantage of our wholesale prices on bolts. This is why we opened the branch. Our feeling is that farmers sell wholesale so they should be able to buy wholesale," explained Wes Pace, president of the company.

The company warehouses 25 million fasteners including hex bolts, clevis pins, screws and plow bolts. The fasteners are sold at dealer prices or lower.

The bolts are sold by the pound. Last year, thousands of pounds were sold out of the Shoemakersville store.

Farm Hardware will ship bolts UPS anywhere in the Northeast. The farmers can call toll free numbers to order or request price catalogs.



Agri-Equipment, Inc., 2754 Creek Hill Road, Leola, received a "President's Award" during Chore-Time Equipment's annual distributor meeting held recently in Lexington, Ky. The award was presented to distributors who had total 1983 Chore-Time product sales of between \$500,000 and \$1 million. Receiving the award from James Evans, left, President of CTB, Inc., the parent company of Chore-Time, were Bud Buch, President; Leon Martin, Vice-President; Dan Buch, Manager; and Leon Goshow, Chore-Time distributor sales representative.

Chore-Time Equipment manufacturers automated equipment for the care and feeding of poultry and livestock with world-wide distribution from its plants in Milford, Ind.; Modesto, Cal.; and Maldegum, Belgium.

Deutz-Fahr

announces hay tools

ATLANTA, Ga. — A new 8½-ft-wide turbo disc mower, a simple, easy-running mower-conditioner, a higher-capacity square baler and a round baler that ties automatically will be introduced to the North American market this spring by the Agricultural Equipment Division of Deutz Corporation, Atlanta, Ga.

The new Deutz-Fahr SM50 Turbo Disc Mower is a rugged, easy-running mower that cuts an 8½-ft-wide swath. This versatile mower is strong, but light, and can be used with either Cat. I or Cat II 3-point hitches.

A new cable strut suspension for all Deutz-Fahr turbo disc mowers provides flexible cutterbar flotation and mowing is smooth and clean in all terrain. Oval-shaped discs give overlapping cutting paths and uniform stubble.

The Deutz-Fahr SM40CR Disc Mower/Conditioner is a 7-ft rotary disc mower equipped with a single, finger-conditioning rotor that picks up hay immediately behind the mowing disc and conditions it before it touches the ground.

"This is the hay conditioner of the future," says Mike Branham, product representative — hay equipment. Rotary conditioning fingers, mounted in rubber, are arranged in a spiral design for uniform flow of the crop and formation of uniform windrows. The rotor has two speeds, high for grass hay and low for leafy legumes. The rotating fingers rub off the plant's protective, waxy stem coating, permitting rapid evaporation of plant moisture and speeding drydown. An "over-the-

top" design rotor lifts and lays hay in fluffy, high-profile windrows for efficient air drying. The conditioner can be removed in a few minutes for regular mower operation.

Two new balers, the HD490 Square Baler and the HD220 Round Baler, are included in the 1984 Deutz-Fahr hay equipment line.

The HD490 Square Baler succeeds the HD460 introduced to North America in 1982. The HD490 features an extra-wide (77-in) hydraulically-controlled, positive-drive pickup and a virtually maintenance-free knottor mechanism that requires lubrication only once a week.

Like the HD460, it has a 100-stroke-per-minute plunger carried on 10 roller bearings for smooth operation and long life, carries up to 8 balls of twine, and has an automatic cross-feed mechanism that delivers full capacity to the bale chamber without clogging.

The GP220 Round Baler, field-tested in North America in 1983, is Deutz-Fahr's entry into the round baler market in the U.S. and Canada. It produces a 4-ft by 4-ft round bale in a baling chamber equipped with 16 coated steel rollers. The bales have a soft core and an extremely tight outer wrap to assure maximum quality and minimum leaf loss. Tie-off is automatic; the baler honks a warning horn when the pre-selected bale density is reached and the cycle is underway. The operator simply waits until the cycle is complete, hydraulically opens the rear door and ejects the bale, closes the door and continues baling.

Can aeration help improve alfalfa stands & yields

CARTHAGE, N.Y. — Aeration of alfalfa and other hay fields on dairy farms in Lewis and Jefferson counties of Northern New York is providing some significant benefits, according to Jim Martindale, of North Country Ag-Gro Consulting, Carthage, N.Y.

The aeration, common for a number of years in the turf industry but still relatively new in hay crops, improves root growth of alfalfa and other hays and helps to correct soil compaction problems caused by wheel tracks, secondary tillage and normal silting or segregation of soil particles due to water percolation.

Aeration has made it possible for alfalfa plants to grow larger than usual root masses prior to first cuttings and thereby increases stands which may be in competition with grasses or weeds.

The aeration affords better plant utilization of topdress potash fertilizers found in the top three inches of soil which normally are quite compacted.

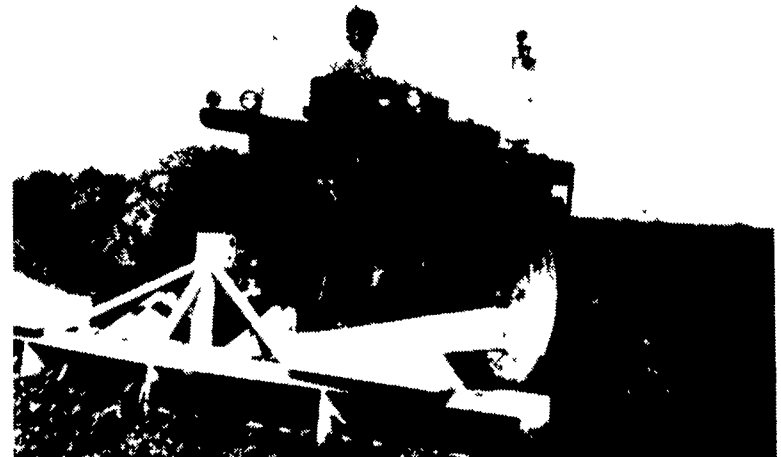
The aeration also provides additional atmospheric nitrogen for rhizobia and azotobacter and oxygen for the aerobic strains of bacteria. These beneficial strains of bacteria then are available to metabolize harmful compounds in the soil.

Results in this area go beyond higher yields and better stand survival, Maryindale said.

Research in Canada and Germany has indicated that harmful pathogenic bacteria such as pseudomonas find their way into feed stuffs grown on poorly aerated soils. Thus, it's possible that aeration could change the populations of such organisms making their way into the feed of ruminants.

Aeration penetrates up to six inches in the tightly compacted shallow layers of silt and clay particles. This permits better percolation of water into root zones and helps prevent perched water tables, waterlogging and anaerobic soil conditions.

It can also possibly help improve frost-heave problems.



Dairy farmer John Waligory, of Lowville, N.Y. uses Aerway to aerate alfalfa. Crop was seeded in late July and aerated in mid-September to loosen compaction caused by planting and fertilizing equipment. Practice also broke stems of red-root pegweed plants.



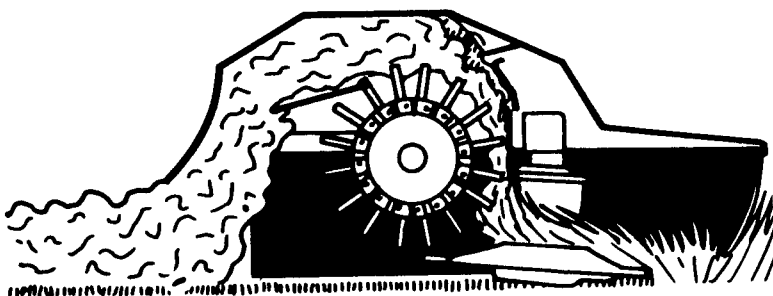
Aerway gently opens and moves soil laterally instead of vertically to help improved compaction without massive injury to roots of plants.

The rooting environment of the alfalfa or other hay plants, according to Martindale, appears to be a major factor in establishing and maintaining proper stands. This rooting environment is at its best at planting time and steadily deteriorates due to compaction, unless changed by aeration.

And improved soil health depends directly on continued

growth of plant root systems, he said. The plant root growth improves soil tilth, organic activity and enhances the soil.

Aeration through the use of an Aerway piece of machinery opens and moves soil laterally not vertically and small amounts of air are admitted without massive destruction of root systems.



Conditioning fingers on the new Deutz-Fahr Turbo Disc Mower/Conditioner rubs off plant's protective waxy stem coating to speed evaporation and drying.