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## Versatile Hay Tool Available From Unverferth

KALIDA, OH — A versatile, economical hay tool that lifts, spins, wraps, transports and unrolls round bales into windrows for feeding is available from Unverferth Manufacturing Corporation, Kalida, Ohio.

The Round-About™ system consists of a solid steel, 4 ft. chain driven, hydraulically powered bale spike and a hydraulically controlled bale wrap arm that detaches when not in use. The system attaches easily to any three-point hitch, can be used with any weight or size of bale and can be used year-round to transport and unroll bales for feeding.

The Round-About™ hay tool is

simple to operate and is controlled from the tractor seat. A rotating bale spike equipped with a hydraulic powered chain driven sprocket turns the bale when wrapping or feeding. When wrapping the bales the hydraulically controlled wrap arm unit fitted with a plastic wrap dispenser unit installs above the spike. As the bale is rotated the wrap arm is moved back and forth across the bale encasing all but the ends in plastic. Plastic dispenser unit pivots keeping the wrap square to the bale and accommodates 18 to 24 inch plastic rolls.

The system features a counter-

balance valve equipped with a reliable hydraulic sensing unit that prevents equipment damage by maintaining a constant spin rate and assures safe operation.

Hydraulic hoses and fittings are included with the system. A front-mounting package which allows the Round-About™ tool to replace a front-end loader bucket is optional.

Black or white UVI-treated stretch wrap is available from Unverferth.

For more information contact Unverferth Manufacturing Co., Inc., P.O. Box 357, Kalida, Ohio 45853, telephone 1-800-322-6301.

## Hard Seed A Needless Worry

DEKALB, IL — Some alfalfa growers worry needlessly about "hard seed" says a seed company agronomist. As long as the percent of hard seed in the seed bag is under 10 percent, farmers will not notice any problems, he advises.

Larry Martin, Regional Agronomist for Dekalb-Pfizer Genetics, noted hard seed is produced in varying amounts when cool or dry environmental conditions prevail during seed production. "These hard seeds are viable but will not absorb water as readily as other seeds."

Most hard seed will absorb enough water to germinate and

become established two to six weeks or more after the germination of the normal seed, he observes. "Under good conditions, the slow germinating plants will usually be crowded out by the faster germinating plants. Hard seed could add to stand establishment if seeding conditions are less than favorable or natural pressures reduce the stand of faster germinating plants."

Seed technicians separate seed samples into the percent healthy sprouted seeds, dead or diseased seed, and hard seed, Martin says. The percent total live seed shown

on the bag tag is a combination of healthy sprouted seed and hard seed.

He explains one pound of alfalfa seed contains more than 210,000 seeds. If every seed germinated and became established, farmers would only need to sow two to three pounds of seed per acre to provide a full stand.

"However, with disease, insects, frost and other natural pressures reducing the potential stand, 12 to 20 pounds per acre are recommended for seedings without a companion crop. Ten to 12 pounds per acre are recommended when seeding with a companion crop."

Methods to weaken or break the hard seed coat have been tried, the agronomist reports. These attempts have been unsuccessful because of cost and permanent damage to the seed.

Martin says "hard seeds are common in legumes and several other crops and weed species. Two of the most troublesome weeds that produce hard seeds are morningglory and shattercane." According to the agronomist it is not uncommon for these weed seeds to begin growing in soil under demolished buildings. Also the seeds are able to pass through the digestive tract of animals and grow where animal waste is dropped.



## BUSINESS NEWS...

### Martin Joins Farmer Boy Ag As Poultry Rep.

LITITZ — Leonard Martin recently assumed the position of poultry systems representative for Farmer Boy Ag Inc. of Myerstown (Lancaster). Previous to this he served the company as a foreman responsible for installing poultry and swine equipment.

Martin currently is working with all types of poultry operations, assisting them with equipment needs as well as remodelings and new-building construction.

Farmer Boy Ag consists of livestock, poultry, and swine equipment, building sales, and turnkey systems.

## Nutrena Introduces Sow Concentrate

MINNEAPOLIS — The Nutrena Feed Division of Cargill is marketing a new sow concentrate as part of its Blueprint sow-feeding program.

Blueprint Pro-Sow concentrate is designed for high-producing sows during breeding, farrowing and lactation and is formulated with high-quality protein, vitamins, minerals and trace minerals.

Dick Gosen, swine products manager, said the concentrate is designed to improve the amino acid nutrition of the lactating sow,

which recent Nutrena and university studies have shown to be more important than previously thought in maximizing performance.

"Our research trials show that, when compared with the previous Nutrena formula, Pro-Sow concentrate reduced pre-weaning mortality by 30 percent, increased litter weaning weights by 19 percent and increased the number of sows mated on first heat after weaning by 13 percent. The concentrate also improved the conditioning of sows during subsequent gestations," Gosen said.

## Agway Realigns Research Staff

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — James E. Nocek has been named director of dairy and livestock research & development for research & applied technology department at Agway Inc. William M. Seymour, Ph.D., has been named manager of dairy & livestock research at Agway.

Nocek received the A.A.S. degree from Alfred State College, Alfred, NY, a B.S. in animal science from Cornell University, and the M.S. in dairy science from The Pennsylvania State University. His Ph.D. in animal science was obtained in July 1980 from Virginia Tech where he was a post-doctoral fellow.

Nocek joined Agway in December 1980. He also served as an adjunct assistant professor in the department of animal science at the University of New Hampshire.

A native of Albany, NY, he received a B.S. degree in animal science from Cornell University and the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in animal science with a concentration in dairy nutrition from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

At Virginia Tech he was the recipient of a prestigious Pratt Agricultural Research Fellowship in Dairy Nutrition. In June 1987, he won the Graduate Student Paper competition at the National American Dairy Science Association meetings.

At Agway, Dr. Seymour has the direct responsibility for managing research experiments on applied nutrition and management of dairy cattle with primary emphasis on product development and involvement with the transfer of research results to field application.



James E. Nocek



William M. Seymour

## Fruit Growers To Meet

POTTSVILLE — The Schuylkill County Fruit Growers meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 1988 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Dusselink Motor Inn, Route 61, Pottsville, PA.

Speakers for the meeting will be Drs. Ed Rajotte, Extension Entomologist, James Travis, Extension Pathologist, Rob Crassweller, Extension Pomologist, and Terry Stehr, Executive Director, A.S.C.S.

The topics discussed will include the 1988 recommenda-

tions and disease status report, mite management, orchard weed control, winter injury on fruit trees and agriculture chemicals. Pesticide credits will be issued at this meeting.

All fruit growers are invited to attend this meeting sponsored by the Schuylkill County Extension Service. For additional information contact George P. Perry, Jr., County Agent-Horticulture P.O. Box 250, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972 or Telephone (717) 385-3431 by February 11, 1988.