

# Trucks Replacing Wagons For Safer Forage Hauling

CARLISLE (Cumberland) As farmers are finding it necessary to haul forage on the public roads, the issue of safety is becoming

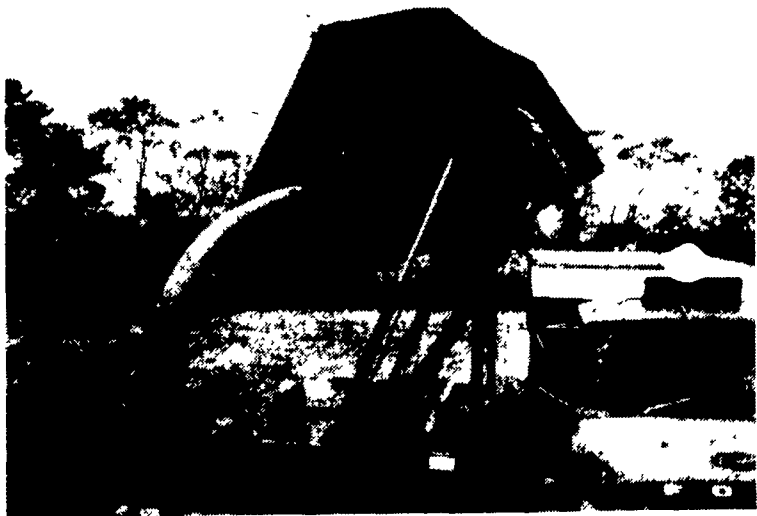
more important. Conventional forage wagons towed by tractors cannot keep up with the traffic and the driver's visibility to the rear is

severely limited. Entrance to, and exit from, public roads is particularly hazardous due to lack of visibility and inadequate methods of signaling drivers intentions to the general traffic. Impatient drivers often take unnecessary chances in passing slower-moving tractors and wagons, thus increasing the hazards.

Many farmers are parking their wagons and pressing their trucks into service. They are finding that the result is a safer operation. A savings in labor and maintenance often is an added benefit. In addition to the truck, some other equipment must be changed to make truck hauling workable. For those who put their silage in bunkers or trenches, the main equipment requirement is a means of accumulating the load at the field chopper and transferring that load into the



A truck load is dumped at the front of a bunker while a tractor - loader pushes it back and compacts. This is the first of three large bunkers to be filled on the Robert Lee Martin farm in Franklin County.



A load is dumped into Sam Musser's waiting truck in Franklin County.

truck. This is usually accomplished with either a collector dump box built into self-propelled choppers or special side dump wagons pulled behind the harvester. In operation, the dump wagon is filled as a conventional wagon would be filled. When full, the truck pulls alongside the wagon and the entire load is dumped into the truck. Most operators agree that one truck can keep a harvester

busy if the haul is not longer than 2 1/2 miles and the load can be dumped immediately for the return trip to the field. That means another operator at the bunker to push the silage into place and pack it down.

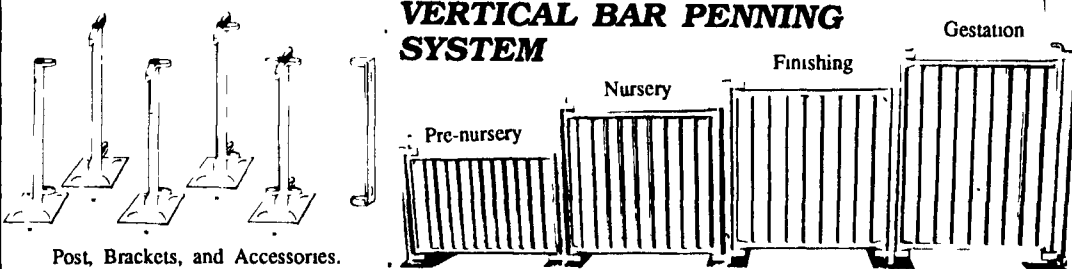
Robert Lee Martin of Franklin County reports hauling all the forage for 650 head of livestock using one 10-year-old dump wagon and

(Turn to Page D16)

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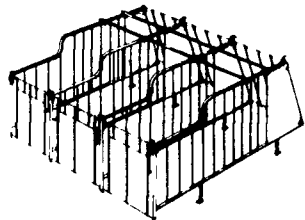
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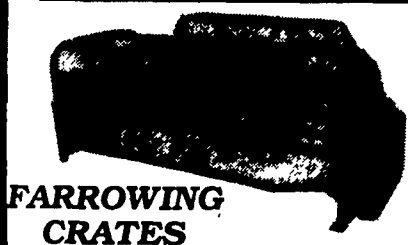
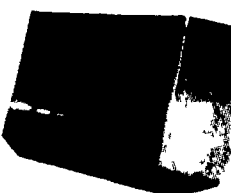


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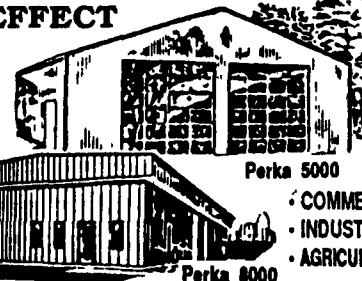


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