Hesston Lines newsletter

This newsletter from the Hesston Corporation includes articles about the company products and how customers are succesfully using the products on their land. This publication funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission through the Kansas State Historical Records Advisory Board.

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HESSTON LINES

HESSTON CORPORATION HESSTON, KANSAS 67062 JUNE 1972

Farmer Relies on Hesston Equipment Year-round

Lots of land, lots of experience, and lots of Hesston equipment might describe Paul Kuhrt's farming operation in extreme northwest Kansas. Twelve sections, 70 years, and Hesston Model 280 and PT-12 windrowers, a Model 2000 forage harvester, and a StakHand 60, StakMover 60, and StakFeeder 60 would be even more accurate. Add to that several tractors, trucks, loaders, sprayers, wagons, and buildings; set them in a valley alongside Beaver Creek among lots of tall pines and other trees with one old picturesque house and one new picturesque home, and you have a picture of the operation run by Kuhrt and his nephew, Jim Flanders.

Simplicity and ease of handling typify what goes on at the Kuhrt spread. Crops are wheat, alfalfa, and corn. Wheat is sold and alfalfa and corn are fed as hay and silage. The cow herd averages 300 head, plus calves, and herd size is adjusted to growing conditions. Production this year is down due to lack of moisture, so some young calves have been sold early.

About 80 straw and 100 alfalfa stacks were put up last year and fed this winter with the StakHand 60 system. Paul does most of this work since it's a one-man job performed from the tractor seat. He loads a stack from the stackyard and slices out several windrows into the various pastures. He loses no time traveling at 25 mph from pasture to pasture.

Paul Kuhrt does nearly all the range feeding with his StakFeeder 60. Most stacks are alfalfa; some straw stacks were put up. He owns over 7000 acres.

Some time ago, Paul designed and built a couple of fork attachments for his trucks to accomplish the same job. It took two men to stack about 60 acres a day that way, which he does by himself now with compressed Hesston stacks. His feeding device was similar: forks built onto the back of a truck to pick up a stack, move it, and feed it by raking hunks off.

Other implements Paul built on the farm are a 40' leveler fashioned from a framework originally used to dip the creek, a shuttle for a commercial wire roller, a self-dumping forage wagon, and an oversize bucket for a front-end loader. Paul has several other ideas he'd like to see in production, basically to simplify jobs he considers complicated now. That's been his guiding philosophy over the years: do a job the easiest way possible. Often it has necessitated making his own machinery to get it done. "A chain is no stronger than its weakest link. I'm continually trying to weed out that weak link," says Kuhrt.

The first Hesston machine Kuhrt had was a Model 100 windrower in 1957, just after they came out. With his six implements now, purchased through Yost Implement in St. Francis, Kansas, he has a greater variety of Hesston equipment than any other owner we know of.

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HESSTON

Marvin Marshall (pointing), Hesston TM, and Jack Johnson, 4000 operator at Lamkinland, check spout. A portion of Lamkin's 28 silos in the background indicate size of the dairy operation.

MODERN DAIRY USES HESSTON

Lamkinland in Watson, Illinois, employs about 30 people year-round to keep its ultra-modern dairy operation functioning smoothly. With about 2800 acres, 28 Harvestore silos, and up to 1600 registered Holsteins to be taken care of, it requires that many people and some up-to-date management to keep ahead of the operation. Bob Lamkin and his brother, Dick, are using a Hesston forage harvester Model 4000 and a Model 500 windrower to get their feed cut and processed in the best way possible.

The 4000 works on 1300 acres of corn with the two-row header, and also makes 500 acres of haylage with a pickup header. Jack Johnson, operator, figures the 4000 has twice the capacity for work as the two pull-types and one self-propelled the Hesston has replaced. He uses the others only sparingly, and only when absolutely needed. He says they just couldn't keep up with alfalfa cutting; now, the 4000 keeps six forage wagons busy loading two silo blowers to fill the Harvestores.

Jack also likes the rear-wheel drive, especially in mud and with heavy wagons. "The 4000 has never gotten stuck in mud, although we've had to get a 4020 to pull a wagon loose in the same mud. That front-wheel steering gets us around sharp row ends, too, and back on the track for the next row."

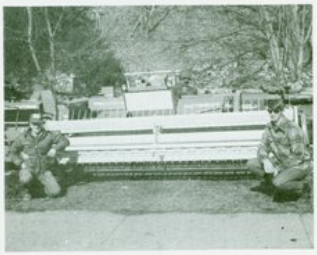
The Model 500 windrower keeps busy in 500 acres of alfalfa. With both liquid and dry fertilizers bring used, the Lamkins get 3-4 cuttings per year with the first one taking place as early as April. It's been a trouble-free machine and has allowed a 40 to 50-acre per day cut-and-chop rate of harvest when used with the 4000 forage harvester.

Lamkinland grows all its own feed. "I don't think corporation farming will ever take over," Dick says. He cites machinery costs as one reason and believes the Lamkin dairy is just about as big as it ever will be.

IDEA for an AD

Here's how Kochenderfer and Sons, Fountain City, Wisconsin, puts an extra twist in their dealership advertising. They take a picture of the customer (in this case Allen Mueller and his son Michael) accepting the machine and extend an invitation to the reader to stop by to hear the Hesston story in person. They get a simple advertising release form signed by the purchaser which allows use of the picture and information in the dealership's advertising.

Try this in your area. It will let a lot of people know where your Hesston equipment is working.



ALLEN MUELLER & SON
Winona, Minn.
Take Delivery of Their New
Model 520 Self-Propelled 12-Foot Cut Hesston
The Hesston outsells all makes because it outperforms all makes.
CALL US AND LET US TELL YOU THE HESSTON STORY
KOCHENDERFER & SONS
Fountain City, Wis.

There's some folks standing behind the President that ought to get around where he can watch 'em. -- Kin Hubbard

He who thinketh by the inch and speaketh by the yard ought to be kicketh by the foot.

LINES

"Quest for Excellence"

At Maddox Restaurant just south of Brigham City, Utah, you'll see a prominent sign just outside the dining room window. It says, "The Quest for Excellence" and typifies everything about I. B. Maddox' operations to achieve just that in beef production.

He believes strongly in natural food for his cattle. "A balanced hay-grain diet allows the animal to do a natural job of meat production. I don't feed for weight; I feed for quality, "Maddox stated, showing off his own sides of beef in cold storage.

I. B. Maddox shows off sides of beef stamped with his initials. Bred and fed for quality, cattle feed on natural food, mostly alfalfa. Hesston 620 harvests hay at exactly the right time for best quality.

Part of his plan to feed for quality is feeding quality hay. He depends on his Hesston Model 620 hydrostatic windrower to do that job. When alfalfa is just right to produce the best feed, it has to be cut right away. The 620 handles the job in a hurry with proper conditioning to preserve all the quality grown.

The Maddox operation employs 165 people, including four meat cutters. There is a meat store attached as well as a drive-in restaurant. Both serve nothing but quality beef, whether it's in a hamburger to go or a side of beef for home freezing.

Maddox feeds 700 head of cattle at the restaurant site. Odors are all but eliminated due to natural feeding and a radiant heating system in the feeding shed that keeps matter dry. He uses 4300 head a year in the restaurant-store; so he has to buy some meat, always from a producer with the same ideas about quality beef production.

If you're in Utah, visit Maddox Restaurant. In the food, the service, the equipment, and the surroundings, excellence abounds.

BARNS BLEW BUT STACKS STUCK

On Saturday morning, April 15, 1972, things were normal at the G. K. Anderson farm in Springfield, Tennessee, just north of Nashville. That afternoon, however, told a different story.

Winds clocked at 90 mph tore through a five-mile area, including the Anderson farm. Trees were uprooted and thrown about. Four of the Anderson barns were flattened. The storm's path was declared a disaster area.

There was one bright spot in the aftermath. When Anderson went out to check on his Hesston haystacks, made the previous season from oats and lespedeza, he was sure he would find them blown away, too. He was surprised to find them still standing among the wreckage with only a few of the crowns blown off.

90-mph winds demolished barn but only slightly damaged stacks.

Doug Kent, Hesston territory manager in Tennessee, had arranged to meet some customers who were flying in to the local airport the following Tuesday to inspect the stacks. Doug did not know of the storm until he arrived at the farm. Needless to say, everyone was awed at the damage the winds had done to everything except the Hesston StakHand 30 haystacks.

LINES

Model 2000 in Utah Mountains

Harry Wilkinson stands by Hesston forage harvester. Snow had just fallen in late April. He chops hay on flat land and on hills in background in picturesque Utah valley.

Harry Wilkinson of Morgan, Utah, farms 900 acres of relatively level ground in Weber Valley, 16 miles east of Ogden. He also has 700 acres of range pasture. He cuts about 1500 tons of alfalfa for haylage and 30 acres of corn for silage from this land.

He chops with Hesston's Model 2000 forage harvester, pulled behind his International 1026 tractor. The 2000 works where two other harvesters tried and failed.

The weather in Morgan often is completely different from that in the Ogden area. The winds whirl over the 9700-foot mountains that divide the two areas and keep the temperature about 20 degrees cooler in Morgan. If Wilkinson is lucky, he can get three cuttings a year from his alfalfa. Last year he put up 7000 bales, most of it to feed his 50 milk cows. He hopes to expand his herd to 200.

On both the level acres where corn and alfalfa are planted and on the steep hilsides where alfalfa is growing, Wilkinson is happy with his Hesston 2000 forage harvester and its ability to cut and chop when the crops are ready.

Timely Tip

SICKLE SENSE

The performance of any cutting machine is regulated by the cutting edge. A windrower is no different from an electric knife, carving knife, electric razor, or safety razor. The cutting edge must be maintained so harvesting performance is at its optimum. The alternative is a ragged cut, stripping, plugging, or uneven windrow. Feeding problems to augers, hay conditioning rolls, and forming shields result.

A sickle and guards should be stored with proper lubrication to prevent rust. The guards should have sharp ledger edges, not rounded. They should be free from bends and realigned with a Hesston guard-straightening tool if not severe. Sections should be sharp, or replaced if they become bent or broken.

Be sure to use the proper part numbers by consulting your Illustrated Parts listing to insure proper section-to-guard clearance.

The sickle must be timed in relation to the guard by following Owners Manual instructions.

Finally, insure proper alignment of swaybar and sickle bar with relation to guards on the driving end of the sickle.

New!

StakFeeder 30

Your StakMover 30 takes on new dimensions with the new StakFeeder 30 attachment. One man can feed a 3-ton stack without leaving his tractor seat. It has a 9-1/2' cutter bar for slicing hay on to a 36" conveyor for range or bunk feeding or further processing. A labor-saving alternative to breaking bales in undesirable weather.