

Anchors Away

Device screws in to keep tarps tight and hay protected.

If you store hay outdoors, you know weather can hamper the quality when not protected. While tarping helps, if it's not snug around bales to keep moisture out, a tarp renders itself useless in short order because wet hay becomes moldy, wasted hay.

A loose tarp is also more prone to rip, and replacing quality tarps can get expensive, especially if you're having to buy new each year.

PROBLEM SOLVED

To keep tarps in place, costs down and hay quality up, a Colorado company has developed Hay Anchor – a bright orange, polypropylene device that screws into a bale of hay, and provides a secure location to attach tarp straps.

"Hay Anchor was designed after an orthopedic bone screw, and modified to the unique characteristics of hay," says Hay Anchor's Ashley Royals. "It is tapered on one side of the thread to allow for easy insertion into the hay, and angled on the other side of the thread to resist pull-put."

And they're easy to use. Simply rotate an anchor into the bale, either by hand or a 3/4-inch socket. Once in place, they provide a ready anchor for "S" hooks or baling twine/rope coming from the tarp grommets. To get the best hold, secure the device where the hay is tightly



packed, usually on either end of the bale along the path of the twine. If you need to place the anchor into the side of a bale, insert it at a slight angle to penetrate as many flakes as possible.

"Hay Anchor does not need to be removed every time you need access to the stack," says Royals. "Simply unhook your strap device, remove your hay, and re-attach to the Hay Anchor. Also, Hay Anchor can be inserted in any location in a bale, meaning no more straps that are too short or too long for a snug fit."

The best part is that they can be re-

used for years, and come with a three-year manufacturer warranty.

"And they're easy on the hands in hot and cold weather," Royals points out.

HOW MANY WILL YOU NEED?

Company representatives say the number of anchors needed is determined by three factors – the size of the hay stack, the number of grommets in the tarp and how severe the weather is in your area.

"For windy areas, such as Eastern Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska, we recommend using one anchor for every 4 inches of tarp. In less windy areas, one anchor can be used for every 6 to 8 inches of tarp," says Royals.

Here's how to determine the number of anchors you will need for your stack: Calculate the length of your hay stack in feet. Divide this number by four (windy locations) or eight (non-windy locations), add one and this is the number of anchors you need for each side of the tarp. Double the number for the total number of anchors for your stack.

"The device has been tested through 60 mph+ winds," notes Royals. "When you use Hay Anchor, you are preventing loose and flapping tarps, which extends the life of your tarp. They also keep hay protected from the elements."

Made entirely in the United States, a 12-pack retails for \$48. •

Learn More

Hay Anchor
Sterling, Colorado 80751
303/588-2264 | www.hayanchor.com



The Hay Anchor can be inserted into hay in seconds with a speed wrench.



A 3/4-inch impact tool lets you effortlessly place a Hay Anchor into bales of hay.



If tools are not readily available, Hay Anchor can be screwed into place by hand.