

Premier's WirePanel™ Big Bale Feeders

Premier's Big Bale Feeder in use—sheep have access through 4 large (8" x 12") holes pre-cut into each of the 6 panels. They can also pull hay through the many 4" x 4" holes. Panels for big bales are best secured together with wire panel hinges or nylon rope.



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Washington, IA



WirePanel Big Bale Features:

- Initial cost is low.
- Will ship by UPS.
- 6 panel feeder, 4 head-holes per panel.
- Has small holes for less wastage.
- Folds flat. Easy to store & move.
- Adult sheep can't get inside the feeder.
- More durable & safer than feeders made with farm store wire panels.
- Adapts to most bale sizes or shapes.
- Avg. of 40 ewes/feeder is best. Too many ewes lead to fighting for access.
- Not for cattle, horses, horned animals.

(below in use) Attaching one panel to another with a Wire Panel Hinge. They literally screw themselves into place when the top of the connector is twisted.

We rarely remove a connector after its in place...and use nylon rope to connect the two open ends.



(right and left in use)
48" WirePanel Hinge
(small portion of hinge shown)

(below) Big Bale Snap Clip



Using a WirePanel Big Bale Feeder

1. Clear the area of sheep or goats (with a dog, fence or assistant) while installing a bale into the feeder.
2. Use a tractor loader to carry and place a round bale onto either of its two flat ends.
3. Remove all outer twine or netting. Be very careful to prevent the "free" hay from unwinding.
4. Remove any outer spoiled hay with a hand fork. We scatter it as bedding.
5. Join each panel to the others with a wire hinge (we do this before the bale is opened and never remove these hinges thereafter). Wrap the 6 panel unit around the bale. Connect the last opening with a nylon rope or snap clip (see at left).
6. Allow animals access to the bale.
7. Animals can't reach the 2 ft. dia. core of a 6 ft. dia. bale. After the core is exposed by the animals, reduce the core's size (by hand or with a fork). Then roll the core out onto its side (still inside the feeder).

Note: Width of a panel is 40 in. Height is 48 in. Six panels, assembled as a unit, are 20 ft. long. A 1500 lb. bale will feed 40 ewes for 7 days @ 5 lb./ewe/day.

If the distance is short, just fold up a Big Bale Feeder and drag it (weighs 106 lbs.).



(above) Bringing the 2 ends together and securing them. To tie them together we prefer nylon rope (polypropylene sheds into the fleece). Twine and baling wire fail under the pressure applied by sheep.



(above) End result—how the feeder and bale should look when it is eaten down. Note the double triangle shape. This is the most stable shape. It allows full animal access to all of the remnants of the bale. It requires assistance to ensure that this shape occurs.