

Big Bale Feeder



Features:

- **Simple to install.**
- **Folds flat**—easy to store and move.
- **4 head-holes** per panel.
- **Adult sheep can't get inside it.**
- **Average of 40 ewes per 6-panel feeder** is advised.
(Too many ewes will cause fighting for access.)
- **More durable** than feeders made with farmstore panels.
- **Adapts** to most bale sizes and shapes.
- **Ships** by UPS™ or SpeeDee™.
- **Typical lifetime of a feeder is 3 to 5 years.**
- **Hot-dip galvanized.**



The hay panels are very rugged and work very well. Well worth the price.

— David M., New York

Pays for itself in a year!

How does it do this?

Calculating your lost \$\$ due to wasted hay immediately provides a picture of the value of a big bale hay feeder.

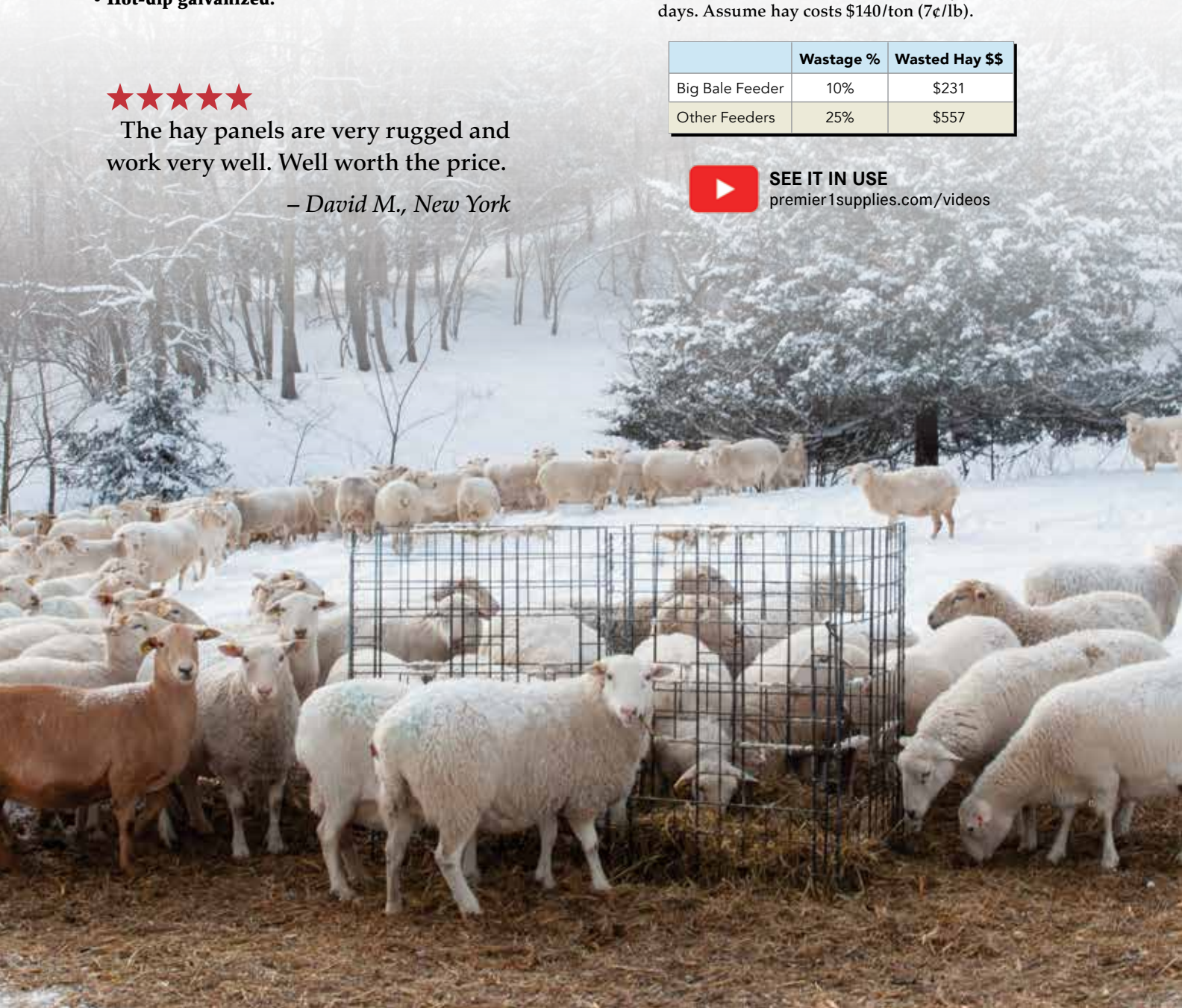
Assume 40 ewes each eat 5 lbs of hay for 165 days. Assume hay costs \$140/ton (7¢/lb).

	Wastage %	Wasted Hay \$\$
Big Bale Feeder	10%	\$231
Other Feeders	25%	\$557



SEE IT IN USE

premier1supplies.com/videos



What you will need to build a Big Bale Feeder

Determine feeder size needed...

For a 6 ft/72" diameter bale, sheep/goats usually leave an 18" center core after eating all they can reach. It requires human time and assistance to adjust both the bale core and the feeder.

Bales 4 ft in diameter are smaller than most round bales in the Midwest, but they **allow sheep or goats to eat the entire bale without assistance.**

We find the difference in reduced hassle and labor is so large that the cost for smaller bales is worth it. For small bales use 5 panels; large bales use 6 to 7 panels.



Sheep can't reach the core of a 6-ft diameter bale (but they can reach in to clean up a 4-ft diameter bale). So after they eat in toward the core, we reduce it by hand or fork. Then we roll the core onto its side (while still inside the feeder).

	Panels	Hinges	Clips
4 ft diameter bale	5	4	2
5 ft diameter bale	6	5	2
6 ft diameter bale	7	6	2

Note: These feeders are not for use with cattle, horses or horned animals (including goats).

Big Bale Feeder Panel

Panels are 40" wide and 48" tall. Each has four 8" x 12" eating holes. Outer rods and 4 vertical internal rods are 3/8" dia. Other rods are 1/4" dia. Thick, hot-dip galvanized coating.

Feeder Panel, each, 18 lb#938120

Wire Panel Connector Hinge

We love these hinges. You will too. A strong, reliable connection system that's quick and easy to use.

Large diameter—easy to install and remove. 9 gauge, 48"L. Stainless steel.

Connector Hinge, 0.40 lb.....#965401

Snap Clips

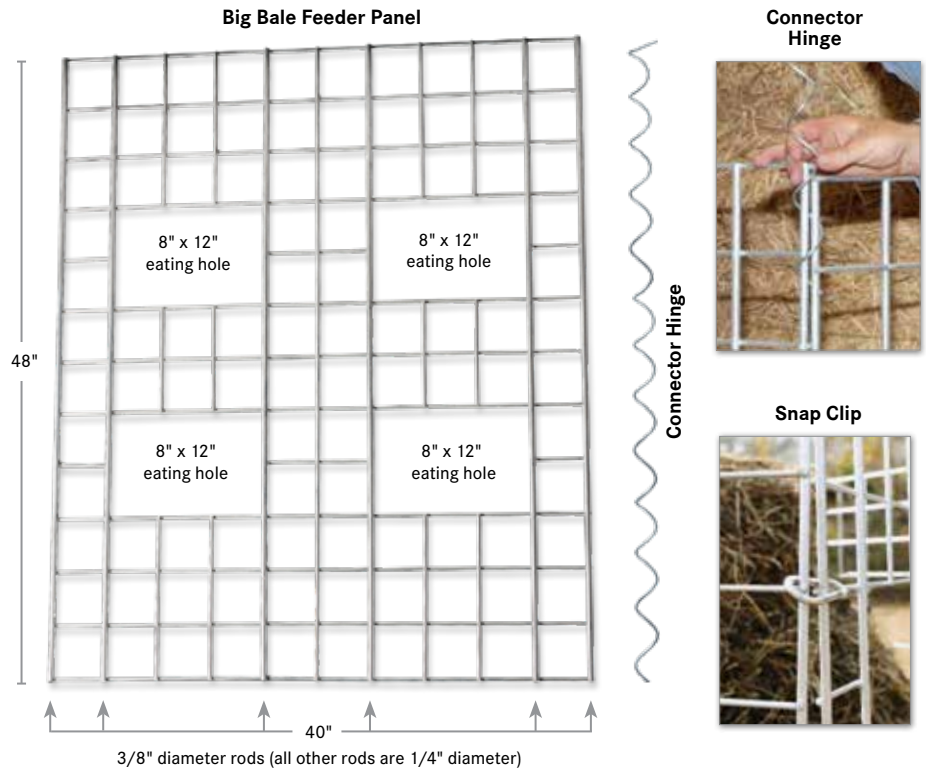
Used extensively on our farms with feeders, gates and as temporary hinges. Choice of stainless steel (*won't rust!*) or zinc plated.

Length: 3.5"; Small eye: 0.5"; Opening: 11/32".

Snap Clips

Stainless, 0.20 lb.....#965406

Zinc plated, 0.20 lb..... #965405



How to install a Big Bale Feeder



1. Panels are easy to carry and store

They can be carried or dragged short distances by hand (6 panels weigh 108 lbs) or transported by ATV. Unlike most other big bale feeders, Premier's wire panel feeders stack flat.



2. Joining panels with wire hinges

Join all panels with wire connector hinges. For 6 panels you need 5 hinges. We rarely remove the hinges after joining the panels.



3. Adding a large round bale

Use a tractor or loader to place a round bale on either of its flat ends. Remove all twine, plastic or netting. Be careful to prevent the "freed" hay from unwinding. Remove any outer spoiled hay with a pitchfork and scatter it as bedding.



4. Wrap panels around bale and close with snap clips

Wrap the panel "system" around the bale. Connect the last opening with snap clips.



What **NOT** to do...

1. Don't use with cattle, horses or horned animals (*including goats*).
2. Don't use with horned sheep or goats. We have tried this and know that they may get their heads caught and die.
3. Don't try to lift the feeder panels with a tractor when they're frozen or stuck in a manure pack. They will bend and break.
4. Don't try to feed more than 8 ewes per panel. They will fight for access.
5. Don't allow starving sheep access to these feeders. They become too aggressive and injure one another.

This is the preferred result for a totally consumed 4-ft diameter bale. If possible, fold the panels toward the center to make the shape of a double triangle. This allows the sheep to completely clean up the bale.