

SCIENTIST'S BEST FRIEND



ISCO's golden fraction collector will become your pal faster than the cutest furry kind of retriever. It will hold 210 test tubes but measures only 13 x 26 inches. Any tube from 13 to 18 mm diameter will fit without adapters. It will count drops, multiple siphon discharges, or time intervals for each tube. It is available with two different controllers, either of which are in their own cabinets and can be removed from the main unit for remote operation.

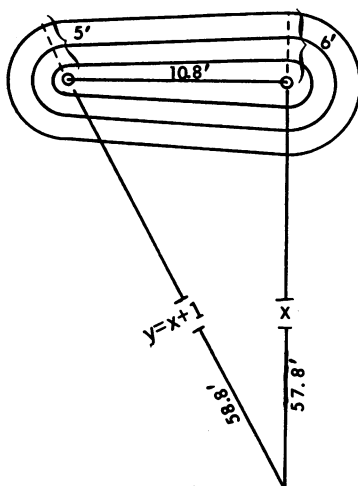
The removable racks circulate in a continuous pattern and will retrieve from two columns simultaneously. Both lateral and transverse movement is accomplished with just one motor and two spur gears: there are no chains, belts, ratchets, or levers to wear or become unsynchronized. The base is 1/4" thick solid aluminum—you can't damage it. Its gold anodized finish resists stains and wear. The Delrin racks can withstand almost anything spilled on them. Two models are available, priced from \$650 to \$850.



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10.8 feet, 57.8 feet, and 58.8 feet (see computation). On Mondays when it is not raining, she also hangs her wash on the clothesline connecting the two posts, creating a truly beautiful spectacle.



$$y + 5 = x + 6$$

$$y = x + 1$$

$$y^2 = x^2 + (10.8)^2$$

$$(x + 1)^2 = x^2 + (10.8)^2$$

$$x^2 + 2x + 1 = x^2 + 116.64$$

$$2x = 115.64$$

$$x = 57.8$$

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Frogs and Humans

With regard to the report "Bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*) ventilation: How does the frog breathe?" (14 Mar., p. 1223), frogs breathe exactly the way that people do who, having lost most of the use of their intercostal muscles and diaphragm, perform what physicians have long called "frog breathing."

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Odoriferous Ancient Lamps

Four hundred years before Pliny, Aristotle wrote: "Mares miscarry at the scent of an extinguished lamp; this happens also to some women." This is the probable source of Pliny and others who make the same remark (Letters, 21 Mar.) . . . Montagu will find out about lamps if he plows on through the *Natural History*. The ancients preferred clear olive oil for lighting, but burned

anything they could, including castor oil and tallow. The wicks were of any capillary material—papyrus waste, rope, and wool were used, and the wick might contain sulfur to help it catch. There were many nauseous possibilities. . . .

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University Gains from Federal Research

A realistic discussion of the indirect costs of project grants should include a consideration of the indirect benefits that the institution derives from such projects. In his examination of the Mansfield Amendment, Pettit states that the university is not the grantee ("Congress, confusion, and indirect costs," 21 Mar., p. 1301). According to the Public Health Service a grantee is "the university, college, hospital, public agency, or nonprofit research institution. . . ." (1). Some principal investigators who have transferred to another institution have experienced the truth of this definition and have found it very difficult or impossible to obtain institutional release of equipment purchased with funds awarded for their projects, even if these projects are active and are to be continued in the new institution. I submit that such equipment may certainly be regarded as an indirect subsidy, since accountability is usually waived and title is customarily vested in the original grantee institution. This is not the only or the most important of the indirect benefits that accrue to grantee institutions because of the federally supported research and training activities of their principal investigators or program directors. It is at least a defensible argument that the benefits thus received by the grantee institutions roughly compensate them for their contribution to the indirect costs of those activities. This, in fact, may be one reason, as important as academic competition, why universities have not agreed to refuse grants or contracts providing what they consider only partial reimbursement of indirect costs.

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Reference

1. U.S. Public Health Serv. Publ. No. 1301, rev. 1967, p. 2.