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Rocky Mountain/Heartland • fall-winter edition 2017

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# agriculture



Photo courtesy of Albert Lea Seed.

# One-Call of Wyoming

811 was established in 2007 nationwide to provide one, easy to remember number, to call before you dig. One-Call of Wyoming is a non-profit organization that administers the 811 notification center within the state of Wyoming. Any entity within the state that owns/operates any underground facilities shall, by statute, register their location and contact information with the notification center, there are few exceptions to this requirement. If a person is involved in any activity in which earth, rock or other materials on or below the ground is moved or otherwise displaced by means of hand or power tools, power equipment, explosives or other means, and includes grading, trenching, digging, ditching, auguring, tunneling, boring, plowing-in, pulling-in, ripping, scraping and pipe installing, EXCEPT TILLING OF SOIL AND GARDENING OR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES. They must call the notification center (811) at least 2 full business days, and not more than 14 full business days, prior to beginning their excavation.

Once the notification center (811) has been contacted, the center will send out notifications to our member, operators/owners, to let them know of your intended excavation activity near their underground facilities within the next 2 to 14 business days. The members must respond to the excavator within

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# C & R Supply, Inc.

## Birth of a Sprayer...the Family Expands

After carefully listening to customers who were disappointed with the performance or lack of features in ATV sprayers available, C & R Supply set out to design a series, or family of sprayers to meet their needs. The family began with the EZ ATV Sprayer which features a unique tank design that was created with input from customers and ATV manufacturers. Using this input, and keeping the operator in mind the EZ ATV Sprayer was designed for ease of operation, functional ability and safety. The design was a success! This unit has been in demand since 1998 and continues to hold a strong presence in the market today.

The EZ ATV Sprayer has a sleek design which brings the weight forward and more to a center of gravity for better machine balance. Allowing the legs of the tank to wrap around the fenders of the ATV gives the sprayers dual sumps maximum drainage and the ability to run on side hills without losing its prime. The pump,



strainer, and main shut off are mounted underneath the tank in a protected cavity, which also serves as a dual slosh baffle. The top of the tank is designed with a fill catch area to prevent chemical from getting on the operator. The EZ Sprayer is fitted with a 4 gpm Shurflo Pump and a quality Tee-Jet trigger style handgun in the convenient control panel at your side. All brackets and boomless nozzle or boom accessories are attached to the tank for quick and easy mounting. The EZ ATV Sprayer has several different options and accessories to meet your needs.

As time went on customers began seeing a need in their operation for UTV's. C & R Supply responded by expanding their family of sprayers. The UTV sprayer was born and it was named the C & R Slide In after its ability to be easily slid on and off the bed of the UTV as needed. The sprayer is mounted on a powder coated frame which allows the unit to be transferred as a single piece of equipment. This sprayer, like its elder sibling, was built with only the highest of quality components. The Slide In features a 60 gal tank, left and right electric controls with wiring harness, a Shurflo 4gm by pass pump, and Boominator nozzles which can spray a width of up to 30 feet. An 8 inch handgun from Tee Jet with adjustable tip for hand spraying is also included. The Slide In sprayer has options and accessories available to meet the needs of your operation including a convenient retractable hose reel add on and additional boom options.

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C & R Supply, Inc. is a distributor and manufacturer of agricultural and roadside spray equipment located in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. For over 40 years, C & R Supply, Inc. has been a leader in the distribution and servicing of many quality products from Raven Industries, Spraying Systems, Banjo, and more. They also lead the way in designing and manufacturing new and advanced products as their customer needs change. This family of quality sprayers began with the introduction of the C & R Foam Marker and Spot Sprayer which progressed to the units we are featuring here today. C & R is a provider of precision ag products such as GPS guidance systems, variable rate controllers, mapping, steering assist systems, and chemical injection units. C & R Supply prides themselves on having the knowledge and experience to continually advance their product line to keep up with ever changing technology in a way that helps producers maximize their output.

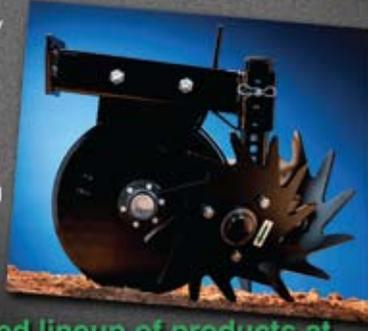


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# Ron's Manufacturing

## Vertical Tillage Coulter Kit Attachment Gets Even Stronger

Ron's Manufacturing has added two more bearings to their kits. This makes the kits even more heavy duty. Coulter kits from Ron's Manufacturing converts any chisel plow to a year-round tool to prepare your fields.



In the fall, it can be used to lightly till the soil, incorporate and size residue. It is also a practical way to dry out

wet soils. The Vertical Tillage Coulter Kit Attachment works well in no-till conservation tillage, as well as conventional tillage operation, extending the growing season and creating better planting conditions. Vertical tillage prepares the soil to warm more quickly in early spring, energizing the seedbed for maximum growth and yield potential.

The Vertical Tillage Coulter Kit Attachment is a smart investment in that it has multiple uses which will ultimately produce savings in terms of time and money. It also has a low operating cost per acre and can be used in a wider range of conditions than most tillage tools. It operates at a relatively high speed of 6 to 12 MPH which saves time. The Vertical Tillage Coulter Kit Attachment allows for quick mixing of manure and soil to prevent loss of nutrients and control odor. It can also be used for very shallow incorporation of fertilizer and select herbicides.

The Vertical Tillage Coulter Kit Attachment is spaced on 6 inches.

For more information contact Ron's Manufacturing at 40582 187th St., Carpenter, SD 57322; phone 605-350-2112; E-mail info@ronsmfg.com. (Also, please see their ad in this issue).

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### Ron's Mfg.

(Please see press release in this issue)

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# Cover Crops and Rotational Grazing

The use of grass-based paddocks for rotational grazing is a well-established practice, and a host of companies have developed forage grass varieties to meet the needs of beef producers who use this system. With the growing interest in cover cropping, however, livestock producers are wondering how cover crops might fit into rotational grazing systems.



“The short answer is—they can work in some situations,” says Mac Ehrhardt, owner and manager of Albert Lea Seed. “One of the easiest and best fits comes with the use of winter grains as cover crops. For example, if a farmer were to plant winter rye or winter triticale in the fall after soybeans, those grasses would be the first plants to green up in the spring and would be available for early grazing. After grazing, the

grasses could be worked into the soil and soybeans planted.”

Ehrhardt notes that farmers are also experimenting with other cover cropping techniques. Some are flying a mixture of winter rye or annual rye grass, tillage radish and turnips or forage rape into growing corn and soybean crops. Then, after the crops are harvested, the cover crop mixture can be grazed well into the fall. Using winter rye in the mix extends grazing even further, as it is extremely frost tolerant.

“This approach has generally worked better with soybeans,” states Ehrhardt, “because they are harvested earlier and are lower growing, which enables the grass and brassica mixture to attain more growth prior to soybean harvest.”

Ehrhardt adds that another option exists for farmers who plant a small grain and take it to yield. “They have a great opportunity to put in a cover crop after their small grain is harvested in July,” he says. “Good choices for grazing late into the fall include winter rye or winter triticale, plus a brassica like radish, turnip, forage rape or even field peas. Of the brassicas, turnips are probably the most productive for beef production, and there are specialty grazing turnips which can be used in that system. Winter rye and winter triticale may also overwinter and be available for grazing once again in the spring.”

So, can cover crops fit into a rotational grazing system? The answer is yes, illustrated by these three different ways that cover crops are currently being integrated into those systems. 



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# Carol's Original Works

Livestock and wildlife are my interest, passion, and focus of my artwork. Since childhood, growing up on a ranch in Montana I have created sculpture and drawings of animals. Working cattle was the highlight of the summer, and riding horses was second nature. Spending most of my time outside in the corral getting dirty, and a bit ruffed up was a good way to learn about my subjects. I was fortunate to have a family that was not afraid to try things, so we always had a different breed of cow, sheep or horse to check out. It wasn't until I was an adult, and moved to the midwest that I learned about the Dairy industry. Even though I did not grow up on a Dairy, I have learned a lot about the cattle. Today, the Dairy cattle industry is the largest part of my business.

I can't really speak of my artwork and history without talking about the business Carol's Original Works (COWS). How it all got started..being an avid collector of Breyer model horses, I fashioned heifer cows to scale, which became the foundation of the business. I quickly found that sculpting each cow individually was not cost or time effective, and casting in Bronze was not always an option. During college, I worked for a bronze foundry, and there I learned mold making and the basics of casting. I discovered and began casting in Cold Cast Porcelain in the early 1990's, using my foundry experience

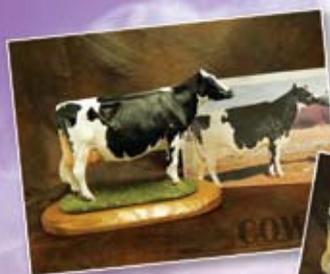
to pave the way for the success of the business some twenty seven years later. As my sculpture and business grew, I soon went from collecting Breyer horses, to sculpting them for the company.

Currently my business, COWS, is the largest producer of re-



CM Herden sculpting in her Amboy studio

## Carol's Original Works



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**World Dairy Expo**  
Exhibition Hall  
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- Trophies & Awards
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140 E. Maine St.  
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www.carolsoriginalworks.com



alistic cattle figurines in the world, having sculpted 35 different breeds of cattle, several horses, and most recently, sheep and goats. COWS customers range from genetics companies to breed associations, breeders to collectors world wide. Many in the dairy industry will recognize my work as I have done the Ideal breed models for Brown Swiss, Red and White, and most recently Holstein. My cattle sculptures are sold through NASCO farm and Ranch and were given as corporate gifts from GEA. Some may also recognize my work as trophies. I have had the honor to create and produced the World Dairy Expo Champion and Jr. Champion awards in 2016 & again this year.

Though I express myself professionally in sculpture, I also enjoy oil painting and pencil drawings of which have most become another outlet from business as laser engraved images on wood, glass and other materials. The livestock award aspect of my business has grown substantially keeping me in the show ring creating many traveling trophies, as well as individual awards.

If your in Minnesota, Amboy is just south of Mankato, and north off I-90. We have a studio and gift store for anyone wanting to see my work first hand, at 140 E Maine street. Please stop by our booth at World Dairy Expo in the main exhibit hall, across from the Purple Cow. We are also available online at: carolsoriginalworks.com



# Get More Feed Value out of Your Roughage

- D**oes the dry weather have you wondering:
- How to stretch your hay in drought conditions?
  - How to feed more animals in a short roughage year?
- Keep your head by getting more energy out of less roughage?

The treatment process represents a tremendous addition of value, up and down the cattle chain. By taking crop residue—straw, corn stalks left over after harvest—and transforming them into a nutritious feed source. The Stocklage Plus process helps cattlemen and farmers with an important option, especially in drought crop years!

According to Stan Rosendahl, “in 2015, ADM licensed the Second Crop process, including Rosendahl Farms Seed and Feed LLC Columbus, NE. Some of our feed customers were using the treated feed and wanted to continue. They said they felt it was a good way to use a crop byproduct, changing it into a quality feed roughage product.” Rosendahl explained, “ADM promised to continue to back the process, as well as research. We have changed the name of the product to Stocklage Plus, which we felt more directly says what it is – Livestock Silage from roughage”.

Rosendahl Farms Seed and Feed LLC retained the services of Casey Lund, who was one of the individuals that worked on the ADM project from the start. Casey knows the in and out’s of the application plus he has good knowledge of the beef industry. Lund says” I have treated from Texas to

Nebraska to Montana for over five years treating cornstalks, wheat, oat, and barley straws. The Hydrated Lime breaks the fibers down to where it is more digestible to the beef rumen.



The cattle slick out the bunks like candy and do not leave the ends in the bunk. That’s a win-win, with Stocklage Plus, the roughage is more digestible and they eat all of it.”

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For additional Information visit [www.stocklageplus.com](http://www.stocklageplus.com) or call 888-588-9015

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# Kansas farmer goes nearly a decade without rained on alfalfa.

In the commercial hay industry, producers have searched for years to find a way to put up high quality hay in large square bales. Larry Matlack of Burrton, Kansas knows all too well the trials of making quality hay, he and his sons have raised alfalfa in south central Kansas for 25 years.

“In all that time.” Matlack says. “We’ve seen a lot of producers leave the hay business in pursuit of other crops, the largest contributor to that is weather.”

In 1999, Matlack decided to find a way to beat mother nature. He had seen farmers in the eastern United States wrapping

big round bales, and decided that he could do the same with his big squares.

In an agreement with Tube-Line Mfg. of Canada, the Stinger Cube-Line wrapper was born. Able to wrap bales eight feet long in a stack that’s up to nine feet high, this large commercial



wrapper set a new standard for the haying industry.

“I started out using it as an insurance policy.” Matlack says. “If the rain was coming, I just baled it, and wrapped it. It didn’t matter if the alfalfa was 20% or 60% moisture, the point was to save the quality, and get the irrigation system back on for the next cutting.”

The unexpected surprise came when Matlack discovered that dairymen preferred high moisture baleage over high quality dry hay.

“We decided we’d put up each cutting as baleage, and turn that 40% of our crop that used to go to grinding hay, into dairy hay.”

For eight years now, Matlack’s downed hay has not been rained on once. Not only that, but by getting the water back on, most years he has gained a 6th cutting.

“It gives you an upper hand.” Matlack explains, “With the Cube-Line wrapper we can bale in as little as 11 hours after swathing.”

The new 2014 Stinger Cube-Line wrapper lists for \$56,000.

“It’s really something to think about, Larry explains, we’re down to 350 acres of hay, and the wrapper makes us on average \$50,000 more profit each season.”

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Plastic baler twine is available in a variety of strengths for big square including twine for the high density balers, small square and round balers. Twine is manufactured with a single tape construction, mechanically fibrillated, UV stabilized and has twist uniformity.

We stock several sizes of hay tarps to meet your needs. Features are a 7.5 oz polyethylene fabric (16 Mil thickness), silver/black fabric to reflect the sun, and includes tie down system with buckle assembly.

Start baling sooner with hay preservative that has 68% propionic acid, packaged in 450# drums or 2,250# totes for your convenience. Benefits are less leaf shatter, more retained leaves make more nutritious hay, and softer more palatable hay.

The multi-layer co-extruded silage film is a superior product that has a

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# RadiCoat Seed Treatment: A Radicle Approach to Supersizing Seed Germination

The radicle is the first part of the embryonic seed, the initial root growth, and has a substantial amount of production potential riding on its fate. But what do we need before the radicle can begin growing and absorbing nutrients for the plant to be? Germination. There are many factors that may have an effect on the germination of a plant and many companies spend a great deal of time and resources trying to figure it out. The major question is, will the seed have the resources it needs to germinate and flourish, or will it wither?



By introducing RadiCoat, we have answered this question. RadiCoat delivers several components directly to the surface of the seed waiting to build the ideal micro-environment when the radicle emerges. Imagine, if you can, that every seed in the field has the micro nutrients, trace minerals, organic acids, and beneficial microbes and fungi necessary to build a protective and nutritive microbiome. It would be an industry changer — and it is. It is no longer necessary to apply all nutrients in-furrow and hope that they still exist in an available form when the plant is ready to use them. How much more efficient can you get?

RadiCoat is a seed-coating polymer, but nothing like the majority of industry standard polymers. There are two types of polymers: natural and synthetic. Synthetic polymers make products like polystyrene, nylon, acrylic, polyethylene, polyester, and epoxy. They are typically not biodegradable or sympathetic to the environment, and use chemical solvents and wetting agents for manufacturing and/or forming films.

Natural polymers are made from raw materials found in

nature and their uses are driven by a growing demand with mostly pharmaceutical and medical applications. RadiCoat Seed Treatment uses natural organic polymers formulated for growing vigorous plants compatible for use in agricultural soils from where they originated.



Panoramic view of treated vs untreated Treated on left – Untreated on right

Natural polymers are biodegradable with a direct nutritional benefit when combined in microbial populations, and can be used as a seed coating system for actually delivering microbes and nutrients to the exterior on all types of seeds. It has been proven that the best opportunities for successful microbe and seed germinations are created from placing the microbes “on the seed” along with nutrients. This also increases the overall efficacy for performance of the seed as opposed to treating soil proximities.

RadiCoat has been applied to all small grains, cotton, and high-value crops like potatoes and sugar beets. Many different application systems were tested to ensure that a producer with nothing more than a pump-up sprayer and a cement mixer can accurately apply RadiCoat. The ease of use and inclusion into almost any program are factors that make RadiCoat so valuable.

In one of our outstanding field trials coordinated through our distributor, Rocky Mountain Agronomics, RadiCoat Seed Treatment was applied to potato seed pieces through a liquid applicator system at standard rate. The RadiCoat treated half of the field emerged five days sooner than the control and total emergence was contained to a window of just 48 hours. Treated plants were more uniform and robust than the control. The RadiCoat treated portion of the field yielded more sacks per acre, and 71% of the treated yield was 10 oz. and above compared to the control where only 52% were 10 oz. and above. Such a large return for so small an investment, RadiCoat is a true economizer for your production system.

Don't let your production fall short in the coming seasons, contact Bio S.I. Technology today and redefine your average yield with RadiCoat.



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# The Durham Stalk Pusher

Strip Till farmers have long been considered some of the most progressive in the industry. Like most things, though, there have been challenges. One of those challenges has been tire and or trac damage caused by corn stalks left behind. Seeing a need to mitigate tire damage, The Durham Stalk Pusher was invented in 2008 by Galan Durham of Burlington, Colorado.

The idea may not have been unique, but the roller design was the first of its kind. The concept is simple. Simply roll over the stalks to lay them down. There is no need for anything more aggressive or destructive to the corn stalk. After all, leaving the stalk in the field was the purpose behind strip till farming.



Durham Ag Tech has the best quality product among tire mitigation products and is able to boast that it is priced far more reasonably than some of the less user friendly designs currently being sold.

The top 4 reasons that the Durham Stalk Pusher should be your first choice when looking for a tire mitigation product are:

- **Cost Effectiveness**--An entire unit is priced at less than two tractor tires. This is BY FAR the most reasonably priced unit on the market.
- **Ease of Mounting**--No need to install multiple pieces to run over each row. That's just more parts that need maintenance. Our Generation III model hangs on the front weight bracket and works for most tractor models. We currently have units available for John Deere, Case and Caterpillar. Each Stalk Pusher arrives with complete mounting hardware and can be installed in under 2 hours.
- **Total Clearance**--Generation III models boast up to 25" of clearance! This is especially important to the folks that farm uneven terrain. With our oscillating bar, the roller truly follows the contour of the ground.
- **Ease of Use**--The roller system lays stalks flat, so in contrast to an individual skid system that may catch debris, this won't catch trash!

The Durham Stalk Pusher has branched out all over the Midwest and has units running in North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Ohio, Iowa and of course its home state of Colorado. Several customers have purchased multiple units so that they can have one on each of their tractors!

For more information on the Durham Stalk Pusher visit [www.durhamagtech.com](http://www.durhamagtech.com)





## The Durham Stalk Pusher

**WHY A DURHAM STALK PUSHER IS YOUR BEST CHOICE IN AVAILABLE TIRE MITIGATION PRODUCTS**

<p><b>COST EFFECTIVENESS</b> An entire unit is priced at less than two tractor tires. It is by far the most reasonably priced unit on the market.</p>	<p><b>EASE OF MOUNTING</b> No need to install multiple pieces to run over each row. Each unit comes complete with all mounting hardware.</p>
<p><b>EASE OF USE</b> Roller System lays stalks flat rather than an individual skid system that may catch debris. This won't catch trash!</p>	<p><b>TOTAL CLEARANCE</b> Generation III models boast up to 25" of clearance!</p>

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INSECTO has been registered with the USA Environmental Protection Agency since 1984 (EPA Reg. # 48598-1). INSECTO is a formulation of a very refined (Micron average size 7) saltwater Diatomaceous Earth (DE) blended with several protein food products which act as baits. DE is the skeletal remains of plankton which feels similar to talcum powder, however when viewed under a microscope, one can see the sharp jagged edges on the DE which basically cuts up and breaks down insects waxy protective coatings. Also, the saltwater DE absorbs up to 175% of its weight in fluids compared to only 150% for freshwater DE. DE is allowed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in Human and Animal food products up to 2% of weight; it is used as an Anti-Caking agent in many food products.

INSECTO kills insects by cutting up the insects bodies, than absorbs their body fluids, which leads to their deaths by dehydration; a physical kill rather than a chemical kill. Insects don't build up a resistance to INSECTO, unlike chemical pesticides. INSECTO is labeled with the EPA "For Organic Production" and is listed with the Organic Material Review Institute (OMRI).



INSECTO has been and is being used by Bunge, Cargill, Consolidated Grain & Barge, ADM and other large companies for several decades, along with on farm storage by thousands for farmers

around the United States and Canada. INSECTO has been exported to Japan, UAE, Israel, Jamaica, Brazil, Nicaragua, and several other countries.

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INSECTO was originally developed as an alternative to the chemical poisons which were in wide use in the 1970's and 80's, and has become one of the few registered insecticides on the market today. Control your insect problems today and in the future with INSECTO.   
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From concept, design and through production, Walinga meets the customer's needs at every step. Creating outstanding products that are innovative and durable, with some client's vehicles being passed from generation to generation.

Walinga is a leading North American manufacturer of transportation equipment and portable pneumatic conveying systems for grain, feed, seed... virtually any dry bulk material. Walinga is still a family owned and operated company. The total commitment to quality is not only our inheritance - it's our foundation for the future.

Walinga products represent the best in manufacturing excellence. Our in-house engineering and design teams utilize the most current computer technology available. State of the art equipment, combined with over 60 years of experience, ensures that our customers receive unsurpassed quality.

Comprehensive engineering capabili-

ties allow us to offer sizes, capacities, features and options that are specifically job-matched according to individual requirements. The services of our Engineering Department are available to our customers to assist in the selection of the properly specified chassis. Every Walinga vehicle is designed and produced to best fulfill its designated function.

Custom-built aluminum feed bodies and trailers, pneumatic conveying systems, recycling trucks and bodies, aluminum and steel dump bodies... each built according to exact standards. Every stage of the manufacturing process from design to completion is performed by Walinga. The result - a cost effective, durable product line that responds to any challenge with premium.

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The only system you'll ever need. Gives one-person total grain-handling capability! Do it all with the Walinga Agri-Vac. Fill or empty storage facility being used. The Walinga Agri-Vac

puts an end to legs, augers, sweeps and shovels. Grain handling has never been simpler, safer or healthier.

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Walinga Inc. has been manufacturing bulk feed transportation equipment for more than 60 years. In this time we have become committed to an ongoing program of research and development. In response to the increasingly diverse needs of our customers Walinga is and will continue to be on the forefront of technological evolution.

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under contract in the Greeley and will be building a new dealership in Greeley in the very near future. Taylor Implement's goal is to be there for their customers wherever they may

Taylor Implement has been in business since 1971 under the same owner, Tuffy Taylor. For the first 43 years, Taylor Implement sold John Deere equipment. In the 70's Taylor blazed the way for



Taylor Implement Company is your Premier Claas Dealer for Northwest Kansas, Northeast and Central Colorado with headquarters in Hoxie, Kansas, a dealership in Yuma, Colorado and in Greeley, Colorado. Taylor Implement has some land

be. All three locations are completely staffed with well trained service, parts and sales people. Taylor Implement offers the complete line of Claas equipment—Self-Propelled Forage Harvesters, Combines, Tractors, Balers and Hay Tools.

the first Self-Propelled Forage Harvesters in the US by bringing the Kemper machines to the United States from Germany. Taylor Implement sold self-propelled forage harvesters for Claas back in the 90s and recently made the decision to go back to the Claas line of machinery. This was a very good, sound business decision for both Taylor Implement and Claas.

Taylor Implement is also a JCB dealer and currently sells JCB's new product line of agricultural equipment for farm and industrial use. JCB is very forward thinking and has great products from the new JCB Teleskid—a telescopic skid steer and recently JCB came out with the all new Side Entry Teleskid. Taylor Implement also has the OXBO Self-Propelled Merger line and the new Orkel Compactor/Baler with wrap system.

Taylor Implement's customers come first with everyone at Taylor Implement. Visit Taylor Implement at any of their three locations and follow us on Facebook or Twitter. Check out Taylor Implement's inventory on [www.taylorimplement.com](http://www.taylorimplement.com)



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# LAFORGE

## Technology for Active Implement Guidance

The **LAFORGE® Guided Hitch** allows a semi-mounted (2-point) planter and applicator to follow the RTK guidance line with a high level of accuracy in flat fields and on hillsides. The compact design allows for precision placement of seed and nutrients in separate passes. The hitch replaces the factory crossbar on John Deere's planters, and adapters for other implements and nutrient applicators are available. In addition, the **LAFORGE® Guided Hitch** has been awarded an AE50 Award for 2017 as one of the significant innovations in Farm Equipment Technology. The hitch has been well received by the customers either using it or considering it for use with an Active Implement Guidance solution. Some of the positive feedback received has been:

"This unit is clean looking and not complex"



"I like the fact that the Hitch does not add length to my planter tongue and does not need the addition of extension hoses and harnesses"

"The accuracy is amazing"

"The unit is simple to install"

"It will work with the PTO generator"



In addition to the semi-mounted guided hitch LAFORGE has also developed an Implement adapter pivot and several implement attachments, allowing different types of drawbar pull implement to be adapted and guided with the **LAFORGE® Guided Hitch**.  
**About LAFORGE: LAFORGE SYSTEMS INC.**, Concord, CA was established in 1991 as a first step in a carefully planned expansion to be able to support LAFORGE's growing number of dealers and customers throughout North America.

The LAFORGE group purchased a

manufacturing facility in Cedar Falls, IA in 2007, and added a new factory in Waterloo, IA in 2010. These facilities now also house whole goods and spare parts warehouses and an installation shop.

LAFORGE branded front 3-point hitch systems have been available since 1979. The company quickly became a world leader in technology related to tractor-implement interaction, tractor ballasting and weight transfer. LAFORGE is the recipient of a multitude of patents and awards in these areas. Nine AE50 awards are just an example of this.

For more information visit [www.fronthitch.com](http://www.fronthitch.com), or call 1-855-408-3332



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# equipment

## DALTON AG PRODUCTS: SIMPLE. DURABLE. AMERICAN.

**D**alton Ag is a leading manufacturer of high performance fertilizer application equipment for agriculture, located in the heart of the Corn Belt in Lenox, Iowa.

Founded in 1996 by local entrepreneur Dick Dalton, the company operated as Dalton Ag Products until 2007 when it was purchased by Robert Cox and became Cox Manufacturing. In 2014, the company was purchased by Dexter Apache Holdings, Inc., and once again became Dalton Ag. Today, it is one of six businesses that comprise the Dexter Apache Holdings group, one of the nation's foremost ESOP companies, and is 100% employee-owned. The Company offers a wide range of fertilizer application equipment under two brands: Dalton and Mobility.

The Dalton product line consists of toolbars and liquid applicators for in-ground injection of anhydrous ammonia and liquid nitrogen, plus the associated wagons, tanks, nurse trailers and row units. These products are designed for commercial

row crop producers and have working widths of up to 60 feet. Dalton toolbars have industry leading wing down-flex for consistent depth on uneven ground, greaseless pivot points, and are available with 6"x 6" steel tube frames for additional strength in difficult soils. Dalton products are available in a number of colors to match the customer's fleet, including



Mobility Model 600 Row Crop Dry Fertilizer Spreader

blue, red, green and black.

The Mobility line, with its distinctive white and black livery, is designed for the spreading of dry material such as fertilizer and lime before, during and after the growing season. The spreaders come in either row crop or tandem walking axle models, and have weight capacities of up to 12 tons.

"What sets us apart from other brands is our flexibility in design and fabrication" says Mike Hilderbrand, President of Dalton Ag, Inc. "We are capable of customizing our products, particularly toolbars, to fit the requirements of specific customers and applications."

Last year, Dalton Ag completed a 32,000 s.f. addition to its Lenox plant, including a state of the art powder coat paint system. "The difference between the powder coat and the old liquid paint is like night and day," said Hilderbrand. "Because there is no cure time required for powder, our manufacturing cycle time has been reduced significantly. And it looks great, too!"

Dalton Ag has built a solid reputation on designing and fabricating farm equipment that is simple, durable and American. Dalton and Mobility are both names that farmers and dealers can count on.

For more information, contact Dalton Ag at 1-800-342-7498, email [office@daltonag.com](mailto:office@daltonag.com), or visit [www.daltonag.com](http://www.daltonag.com). 

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## Wireless Grain

## Temperature Monitoring

**T**echnology abounds in agriculture today – variable rate fertilizer applications, auto steering, precision planting, GPS spraying and harvesting to name a few. Managing your stored grain now offers some exciting new technology as well.

A producer can monitor stored grain without leaving the house or from any location that has Internet service. Tri-States Grain Conditioning, Inc., headquartered in Spirit Lake, Iowa, now offers two wireless systems that can make monitoring stored grain easier and faster than getting that second cup of coffee. Using TSGC temperature cables to give a complete temperature profile of their bins, producers will be able to monitor their grain more efficiently and with greater accuracy than ever before.

The SafeTrack Wireless Grain Temperature Monitoring System can be programmed to automatically take temperatures and save them for later viewing. Grain depth, approximate bushels and automated exhaust fan operation functions

are also available. Grain temperature history reports are also available to be printed out. Each individual bin can be set to specialized temperature parameters to accommodate various crops. Instead of taking **2 to 3** hours for a large operation, reading temperatures can now be done in **minutes!**

This wireless system utilizes line of sight (up to 1 mile) radio communication between the bins and the base transmitter to monitor temperatures from TSGC temperature cables (as well as grain depth). It requires power at the transmitter location on the bin, and may be run either manually or automatically, locally or over the network/Internet, for anytime, anywhere monitoring.

Another option is the GrainTRAC remote bin monitoring system. This system utilizes a cell phone modem to transfer data from the TSGC temperature cables to an internet website, [www.wagnet.net](http://www.wagnet.net). The producer is given a user name and a password to ensure privacy. Once logged onto the website, the producer can view a graphical display of his temperatures or a numerical display. Temperature parameters (minimum and maximum) can be set for each bin, as well as rate of rise temperature over a designated time period. Temperature history reports are available for print out. Options include remote fan start/stop and a weather station with features such as temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and rain measurement. Alerts are sent via email or text message.

The requirements for the GrainTRAC system include temperature cables, cell phone coverage at the bin site and electrical power. An annual access fee to the internet website is charged (a low per year minimum). Convenience is the selling point of this system because a producer can monitor his grain temperatures from anywhere via the Internet.

Either of these wireless systems will save you time and money, while providing peace of mind about the true condition of your grain. Knowing your grain temperatures, while watching for changes, is the only safe way to monitor the condition of your grain.

TSGC, Inc. is one of the largest suppliers of grain temperature monitoring equipment in the world. Headquartered in America's Heartland, our administration, fabricating, sales and service divisions are located in Spirit Lake, Iowa. We have an extensive network of contractors representing our products and services nationwide and in over forty countries. **TSGC, Inc. is dedicated to serving you.** For more information or a free, no obligation quote, contact Tri-States Grain Conditioning, Inc. at 800.438.8367, [TSGC@TSGCinc.com](mailto:TSGC@TSGCinc.com) or [www.TSGCinc.com](http://www.TSGCinc.com)



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Being a major OEM Supplier with more than 100 models, Mud Hog has a custom solution for whatever you drive. Whether it's a Challenger, John Deere, Case, Gleaner, Massey Ferguson, New Holland or just about any other brand.

Thousands of equipment dealers throughout North America can install your Mud Hog rear-wheel drive system in 48 hours or less. What's more, every Mud Hog comes backed by a comprehensive warranty and a dedicated customer service team ready to go to work for you.



You probably already know that Mud Hog hydraulic rear-wheel drive systems power your equipment through wet, muddy soil conditions unlike anything else. But you might not be familiar with the many additional benefits a Mud Hog delivers in all climates – wet or dry – allowing you to:

- Harvest faster, with more speed and traction in any weather
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- Supplier for OEM RWD Systems

# The REVEAL 4-N-1 is the ultimate arena and ground prep tool.

The REVEAL 4-N-1 is a rugged, hard-working tool designed to make ground preparation and maintenance easier and less time consuming. The unit is made in different sizes to fit your needs. It has a versatile three-point hitch hook up. The front chisel plows are adjusted hydraulically to dig 0-7.5 inches. The channel iron beams are designed at angles to move material for leveling and to allow you to get at those hard to reach areas. The harrow beam can be adjusted hydraulically separate from the chisel plows to a depth of 3 1/2 inches to break up material, as well as aerate it. The roller works in conjunc-

tion with the harrow beam; to further pulverize and firm down the material. All of these functions can be done at the same time from the comfort of your tractor seat. (Additional features are available.) Ground is just made of dirt, but great footing is made by the REVEAL 4-N-1. Don't be fooled by imitators, go with the original, still the best, the REVEAL 4-N-1.

The REVEAL 4-N-1 is the only tool endorsed by the NBHA and the ANHA.

Call 937-444-2609 for more information or visit us at [www.reveal4-n-1.com](http://www.reveal4-n-1.com)



## Power Fold Auger by PWR EZ SYSTEMS Combines Safety and Convenience!

The combine power fold auger kit that you've been asking for is finally here! No more climbing up the back of the combine, over the engine, and into the slippery grain tank, every time you need to fold the fountain auger up or down.

You no longer have to take the risk of falling and hurting yourself while climbing up and down, or slipping on the grain that's still in the grain tank. It's just NOT worth it!

The PWR EZ SYSTEMS Power Fold Auger is operated right from the comfort and safety of the operator's seat. And, you have full view of what's going on while raising and lowering the auger just by looking out the rear cab window.

The interference that could happen with the drive hubs has been overcome by replacing the top auger bearing with a hex ID bearing, spacer, and a hex stub shaft, that allow the auger to move up far enough so that the two drives do not interfere with each other, but is still held in place on the drive pilot. All the parts are included in the kit.

PWR EZ SYSTEMS LLC was created out of the need to make farm equipment safer and more efficient. Jeff Bohn, founder, has many years of experience in farming as well as working with different equipment companies.

Over the years, the staff at PWR EZ SYSTEMS have witnessed some very dangerous situations while working for other farmers in the area, and the hazards associated with farming are staggering. Bohn states "We believe that this one attachment can and will save lives, and we have worked tirelessly over the last 8 years to come up with a solution that will make folding this auger safer."

Their first product, the Power Fold Auger, was released for sale to the public in 2014 and is now patented. This product is for use with all John Deere STS and S-Series Combines. A new Power Fold Auger has also been developed for the

Case IH 10, 20 & 30 Series combines, and will be available to see on a video and order shortly from their website at [www.PWREZSYSTEMS.com](http://www.PWREZSYSTEMS.com).



They have also just recently introduced a power swing ladder to the operator's cab that makes swinging the ladder into transport position, much easier. No longer do you have to remember to swing the ladder in before you enter the cab, or struggle with it in rain or freezing snow. Swinging it is controlled from the safety and comfort of the operator's seat, or while standing on the ground, safely away from the ladder, when wanting to store the combine.

PWR EZ SYSTEMS continues to research and develop new tools for farmers and their farm equipment. All new products will be released on their website when they are available for the public, under the products pages on their website at [www.PWREZSYSTEMS.com](http://www.PWREZSYSTEMS.com).



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## ANBO Manufacturing Announces New Rancher Series Grapples

**A**NBO Manufacturing, leading manufacturer of grapples and blade attachments for use in agriculture, forestry and construction has announced a new series of grapples designed specifically for the modern ranch and livestock farms.



Made of tough A-572 alloy steel, the Rancher Series grapples come in sizes from 69 inches to 94 inches and can be made to fit virtually any carrier. It features an extra wide 75-inch opening for picking up large round bales, square bales or large brush piles. The 8-inch tine spacing provides the ability to forward and back rake fine hay and debris into easily manageable piles of material that can be picked up and relocated.

Rancher Series grapples also feature serrated edges which provide an extra strong bite and hold on loads, preventing them from slipping. Complete with 3,000 psi heavy duty welded cylinders, the Rancher Series grapples have outstanding clamping power for secure loads.

Long-time rancher Gerald Scholz brags about his new ANBO Rancher Series Grapple.

"My family has owned property in Okanogan County for decades," Scholz says. "They've purchased numerous ranching products to toil, till, and transform the land – but never one that works this well!"

"The 8 inch spacing between the tines is perfect for picking up both small and large materials," Scholz said. "And, as another great feature, there are wedges on the front of the fork which will actually lift your dirt up, hold larger rocks tightly, then let the dirt fall out; it's like a sifting effect."

The Rancher Series grapple provides livestock professionals a hard working tool to reduce labor, increase efficiency and to simplify projects and chores. Great for maintaining fence rows, pulling fence posts, carrying fence posts, feeding livestock, placing heavy bales into feeders without damaging the feeders, picking large amounts of silage or manure and cleaning feedlots and pens.



# Slick Spot Farm Truck & Auto

Slick Spot officially opened its first shop in 2007, but Richard has been in the farming and trucking industry for over 40 years. As an Owner/Operator of several trucks in northeast Colorado, it did not take very long to realize the need for a reliable and affordable repair shop. The company was built with the customer in mind; to get them back out on the field or on the road in a timely manner and at an affordable price.



Fort Morgan location

On September 1st of 2014, the vision for another shop came true and the shop in Fort Morgan, Colorado opened its doors. It was an immediate success and soon a bigger building was needed. On August 1st of 2016, the vision became reality and our shop opened on the east side of Fort Morgan. The Fort Morgan facility is run by Richard's middle son, Mike.



Mike and family

Specializing in maintenance and auto repair, we at Slick Spot Farm Truck & Auto pride ourselves on our fast, friendly and efficient service. We know how frustrating it is to be stranded, which is why we have emergency services available 24 hours per day, seven days per week. From a bicycle or a truck to a train loco or a trailer, our trained and certified team can handle it all. All of our mechanics are trained for all makes and models, and we provide top quality diesel repair.

Slick Spot can also help with your trailer rebuild or repair, as well as salvage your truck and provide quality farm equipment. We also offers tires of all sizes and alignments for cars, trucks and trailers.

For more information, visit: [www.slickspotfarmandtruck.com](http://www.slickspotfarmandtruck.com)

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Often imitated, innovation begins at Jones Manufacturing! Jones Manufacturing was the first with a hydraulic opening tub (we built our first unit in 1960), the first with an electronic governor, and the first with a hydrafork. From the single discharge auger, to the rubber lagged top-drive elevator no other grinder has the features, capacity and durability of the Jones Mighty Giant.

New products and new features can sometimes lead to new problems. At Jones Manufacturing, we maintain a relationship with local operators to be sure that all features and designs are field-tested in the same environment our customers face. This same relationship gives us important feedback so that new designs and innovations are the result of experience, not marketing hype.

All Jones Mighty Giant Hay and Wood Grinders are of commercial, heavy-duty quality, designed for the high capacity grinding at a low cost per ton. With a Mighty Giant, you not only get a host of operator friendly features, but also the security of years of durability. We're not the first tub grinder company in the world, but we're confident that we are the last one you'll need.

For more information on the Mighty Giant Line by Jones Manufacturing Co., please visit us online at [www.mightygiant.com](http://www.mightygiant.com), or call us at 402-528-3861. If you're in the neighborhood, stop in and visit us at 1486 12th Road, Beemer, NE 68716.



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*"I used SEA-90 Natural Fertilizer on my corn, soybeans and pasture during a drought and still had great results. The plants showed profuse root growth! My cattle that ate the grain we produced plus SEA-90 Essential Elements mineral are much healthier. We're sold on SEA-90!" - Chris H., Central City, NE*



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# Economize on Equipment Costs with a New Kit from Fehr Cab Interiors Co.

**A**s new tractors continue to be offered in the ag-market, the cost of new equipment has soared, and it can be hard to budget for upgrading to the latest and the greatest. By installing a new cab interior, it gives you the feeling of having an updated tractor for the next growing season while providing a higher resale value in the future when you do decide to update your equipment line. Trim your spending budget by making a low cost investment on a new cab interior to keep your equipment in the best of shape and looking like new. If the time does come to update or trade in, you want to get top dollar out of your trade in. By installing a **Fehr Cab Interiors** kit, it gives the purchaser the assurance that you cared about your tractor. By freshening up the cab, the value of the tractor can increase up to 15%.

If you have a tractor over 15 years old, the interior has started to show its age and is falling apart. The vinyl gets saggy, and the foam lining in the cab loses all acoustical properties and starts to harden and deteriorate. **Fehr Cab** has done testing to prove a significant difference in decibels when comparing new and old acoustical foam panels. By replacing the acoustical foam, it silences the high pitched sound decibels that cause damage to your hearing.



JD 55/60 Srs on Plastic

**Fehr Cab** is excited to introduce the “Anyone Can Install” cab kits to their ever-expanding product line. The John Deere 2 wheel drive 30, 40, 50, 55/60 series Sound Guard cabs are available finished onto pre-formed plastic for much easier installation! Also, for the sound guard cabs, the replacement plastic fender fronts and air vent bezels are now available. The IH 86 & IH-88 headliners are also available as a pre-formed “Anyone Can Install” new kit. These new panels will save you up to 4 hours in installation time and you will no longer have the nuisance of having wrinkles develop and adhesive drying too quickly.

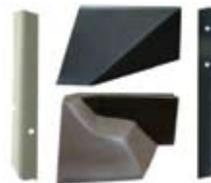
Most farmers can install these parts into his or her tractor, using **Fehr Cab** do-it-yourself kits for over 700 different model cabs. Fehr Cab kits are available with pre-cut, pre-sewn, pre-formed panels and complete instructions and whatever is necessary to install kits. **Fehr Cab** strives to replicate the original vinyl, foam thickness, quality custom fit and overall appearance in all interiors

offered. The new interior kits make the cab atmosphere so much more pleasant, clean, and quiet. **Fehr Cab** installs these interior kits in local customers’ cabs to insure that each part fits and every kit is easy to install. To see how easy our kits are to install, check out our “installation videos” at [www.fehrcab.com](http://www.fehrcab.com). Quality materials and superior service is what makes a **Fehr Cab** kit the best value.

Currently, we are adding new items to our growing product line. Some of the newer items recently introduced are: Complete Seal Kits for Doors and Windows (pre-mitered and contoured to fit); Construction equipment interiors; Cat Challenger interior components, Case IH MX 100-270 interior components, John Deere 5200 srs, 6120-8530 model interiors and John Deere newer model S series Combine sound dampening kits. **Improvements are consistently introduced and customer comments are taken seriously.** Over the past 25 years, we have learned to listen to our customers’ requests and concerns to contribute to continued quality and affordability to stay competitive. To make a difference in sound control in your cab, contact **Fehr Cab Interiors Co.** anytime for information or to order.

**Fehr Cab Interiors Co.** 10116 N. 1900 E. Rd. Fairbury, IL 61739 ph: 815-692-3355 or fax: 815-692-2574 sales@fehrcab.com www.fehrcab.com

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# livestock



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# “Catcher” Makes Calf Work Easier

If you own an ATV or UTV and have cattle, Dan Leo has an attachment to make working with young calves safer and easier.

“Safety is the number one goal of our durably built and user-friendly catchers,” says Leo, president of Safety Zone Calf Catchers. “The traditional way to tag and process calves can be dangerous and often takes more than one person to do the job. With our calf catcher it’s easier on the producer, the cow and the calf. One person, who can operate an ATV or UTV, can safely work calves.”

The calf catcher is a durably constructed steel cage that mounts with ball hitches on the front and back. It works well in all types of terrains and conditions. With the front gate locked open, the driver approaches the calf and captures it in the cage by shutting the spring-loaded gate. The producer enters the pen through the open side by stepping from the ATV or UTV and moves the calf to the rear holding area where he can tag, vaccinate, weigh and even band the babies while protected from the mother

cow. When finished the producer releases the calf out the back to its mother.

“Traditionally, producers have to get to the calves early after birth otherwise it can be difficult to catch and even hang on to them, and then it can require two or more people depending on the protective behavior of the mother cow while the processing takes place,” Leo notes. “With our calf catcher unit, one person can catch calves, even if they are a week or older when they have plenty of run in them. Another benefit is the calf holder located at the back of the catcher. It not only secures the calf for processing, but works very well for pairing out, as the cow can see and smell her baby and will then easily follow to another pasture or calving barn in inclement weather. Cows will follow the calf virtually anywhere!”



One person can now easily and safely process calves with Leo's Safety Zone Calf Catcher.

The ATV catchers sell for \$2,095 plus freight shipping. Catchers designed for UTVs are an additional \$450. Other options available include a waterproof, digital scale - especially beneficial to seedstock producers and a tow hitch that aids long distance moving.

The company sells directly to cattlemen but welcomes dealership inquiries.

“Built in both Nebraska and South Dakota plants, the calf catcher will last for generations, Sales have stretched across the U.S. with exports to Canada, Australia and France.” Leo adds.

To see it in action, check out the video on the company’s website.

Contact: Safety Zone Calf Catchers, LLC, 1146 7th Ave, Dannebrog, Neb. 68831 Phone: (877)505-0914; [www.safezonecalfcatchers.com](http://www.safezonecalfcatchers.com)

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**Jim Strand, CA** - "We really like our catcher extremely well. It will cover any type of ground, and I especially like the wide, front gate as it makes it very easy to catch the older calves. The calf holder platform is a really good feature. Bottom-line, we are very satisfied with it and really like how it works!"

**Cody Lee, MT** - "We have concluded that buying the calf catcher was the best use of money that we have made in the last twenty years. It was a huge time and labor saver, and simply made calving a much easier task. It is a very well made piece of equipment, and handled all of my concerns with rough terrain and ditches with flying colors."

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as their standard. They believe that the decision whether or not to use the insecticide should be left up to the individual



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The Shade Haven company is the world's leader in innovative mobile shade structures for agricultural use. Shade Haven first introduced the model SH1200 in 2012 to meet a burning need in the fast-developing managed intensive grazing movement.



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# PBI Parlor Systems Leading the Way in the Dairy Industry

Operating from their office in Portales, New Mexico, PBI Parlor Systems is a leading manufacturer of milking stalls and equipment for dairies around the world.

The owner, Steve Peacock, has a strong dairy business background, and an even stronger pride in his company's products. His commitment to improving dairy profits and delivering excellent customer service is unmistakable. And each of the company's employees shares his dedication.

Of course it all starts with an efficient stall design - their stalls are engineered to be the best solution for maintaining cow safety and dairy efficiency. In fact the company came into existence in the late 80's after designing a parallel stall at the request of a local dairyman.

His stall design was a winner! Good news travels fast, and word of this design spread quickly from person to person, which led to more parlor business.

Building on his design and engineering experience, the entire PBI crew

continues to produce and install innovative parlor stalls all over the world. To ensure the quality of the final product, they control every stage of production. Dairies of all sizes, from small family-dairies to large mega-dairies have been fitted with PBI stalls.

Because PBI designs and builds the stalls, they are custom fitted to your unique requirements. They use heavy duty galvanized and stainless steels to provide a durable yet sleek stall with no rough edges to hurt cows and profits. Performance excellence is ensured by their expert project installer and crew, which they make available for every installation. You will assuredly receive a quality, hassle-free installation, and on-going support.

Value is built into every PBI stall design. Low installation and maintenance costs make PBI stalls a valuable investment for dairies of all sizes. Plus their durable construction, smooth operation and labor saving design provide ongoing increased profits.

Innovation is what started PBI. Their

stall designs are adaptable to suit the needs of dairies of all sizes, no matter the environment. They are compatible with all brands of milking equipment. And though innovation started PBI, service is what maintains and grows the company. PBI Parlor Systems takes pride in its continued commitment to meet and exceed their customers' needs. From the free quote they give you, through the completed installation, they maintain a hands-on approach that delivers unrivaled customer service.

But their customer support doesn't end with the sale. PBI's on-going personal contact with their clients and easy accessibility cater to meeting your needs now and later. They choose to maintain close relationships with their clients. Client feedback about stall performance is essential to PBI's commitment to developing and refining products that satisfy the needs of dairy farmers all over the globe.

For more information, call PBI Parlor Systems at 800-295-5677 or visit [www.PBIParlorSystems.com](http://www.PBIParlorSystems.com)



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The Elite Parallel Stall is our signature stall

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# Beefmasters Excel in Feed Efficiency Evaluation

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) conducted a feed efficiency evaluation at the U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (USMARC) in Clay Center, Neb., on 18 beef cattle breeds. The feed efficiency test results ranked the Beefmaster breed second for Average Daily Gain (ADG) and Dry Matter Intake (DMI) in both steers and heifers. Only one other breed ranked in the top five in ADG and DMI for both sexes in this study and they were below the mark set by Beefmasters.

## Details about the evaluation:

Ranking	Breed	Steers ADG, DMI
1	Limousin	0.206
2	Beefmaster	0.203
3	Chiangus	0.13
3	Maine Anjou	0.13
4	Santa Gertrudis	0.119
5	Gelbvieh	0.107
6	Brahman	0.1
7	Hereford	0.099
8	Braunvieh	0.073
9	Charolais	0.07
9	Salers	0.07
9	Shorthorn	0.07
10	Tarentaise	0.05
11	Simmental	0.027
12	Angus	0
13	Brangus	-0.002
14	Red Angus	-0.014
15	South Devon	-0.041

The 18 breed USMARC study evaluated 5,606 head of cattle (composed of finishing steers and growing replacement heifers) for DMI, ADG and Post Weaning Gain (PWG). DMI and ADG data were recorded over 62 to 148 day periods for both steers and heifers. PWG was calculated by dividing gain from weaning to yearling

weights by the number of days between the weights. Individual animal feed intake data was measured daily as a key component of the evaluation. All animals used were from the USMARC germplasm evaluation project.

Using the Angus breed as a base of zero (0), the other breeds were compared back to the Angus as a baseline for both steers and heifers, where they were evaluated for efficiency using ADG and PWG during feed intake data collection. Beefmasters ranked second for ADG in both steers and heifers.

## Feed Efficiency Adds Value

Ranking	Breed	Heifers ADG, DMI
1	South Devon	0.203
2	Beefmaster	0.096
3	Hereford	0.094
4	Maine Anjou	0.031
5	Charolais	0.03
6	Shorthorn	0.025
7	Limousin	0.017
8	Santa Gertrudis	0.012
9	Chiangus	0.008
10	Salers	0.002
11	Angus	0
12	Simmental	-0.004
12	Red Angus	-0.004
13	Brahman	-0.023
14	Gelbvieh	-0.027
15	Brangus	-0.049
16	Braunvieh	-0.078
17	Tarentaise	-0.081

Feed efficiency is important for all sectors of the industry. Cattlemen have known this for a long time. The challenge has always been finding a cost effective way to measure feed efficiency in individual animals. Over the past decade new technologies, such as GrowSafe Systems LLC, have emerged as a means to collect detailed individual animal feed intake

data, from which individual animal feed conversions can be extracted. With the inclusion of this powerful new individual intake and conversion data, researchers are now conducting exciting new feed efficiency evaluations which are identifying more efficient animals. When one considers the impact of adding the power of genomics to the equation, the prospects of making rapid genetic improvements in the area of feed efficiency is exciting.

## Feed Efficiency Impacts Cow-Calf Sector

Improved feed efficiency relates directly to the cow-calf operator. Annual cow maintenance costs are the largest expense in all cow-calf programs. Replacing large appetite and high maintenance cows with more feed efficient females impacts the bottom line by reducing annual cow costs. In operations where supplemental feeding is required for the cow herd, more feed efficient cows post cost savings to the bottom line.

While current research is focused on measuring feed efficiency, science is also unraveling the relationship between efficiency on feed vs. efficiency on pasture. Some limited research has shown that the same cattle that are efficient on feed will also be more efficient on forage. That remains to be proven in large scale projects, but scientists are working to solve the pasture efficiency question.

Some efficiency researchers hypothesize that specific efficiency traits, such as Residual Feed Intake (RFI), is a maternal trait. If that is correct, the way ranchers make mating decisions



in the future could be greatly impacted because selecting for feed efficiency would become as common as using birth weight EPDs.

### Feed Efficiency in the Feedyard

The impact of feed efficiency on cattle feeders is obvious. Identifying genetics that gain more while eating less feed is a recipe for profitability. Over the past 10 years, the beef industry has focused almost exclusively on Quality Grade in our finished cattle. The push to improve marbling to earn the carcass premiums that come with it, coupled with relatively inexpensive corn, has distracted many cattle feeders away from the importance of feed conversion to total profitability. Do you remember when the ethanol subsidies pushed corn to record prices? That was the last time the industry was vocal about the need for more feed efficient cattle.

Cattle with better feed conversions have fewer days on feed and lower cost of gain, resulting in serious cost savings for their owners. These feed efficiency upgrades come with even more value in the case of Beefmasters when you factor in advantages for dressing percentage, which lead to more pounds to add to your grid pricing worksheet. It takes a historically large Choice/Select spread to override the value adding combination of cattle that convert on feed in the mid 5:1 range, post over 3.5 ADG, dress in the 64%-65% range and hang up predominantly Yield Grade 2 carcasses. Beefmaster steers are doing just that in feedyards across the country, while still Quality Grading at acceptable levels.

Beefmasters are gaining attention as the beef industry begins to seek out efficiency genetics to bridge the gap to optimal, cost effective production practices. Beefmasters have been long regarded as a versatile maternal breed, but this feed efficiency study points out that Beefmasters bring significant value drivers to the cattle feeder as well.

This study, buoyed by individual animal feed intake technology, points out major feed efficiency differences between breeds. For years Beefmasters have been recognized as solid feedyard performers with superior health, lower cost of gain and superior feed conversion rates. Feed efficiency, coupled with higher yielding and improved dressing percentages, adds a new layer

of added value over the top of today's grid pricing mechanisms.

### Crossbreeding with Beefmasters

Efficiency doesn't stop at the feed bunk. Beefmasters add efficiency through a powerful heterosis kick that will improve fertility, longevity, health, improved pay weights and overall profitability. Thanks to the strong Bos indicus base, Beefmasters are truly unique among composite breeds. According to geneticists, Beefmaster post 63% retained heterosis which is a great advantage on the maternal side.

Beefmaster bulls used on high percentage Angus cows yield results that keep the cowman in business and the feedyard happy. This popular cross anchors the maternal equation with progeny being 75% British and 25% ear. Enough Bos indicus to ramp up maternal heterosis, while maintaining market and carcass acceptability of the Angus/Hereford/Short-horn influence. Being predominantly black-hided and showing very little ear or navel, calves of this cross consistently earn branded premiums that other black-



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hided calves earn. The biggest difference is the extra pounds of pay weight and replacement females that stay in the herd significantly longer than straight *Bos taurus* cows. All of this thanks to heterosis.

#### Adaptability

The versatility and adaptability of Beefmasters is eye opening. Many breeds talk about how adaptable they are, but Beefmasters prove it. Two of the largest markets for Beefmaster bulls are the high desert of the Northwest region and the Gulf Coast region, which stretches from Mexico all the way to Florida and the Atlantic coastline. Ranchers in these wildly different environments use Beefmasters to anchor the maternal needs for their commercial operations.

In the high desert ranchers are able to utilize more country simply because hardier Beefmaster cross cows will travel farther to water sources than high percentage British cows. The willingness to cover more country, utilizing native pasture and thrive in higher elevations creates efficiency and provides great value to ranchers.

Gulf Coast conditions provide a totally different set of challenges for ranchers. Hot, very humid conditions with lots of low quality forage, coupled with unprecedented insect and parasite loads makes ranching in this region very challenging. The challenges of maintaining body condition scores and getting cows bred back make Beefmasters a great choice in this

region. The bonus of heavier calf pay weights due to Beefmaster performance is also a nice upgrade.

Beefmaster bull users in these two very different environments tend to be large scale commercial herds. The feeder calves produced from these large herds go directly into some of the beef industry's best known branded beef programs. Beefmaster sired steers have earned a reputation for meeting the carcass specifications for these demanding programs and being the most profitable cattle in those supply chains.

For cattlemen facing the challenges of fescue country, Brahman influenced genetics have been documented to handle the effects of fescue toxicity better than any other genetic combination. The efficiency advantage Beefmaster offers farmers in the fescue belt is impressive. Combining the breed complementarity crossbreeding effect of Beefmaster with the predominantly Angus herds of this region yields great value, all thanks to the proven attributes of heterosis.

#### A Systems Approach to Efficiency

The key to profitability is identifying the genetics and management scenarios that fit the marketing program or supply chain that your calves will eventually wind up in. In other words streamlining your product to fit the system. There are some basic steps every cattleman can take to increase efficiency. The industry has known about

these tools for some time, but have not correctly capitalized on them.

Crossbreeding is the simplest way to implement efficiency and will yield the greatest return for commercial cattlemen. The benefits of direct and maternal heterosis have been documented time and time again. Implementing an organized, controlled crossbreeding program will make your entire operation more efficient. Including Beefmasters as a key ingredient will allow you to squeeze more profit out of your program. 

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We offer 3 sizes ranging from the **Standard:** 40-50 cow/calf capacity, **Large:** 80-100 cow/calf capacity, and our **Super Large:** 140 cow/calf capacity. Our corrals offer the most versatility in pen size and configuration. John McDonald is the original designer of the Rawhide Portable Corrals and has really outdone himself with this new design.

The Processor has a permanent sheeted adjustable alley to aid with working your livestock on site and in the field. The adjustable alley can be sized from 30" down to 16" either manually or hydraulically. We offer the option of mounting a head gate to the end of the alley for easy, on site cattle processing. You can even add a self contained loading chute to the system.

If you like to lure your cattle with feed, a pickup can be driven completely through and out the opposite end of the Rawhide Processor. Each panel section has its own solid rubber wheel, resulting in no flats. Our corral has several man/pass gates to aid in human movement about the system. The Rawhide can form 2, 3 and even 4 pens to aid with sorting your livestock.

The Rawhide Processor is easy to set up, utilizing electric over hydraulic cylinders on the back end and the front of the unit: The 16" transport wheels are permanent, retracting up and down with the flip of a switch. No more unpinning the wheels and sliding them off the axels and rolling out of the way. This model comes as a gooseneck only and there is a self contained power unit with long life marine battery and a solar panel mounted atop.

Please check out our website for more information and to view our video: [www.rawhideportablecorral.com](http://www.rawhideportablecorral.com) or call 785-263-3436.

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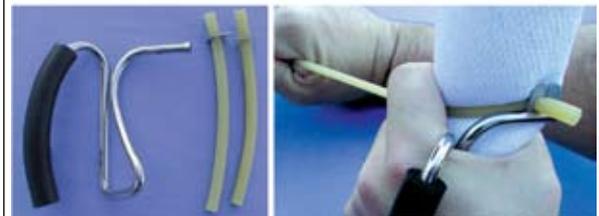
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ProMow® reel mowers are mowers that have blades which spin vertically (or north to south). This allows the grass to be cut in a scissor-like action rather than a whipping-like cut from a rotary mower that results in jagged edges. Typically mowers also leave piles of grass clippings that need to be raked and bagged afterwards. ProMow® reel mowers, however, evenly disperse the grass clippings, which contain essential nutrients needed for your yard. These combined effects result in greener grass and healthier turf.

"What normally took me over 7 hours, now takes me about one hour," said Joe Saggars of Indiana. "Thanks to ProMow® I now have one of the best looking lawns in Noble County."



With the national and international success of the ProMow® reel mowers, we are always striving to help our customers achieve a cleaner cut in a fraction of the time. "Our mission is to allow people to save time and money, while providing the best product for a beautiful lawn," said Jared Davis, President of ProMow®, Inc.

This year, ProMow® turns 23 years old and has a long life ahead. "We are bringing new products to the market that we know our customers are going to love based on their comments and suggestions," says Davis. "This year, we created a whole new reel, which will help cut Bermuda and Zoysia grass better. We are also offering a bolt on sprayer kit so that our customers can now spray pesky weeds at the same time." ProMow® has also added a ball hitch adaptor to the lineup for an easier hookup. "Money-Saving Mowers: A Quicker Cut with less Gas & Emissions."

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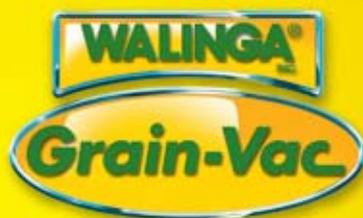
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