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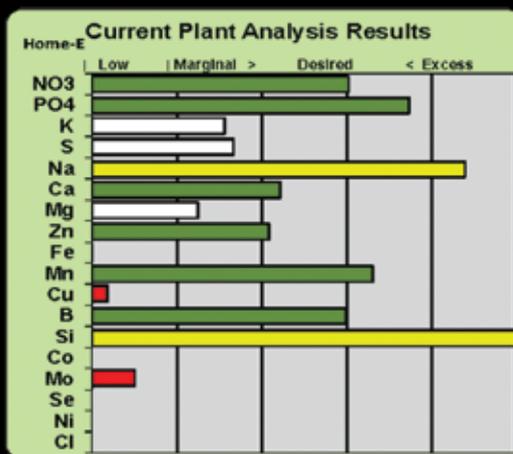
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Rocky Mountain/Heartland • spring-summer edition 2018

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# agriculture



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**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

# 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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# 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 the 2 full business days and either clear the described dig area or mark their facilities within the described dig area in some fashion within 2 feet of the actual facility location.

PLEASE , for your safety and for the safety of the general public, and the protection of our vital underground infrastructure. CALL 811 at least 2 full business days prior to beginning, ANY excavation activity.

Submitted by One-Call of Wyoming's Administration Office  
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## Ubyly Bean Knife and Ubyly Peanut Digger Blades Give You the Advant-EDGE!

Hundreds of hard edible bean farmers have been taking advantage of the Ubyly bean knife for over sixty years.

### Attention bean, seed and organic farmers

While maintaining the highest standard of quality, Ubyly bean knives are still the best way to cut the tap roots and get a higher quality bean while producing fluffier windrows, reducing labor, reducing stones and dirt in windrows, and aiding in your combine's overall performance.

There has been some speculation about the acceptability of the direct harvest system due to the high losses of beans, therefore keep using the Ubyly Bean Knife for the best possible cut and quality for your money. Do what hundreds have already done. Make Ubyly Your Advant-EDGE.

### Peanut farmers rejoice!

Ubyly Peanut Digger Blade Manufacturing, Inc., a subsidiary of Ubyly Bean Knife Mfg., Inc., received a patent for the Ubyly Lifting Fingers, stainless steel lifting fingers that are flat and curved upward to better guide peanuts up on to the top of the elevator during the digging process.

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# Frosty Berseem Clover: A Cold-Tolerant Cover Crop & Forage Option

**Y**ou've probably heard about Frosty Berseem Clover (*Trifolium Alexandrinum*), the first cold-tolerant berseem clover. In early testing, Frosty withstood lows of 5° F without snow cover, thus earning its "frosty" claim to fame. It combines the best of berseem clover's Mediterranean genetics and adds a later maturity, cold tolerance, productivity, and nutritional forage value.



Frosty offers planting flexibility. Because of its quick establishment, Frosty can be incorporated into a cover cropping rotation to help suppress weeds. It can be underseeded in small grains in the spring because of its frost tolerance, and it can be used in a mixture for interseeding into standing row crops in summer or fall. Speaking of fall, Frosty will grow deeper into the fall than regular berseem.

With the potential for four tons of dry matter per acre in a two-cut system and a crude protein content of up to 21.5 percent, Frosty also is an excellent non-bloating option for direct grazing livestock. Another obvious appeal for a legume like Frosty is, of course, nitrogen fixation. Trials at Penn State showed that Frosty Berseem Clover fixed up to 150 pounds of nitrogen per acre.

Frosty is growing in popularity as an alfalfa-boosting companion. In fact, Frosty shares alfalfa's dry-down characteristics, remaining green for forage or hay. To make the most of Frosty's companionability with alfalfa, plant using a seed mixture ratio of 80 percent alfalfa to 20 percent Frosty; however, thanks to Frosty's cold tolerance, you can frost seed it directly on frozen ground before planting alfalfa. Frost seeding gives Frosty a headstart for rapid establishment in spots where alfalfa has winter killed.

Frosty prefers slightly alkaline loam alkaline, or "basic," soils, which is perfect for the western U.S., but really loves silty to medium-loam soils. It also produces more biomass than crimson clover on heavy soils. When planting with a drill, use a depth of ¼ inch at a rate of 15 pounds per acre for monoculture and about six pounds per acre in mixes.

As a berseem clover, Frosty has a low hard-seed count, which means you're not likely to get overrun by unwanted Frosty, and you would need to replant for future plantings.

**To learn more, contact Albert Lea Seed (800-352-5247) or visit our website at [www.alseed.com](http://www.alseed.com)**

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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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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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"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.

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# Miracles of Balanced Plant Nutrition

## Rising Costs, Falling Commodity Prices and Reduced Availability of Farm Loans Demand Smarter Farming Practices With Higher and More Efficient Production Per Acre.

Noel Garcia, CCA Technical Director, Texas Plant & Soil Lab

Typically, most growers have post-harvest or early spring soil tests performed then apply pre-plant fertilizer based upon the recommendations of the soil report and assume that the one application will pretty much supply the crop's nutritional requirements for the remainder of the season with perhaps supplementing Nitrogen sometime mid-season.

There are several problems with this approach:

1. Much can happen to your fertilizer after it hits the ground to make it unavailable to the crop:
  - A. Your native soil chemistry can rapidly tie-up fertilizer components into chemical compounds which the plant can't absorb.
  - B. Irrigation water high in mineral salts not only changes your soil's chemistry and damages its structure, but it also neutralizes plant-absorbability of many fertilizers by changing their chemistries into plant-unavailable compounds. Water quality is really critical in spray mixes or fertigation.
- "What's In Your Water Becomes Part Of Your Soil."<sup>TM</sup>
- C. Chemical interactions between the fertilizer components themselves can render them unavailable to the plant.
- D. Loss due to the weather – leaching due to heavy rain, high soil temperatures, etc.
- E. Volatilization of Nitrogen into the atmosphere – especially true when next year's N is applied in the Fall.

The pre-season soil test provides a starting point for determining what the soil needs to get the crop off to a good start. The soil may have several issues that need to be dealt with in a coordinated manner to ensure the critical early part of the growing season is managed for the best results. But after that...

2. Nutritional demands of many crops vary widely throughout the growing season. ***The wrong fertilizer in the wrong form applied in the wrong place in the wrong amounts at the wrong time is simply wasted – along with your money*** – often leaching into nearby waterways.

But worse – your crop ends up being malnourished resulting in yields and quality often far below your crop's potential.

***And even worse***, crop malnourishment results in a stressed crop, making it vulnerable to diseases and insects (requiring insecticides and fungicides) – and requiring more water, making it more susceptible to drought and heat – and to hail damage and to cold (late frosts). "Nature always eats the weakest with bugs and disease." ***So, you end up spending a whole lot more to get a lot less.***

3. Popular soil testing methods used today (Mehlich III and others) by most labs extract nutrient compounds that are both plant-available and unavailable to be interpreted for subsequent recommendations to you.

(Sidebar: Reports on some soils often show Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium or Magnesium as being consistently adequate or high, year-after-year. *How can that be?*)

Most of those soil nutrients that are not lost due to the weather are either absorbed by the crop or are converted to plant-unavailable compounds by native soil chemistry or chemical reactions between themselves. Calcareous soils, particularly, are very efficient in tying-up most nutrients, making them water-insoluble and not immediately available to the plant. Accordingly, these insoluble compounds can build up in the soil over time.

By including at least some of these plant-unavailable compounds in the laboratory analyses, the proportions of what is, and what is not, available to the plant cannot be measured with the popular extraction methods.



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This means that the lab has to estimate (guess) what is actually available to your crop, based upon its experience with your soil and render fertilization recommendations often based upon crop nutrition standards published in the early 1950s.

Because interpreting the analysis numbers from the soil testing methods used by most labs is highly-dependent upon the many variations in soil types its clients may have, it is not generally practical for the lab to attempt to calibrate lab numbers against actual plant uptake as can be done using an extraction method that duplicates the way plant roots take up nutrients in any soil.

*And the problem* with relying on 60+ year-old standards is that they do not reflect new varieties, new discoveries in plant nutrition and deteriorated soil quality (especially high soil salts, low organic matter content and collapsed structure).

**All this explains why your soil test reports give you pretty much the same results and recommendations, year-after-year – even as your yields and quality stay flat or decline while your costs go up.**

#### **Balanced and Complete Plant Nutrition Goes Way Beyond N-P-K**

About 18 elements have been identified so far as being necessary to plants – the number of which depends upon the plant. It has been only fairly recently that the importance of micronutrients (Iron, Copper, Zinc and Manganese) to plant health and quality started being promoted – and a few trace elements have been known for a while to be necessary for certain crops or their consumers. With ongoing research,

discoveries are being made regularly about the importance of heretofore ignored trace elements – most recently, SILICON.

A few years back, Silicon was acknowledged as being “beneficial” to mostly small grains, as it helps prevent lodging by hardening cell walls. However, ongoing research reveals that the benefits to very many crops and soils go far beyond that:

- Insects and disease are discouraged by hard cell walls.
- Research suggests that an extremely thin physical barrier forms on root hairs, thus discouraging nematodes and disease.
- Improves nutrient uptake.
- Improves drought resistance.
- Improves soil permeability.
- Many, many other benefits – and more to be discovered.

*But there's more:* A nutritionally-balanced crop is much better able to withstand stresses put upon it by adverse growing conditions (cold or hot, dark or bright, wet or dry, etc., weather). And – as we've experienced in the field, *maturation time can be shortened by as much as three weeks!*

**When we encounter a field with disease or insect problems, the first thing we want to know about is the complete nutritional status of the crop, especially the secondary nutrients, micronutrients and trace elements – as these problems are typically only symptoms of plant stress brought on by nutritional imbalances.**

But correcting nutritional problems alone won't necessarily fix a field already in distress – especially when there is disease or crop damage. Diseased or damaged plants require some intensive care.

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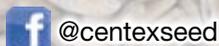
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## A Lot More Than Just The Elements and Basic Chemistry

*Biological Inoculants (microbes)*, sugars, hormones, humates, organic acids and more are game-changers and need to be an integral part of your season fertility program – but especially, **biological inoculants** because the populations and diversity of the native biology in many of today's soils have been decimated.

**Biology** – both soil and plant – **does a lot:**

- Converts plant-unavailable soil nutrients into plant-available.
- Controls soil and plant pathogens.
- Conditions soil, regenerating structure.
- Helps remediate salty soil.
- Transforms raw organic matter into humus – a material with complex physical and nutritional qualities – and releases plant-available nutrients during the process. Good levels of humus are essential for thriving plants.
- And a whole lot more...  
*Sugars* stimulate biological activity to

reduce excessive vegetative growth of plants caused by excess Nitrogen.

*Hormones and Organic Acids* are essential components of accelerating plant development – and are especially effective when dealing with crop damage (due to hail, etc.) and to assist in establishing crops in inclement springs.

We see many times a year, that these other things, in addition to basic nutrition, can restore a hailed-out crop within two or three weeks and very rapidly (often, in one season) turn bad fields from disasters into successes!

### Plant Tests

Plant tests provide you with “closed-loop feedback” about your crop's nutritional condition – because you really don't know about how much of your expensive fertilizer has been absorbed by the crop and you don't know what its immediate needs are for eventual end-of-season success.

Plant tests are actually tissue tests from leaves, petioles (leaf stems - plant sap) or the whole plant. What leaves/petioles are taken, the stage of growth, when they are taken and the crop nutritional standards used are critical as to how lab results are interpreted and reported. The primary difference between labs is in how the lab analyses are interpreted and the recommendations rendered.

Leaf or Petiole? Very generally speaking, leaves contain the historic nutrient content of the plant. Petioles contain the nutrients flowing (plant sap) within the plant as of the moment the sample was taken. With some crops, there are only leaves.

**Many farmers act only after they see visual signs of crop nutritional problems in the field.**

*But the problem there is, by the time problems can be actually seen with the eye, yields and quality have already been lost for the season.* The best that can be done by then is damage control – to hopefully prevent further loss. And “*Hidden Hunger*” is, by definition, invisible...

Plant analysis allows you to correct nutritional problems seven to 21 days *before* they can be seen in the field. Testing is done at specific stages of crop development, ranging from every week or two for fast-growing or high-

### “Money-Saving Mowers: A Quicker Cut with less Gas & Emissions.”

It's the end of a long week, the sun is starting to set and you realize that you still have to mow. Do you hop on your riding mower and settle in for a couple more hours of work? Or do you call it a day and push the job to tomorrow?

Over 20 years ago, we encountered the same problem, too, and didn't like either option. That's why we created our own solution called Pro-Mow®, Inc. Starting in 1994, our inventor, Doug Short, began arranging seven reels in a framing system to pull behind his lawn mower tractor. “In the past, mowing my large lot would fill up my entire evening when I used my riding mower,” said Short. “By creating this framing system, mowing went from a two-hour task to 30 minutes.” He then patented the framing system and began selling locally, nationally, and now internationally.

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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value crops to two to five times a year for others. But it is critical that your lab reasonably knows what the nutrient content is supposed to be these days at the stage of growth when the samples are taken.

### More To It Than Nitrogen

We have a number of clients who are interested only in plant Nitrogen content. Even though N-compound tests are cheap and certainly N is very important, from our perspective N-only tests are still a waste of money and effort, as there are so many more critical nutrients to be accounted for. Consider "von Liebig's Law of the Minimum".

### Do Your Plant Test Reports Include Everything That Is Important To Your Crop?

We've already seen that there are a lot of nutrients required for proper and balanced plant nutrition – only a few of which have been mentioned here – much more than just N-P-K. Accordingly, for you to get a complete picture of your crop's nutritional status, you need to know about the secondary nutrients, micronutrients and trace elements. Different crops have different nutritional needs and some crops have special nutritional requirements – especially for trace elements.

Does your lab include these in its reports? Does it have plant tests for your specific crop, including its special nutritional requirements? Does your lab have the capacity to interpret the data to provide you with good recommendations?

### Crop Loss: Prevention and Cure –

Very often, crop loss due to late frosts can be avoided or minimized with a correct (and inexpensive) foliar spray applied even within hours of the expected event. Hailed-out crops can also often be quickly recovered with foliar sprays of hormones, sugars, microbial inoculants, amino acids, micronutrients, trace elements and other things.

### Comprehensive Plant Tests Are The Cornerstone...

...for maximizing your crop's potential under the prevailing growing conditions and solving serious crop problems – especially when there are diseases and insects. Your lab should be able to provide you with recommendations for each stage of plant development for a

successful season-long crop nutrition program. Providing your crop with balanced nutrition throughout the season is the biggest factor in field performance – and your bottom-line!

### What To Take Away From This Article:

- If your lab's soil reports and recommendations are pretty much the same, year-after-year, there's something wrong, someplace.
- If you follow your lab's plant test recommendations and things haven't much improved, there's something

wrong, someplace.

- If your fields have disease or insect problems, there's something wrong, someplace.
- If your yields and quality are flat, mediocre or are generally declining and you're not doing very well, there's something wrong, someplace.
- If the quality of your soil isn't improving with each year, there's something wrong, someplace.
- The Devil is always in the details – especially the smallest ones.



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Implement sold John Deere equipment. In the 70's Taylor blazed the way for 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.

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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

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"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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# Let's Be Proactive and Train to Stay Safe around Grain

By: Jana L. Davidson, Education Content Specialist  
for the Progressive Agriculture Foundation

Let's begin with a Limerick:

***Children should never play in grain  
May past farming incidents teach us and not be in vain  
Let's educate our future generation  
And give them the proper foundation  
To achieve greatness and none of the blame***

As with many practices on the farm, producing grain can be dangerous. According to Purdue University, on U.S. farms there were 47 confirmed grain bin entrapments and incidents in other confined spaces in 2015. Our friends at Nationwide are helping to bring awareness to this important topic through their sponsorship and support of Grain Bin Safety Week held the third full week of February.

In an effort to help prevent further deaths and injuries, Nationwide collaborates each year with the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS) to offer safety trainings. In offering their fifth annual contest to provide rescue tubes to fire departments in rural areas, they are providing tools and resources needed if a grain bin incident occurs. The Progressive Agriculture Foundation whole-heartedly support this endeavor and are taking it a step further to educate our future generation of farmers – our children!

It's downright scary the similarities grain has to quicksand. In a matter of seconds, one can become entrapped in grain and in less than a minute become fully submerged. Curiosity, size, strength and lack of experience are a major cause of injuries and fatalities for young children. Through hands-on activities and demonstrations, we strongly emphasize the following to youth participants at Progressive Agriculture Safety Days®:

1. Always stay out of flowing grain.
2. Never walk or play in or around stored grain.
3. Never enter a grain bin, wagon, or truck.
4. Stay away from a grain bin while the unloading auger or suction tube is operating.
5. What to do in case of an emergency involving grain, including:

Turn off any equipment that is causing the grain to flow or move. This will stop the person from being pulled further underneath the grain.

Always assume the victim is alive and take the necessary measures to help the situation. This may include turning on aeration fans and assuring dryer heat is turned off.

Call for help immediately. Never attempt to pull someone



Our friends at Unverferth Manufacturing Co. Inc., support our efforts in teaching grain safety and have provided a new resource to strengthen our demonstrations at Progressive Agriculture Safety Day®. Unverferth graciously donated a gravity flow wagon to our program, which is being housed by our partners at NECAS in Peosta, Iowa.

out of grain on your own.

While educating youth, always send the correct messages. Avoid confusing children by sending mixed messages when replacing sand boxes with corn at places like pumpkin patches, local parks and farm shows. A young child will have trouble understanding and identifying the difference between grain in a corn box and grain in a gravity flow wagon.

Learn more about 2018 Grain Bin Safety Week taking place February 18-24 and nominate your local fire department to be the recipient of essential grain safety resources by visiting <https://www.nationwide.com/grain-bin-safety-week.jsp>

Progressive Agriculture Safety Days® reach more than 100,000 individuals annually with fun, age-appropriate, hands-on safety education. To learn more, call 888-257-3529 or visit [progressiveag.org](http://progressiveag.org). A modest donation of only \$13, helps send another child to a Progressive Agriculture Safety Day in North America. Donate by texting the word "safetyday" to 41444 or go to [progressiveag.org/Donate](http://progressiveag.org/Donate) to contribute on-line. 



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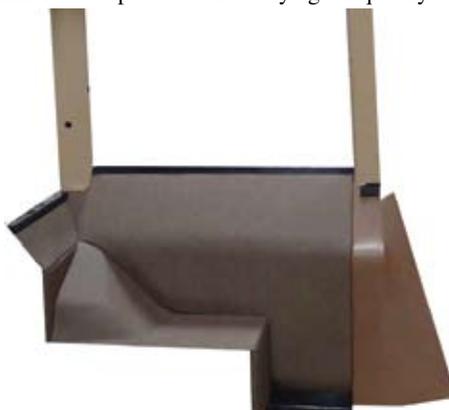
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**A**s new tractors continue to be offered in the ag-market, the cost of new equipment has soared, and it can be hard to budget for upgrading to the latest and the greatest. By installing a new cab interior, it gives you the feeling of having an updated 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.

**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.



JD 55/60 Srs on Plastic

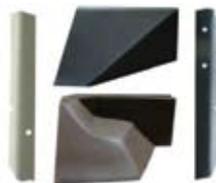
Most farmers can install these parts into his or her tractor, using **Fehr Cab** do-it-yourself kits for over 700 different model cabs. Fehr Cab kits are available with pre-cut, pre-sewn, pre-formed panels and complete instructions and whatever is necessary to install kits. **Fehr Cab** strives to replicate 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.

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The Oregon Roadrunner, manufactured by Sunny D Manufacturing Company, Inc., is the all purpose machine when it comes to loading and unloading blocks of hay, everything from a stack of bales in the field to a six-pack of 3x4 bales. What used to take several people hours to buck the hay, whether loading trucks, unloading trucks, or moving the hay from one truck to another, now takes one person just minutes to accomplish. There is no other machine that can match it.



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That machine is still being used today.

While struggling through the hard times, redesigning to incorporate new ideas and improving on old ones, and building a strong customer base one customer at a time, Art managed to build his back-yard business to a point where he was able to open his first shop. By 1985 the business was large enough that he began the process of incorporating it. Later, needing more space to meet customer demand, he bought a larger property, and moved the business to its current location in Klamath Falls.

When health problems forced Art to take a step back and de-stress his life, he wanted to find the perfect person to take the reins. Ed Majors took over as GM in 1998 and in 2003, began the process of buying the company from Art. Today, Ed officially owns it.

## Sunny D Today

From those humble beginnings in 1971 to the 21st century, Sunny D Manufacturing Company Inc. has grown to a business totaling 15 employees. Welders, fabricators, mechanics, a painter, and various support personnel create from bare metal the machine that called “The Oregon Roadrunner.” What used to be only available in white with your choice of stripe, a customer can now choose their color and design. For more information, call 1-541-884-2361, or write 4343 Highway 39, Klamath Falls, OR 97603. 

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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.

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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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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 capabilities 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.

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**Pete DeGroot**  
Lakeshore Dairy  
Visalia, California

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# livestock



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Northern Livestock Video, headquartered at Billings Livestock Commission, Billings, MT is engaged in the livestock auction business through Video Satellite & Internet Marketing and is produced by a capable Northern Livestock staff. Pat Goggins introduced the video concept of selling livestock to the industry years ago and conducted the first in the world sales during the mid-1970s. Video & Internet marketing has since become a viable, legitimate tool for merchandising feeder cattle and breeding cattle. The most important factor is to receive national competitive bidding on your livestock. The Northern Livestock Video Sales are broadcast on Satellite and Internet. In addition, the sales are aggressively promoted nationwide in the best read livestock publications around the country and nationally recognized auctioneers' will sell the sale. As a consignor, being involved in one of our Video events affords your herd more exposure than you could possibly gain on your own efforts. This is buying power.



Northern has on staff the best group of knowledgeable Representatives of any video sales company in America. They come with excellent qualifications and have firsthand knowledge of cattle breeding, feeding & carcass quality. You can work knowing they will personally represent you from the moment you sign the consignment form until the day your cattle are delivered. They are bonded, reputable, conscientious cattlemen with many years of experience in the industry. But most important they understand marketing at all levels. They will become your best friend! The sale is conducted just like an ordinary auction sale only the livestock are not on the premises. Most of the sales will be physically held at the Billings Livestock Commission in Billings, MT where television monitors will be set of for viewing, or you can view the sale in the comfort of your home or office. Buyers will be on the seats to bid and a bank of phones will be manned to take the call-in bids from the video broadcast. They are fast paced auctions with nationwide bidding. Keep in mind when you consign your livestock to a Northern Livestock Sale, it will be broadcast across the North America continent on Satellite as well as on the Internet. Anyone who has a "dish" or computer at home, in the office or feedlot can view the sale and bid on the livestock in "real time." Remember, we started the video way of selling livestock, the first in the world, back in the 1970s. We know what we are doing and we would like to prove it to you. When you make the important decision to consign to Northern, call us at 1-866-616-5035.



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# Crossbreeding with Beefmasters

By Bill Pendergrass, VP- Marketing & Research Beefmaster Breeders United

When Tom Lasater developed the Beefmaster breed, the beef industry of the 1930's – 1950's was very different than today. There were no modern selection tools such as EPDs (Expected Progeny Differences), ultrasound for live animal carcass evaluations or Genomics (DNA) to help identify superior animals. Making genetic progress was difficult, but over time it helped develop the Beefmaster breed. Through following a well thought-out breeding program that utilizes a cross of Hereford, Shorthorn and Bos Indicus genetics, then selecting the most adaptable, performance oriented animals and breeding only the best, the Beefmaster breed was then born in the harsh brush country of South Texas.

While there has been much written about the Lasater Ranch and the development of the Beefmaster breed, a simple, effective philosophy that is rooted in profitable beef production emerged. Known as the Six Essentials: Fertility, Disposition, Weight, Conformation, Hardiness and Milk Production are the core traits that the entire Beefmaster breed was selected for and developed upon. Those Six Essentials are what makes the Beefmaster breed such a powerful crossbreeding tool for today's U.S. beef industry.

The genetic combination of roughly 25% Hereford, 25% Shorthorn and 50% Bos Indicus (specifically Gir, Guzerat and Nelore) proved to be very prolific. The resulting composites were selected using the Six Essentials and over time proved themselves to be very predictable. The unique genetic makeup of Beefmaster yields 63% Retained Heterosis, a vital statistic for the profitability of commercial cattlemen. USDA recognized Beefmaster as a breed in 1954.

## Why is crossbreeding important?

The U.S. has the smallest beef cow herd we have seen as a nation since the 1950's. While our cow herd has become smaller, our human population continues to increase at a rapid pace. The demand for protein in higher quality

diets across the world has increased the demand for beef. It takes a long time to expand a cow herd. That is why it is so important to create as much efficiency as possible in the beef supply chain. Planned crossbreeding with Beefmasters is the fastest way to create efficiency and profit in the cattle business.

The U.S. cow herd is dominated by black hided, British breed-influenced genetics. These females excel at raising calves that produce high quality carcasses for the consumer and that is very important. Over time, to earn premiums for their calves, many producers have begun straight breeding their commercial cows. True, those black hided British calves earn a premium at the sale barn but at what cost to the producer?

Crossbreeding using Beefmasters is a proven method to increase maternal efficiency and calf performance, resulting in more cost savings and profit for the beef producer. How do we know that crossbreeding works? There have been countless scientific research projects on the effects of Heterosis (the scientific name for the result of hybrid vigor that occurs with crossbreeding) in livestock production. Time and again, crossbreeding has proven to be the single most effective way to increase productivity in commercial cow herds.

Heterosis or hybrid vigor, is the result of crossbreeding. Heterosis leads to performance advantages in crossbreds over the average of their straight-bred parents. When used properly, as in a well-planned crossbreeding program, heterosis can lead to big improvements in performance and efficiency. That in turn leads to more profit for the beef producer.

There are three types of heterosis and how well a breeder harnesses these types will determine how much impact hybrid vigor will have on his calf crop.

Individual heterosis, directly affects several traits that are economically important. These improvements actually begin before the crossbred calf is born because the fetus is



more viable and resilient. After birth crossbred calves are more vigorous resulting in more live and healthier calves. Growthier, heavier calves at almost every point are a result of crossbreeding. True, crossbred calves can also have heavier birth weights but the improved calf survivability of crossbred calves overshadows those concerns. Who can say no to more live calves born, more calves surviving to weaning and the bonus of those calves weighing more?

Maternal heterosis are the effects that come from using crossbred cows. Those effects are very profound for maternal traits. It all begins with fertility which is lowly heritable. Crossbreeding leads to big improvements in lowly heritable traits such as fertility, resulting in more calves born in a shorter time frame. The calves of crossbred mothers are more vigorous, grow faster and weigh more. As long as we sell cattle by the pound, these improvements are vital. While this is impressive, the big impact of crossbred cows come from having a longer productive lifetime and producing more calves. Given the cost of replacement heifers in today's market, a cow that produces for three more years (at a minimum) is a big advantage. Beefmasters excel in maternal traits. Beefmaster sired females add even more punch to your crossbreeding program.

The chart demonstrating the impact on individual and maternal heterosis on production is truly eye-opening. As you can see, crossbreeding pays dividends. Old time cattlemen used to say that "hybrid vigor is the only free lunch in the cow business".

## Heterosis levels for selected traits

Trait	Individual Heterosis	Maternal Heterosis	Total Heterosis
Cow lifetime productivity			25
Cow longevity			38
Calving rate	0	6	6
Calf weaning wt/exposed cow			18
Weaning rate	0	8	8
Weaning weight	5	6	11
Yearling weight	4		4
% reaching puberty at 15 months	15		15
Days on feed	-4		-4
Carcass weight	3		3
USDA carcass grade	2		2

Keeping a crossbreeding program simple is the key to success. Stressing the genetic differences between breeds used in crossbreeding is important. The more unrelated the breeds being used are; the more of an impact heterosis will have. Crossing British breeds such as Angus x Hereford works very well but there are genetically similar. Crossing British breeds with Continental breeds such as Angus x Charolais yields better performance results because those two breeds are less related than Angus x Hereford.

Crossing British breeds with an American breed such as Angus x Beefmaster leads to even greater advantages because of the Bos Indicus influence in Beefmaster. The

roughly 50% Bos Indicus content in Beefmaster is totally unrelated to the British genetics in this cross; resulting in even higher heterosis impacts for all traits. The icing on the cake for this particular cross is the outstanding maternal heterosis that leads to superior females that are more fertile, wean more and larger calves and live longer more productive lives.

To maximize heterosis potential and to keep a crossbreeding program simple, many ranchers use a terminal crossbreeding program. A great example is Angus x Beefmaster to produce a crossbred female that is designed to maximize maternal heterosis. Then those Angus x Beefmaster crossbred females would be mated to Continental bulls such as Charolais to maximize performance potential in their calves. This mating system leverages the genetic diversity across British, Continental and American breeds resulting in higher performance at every level and exploits breed complementarity needed to maximize production and profit.



Beefmaster X Angus cow with Charolais sired calf

In today's beef industry that demands efficiency, Beefmasters answer the challenge by being exceptional converters of feed. In multiple all-breed bull development facilities that measure feed efficiency and residual feed intake, Beefmasters consistently rank as the most efficient converters when compared to other breeds in the same facilities. In commercial feedyards, dry matter conversions in the five pound range are typical for Beefmaster sired steers. Ask any cattle feeder and they will tell you the importance of feed conversion and performance.

While maternal heterosis is the main calling card for Beefmasters, it should be noted that carcass merit is not overlooked in this versatile breed. Given the prominence of black hided commercial cows in today's industry, it is interesting to look at a Beefmaster progeny test performed by Texas A&M University from 1998-2001.

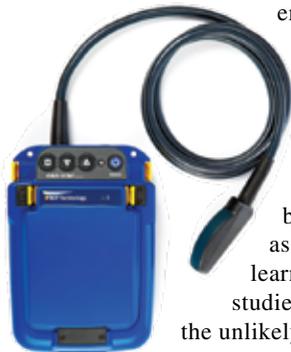
Commercial Angus cows from the TAMU McGregor Experiment Station were mated to five Beefmaster bulls. TAMU staff collected the complete performance information from the calves that were all born, grown and finished at the McGregor Station. Additionally TAMU scientists and USDA Graders collected the carcass data, including

**Continued on page 38**

# BCF Technology

## A Pioneer In Veterinary Ultrasound For Over 30 Years

**B**CF Technology has been a pioneer in veterinary ultrasound for over 30 years. We believe in helping our customers improve animal care by ensuring that they gain the most from their veterinary ultrasound technology. At BCF, we are our customers' partner from start to finish. We not only provide the ultrasound machine, but also the initial training as well as a free library of learning materials such as case studies, articles and videos. In the unlikely event of a breakdown, we



have a wide range of loan equipment available to keep you up and running and our knowledgeable service engineers continue to maintain a one-day turnaround on repairs. We offer a range of ultrasound products for bovine, ovine, caprine and swine. The Easi-Scan curve machine (pictured) provides a quick and accurate pregnancy test to determine if a cow is open, and can also be used for fetal aging and sexing. It also provides you a wide field of view with phenomenal depth due to the curved probe. This ultrasound machine for cattle helps you make more accurate bovine pregnancy diagnosis between 30 and 60 days. Additionally, the Easi-Scan machine is lightweight and can be worn on your hip comfortably for hours of scanning without strain. Interested? Contact us to schedule your free demo!



## “Catcher” Makes Calf Work Easier

**I**f 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.”



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

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 en-

ters 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!”

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.

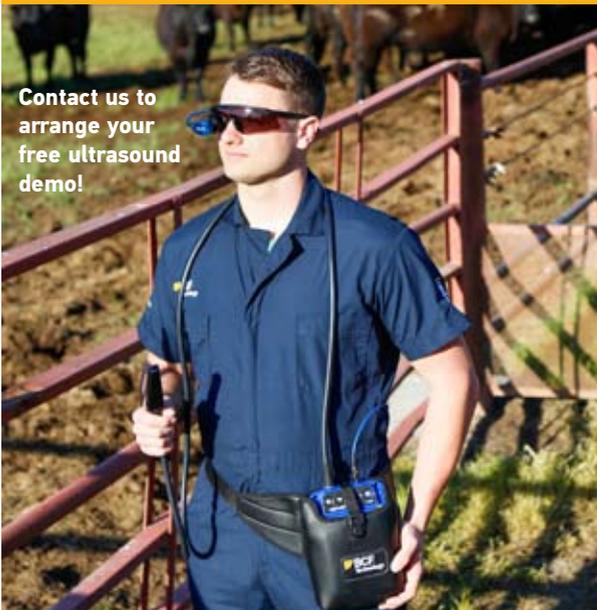
Contact: Safety Zone Calf Catchers, LLC, 1146 7th Ave, Dannebrog, Neb. 68831 Phone: (877)505-0914; [www.safetzonecalfcatchers.com](http://www.safetzonecalfcatchers.com)





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**Kenny Miller, MO** - "We really enjoyed the Calf Catcher this spring. Definitely saved the old body!"

**Gary Theurer, KS** - "Everybody needs to own your calf catcher, if they own cows. I couldn't imagine going through a calving season without it. It works perfect!"

**Joan Bullin** - "This is my third year using the calf catcher and I love it! We don't have calm cows and I've never had a problem with any of them hitting it. I'm 62 and I tag 600 calves a year, no problem."

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# Rawhide Portable Corral's NEW PROCESSOR

**R**awhide Portable Corral, Inc of Abilene, KS has been in business for the last twelve years and we are proud of our premiere portable livestock corrals. We are extremely excited about our latest model: The Rawhide Processor by John McDonald.



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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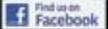


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## Crossbreeding with Beefmasters

Continued from page 35

Warner-Bratzler Shear Force tests after the cattle were harvested at Sam Kane Beef Processors in Corpus Christi, Texas.

The results for the 258 Beefmaster x Angus progeny were impressive. Seventy-two percent of the cattle received a quality grade of Choice or Prime while the average yield grade was 3.28. In today's sophisticated grid marketing systems, these cattle would have earned solid premiums. Since that project was conducted, Beefmaster breeders have worked very hard to add even more carcass merit by utilizing ultrasound carcass data and now genomic tests to improve the quality of their end product. Time and again Beefmasters have proven themselves a great crossbreeding partner with black hided and Continental cattle both in the yard and on the rail.

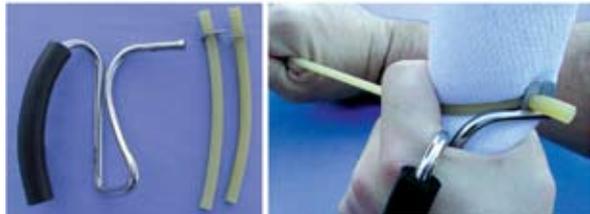
No breed of cattle is perfect. Beefmaster breeders realize that. That is why planned crossbreeding is so important to the future of the beef industry. Beefmasters are the most versatile crossbreeding tool available. Beefmaster's 63% retained heterosis means superior females, more fertility, heavier weaning calves, more longevity, significantly more lifetime production and the list goes on.

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Over thirty years ago Dr. Garth Sasser was a professor of Animal Science at the University of Idaho. In his research he discovered a pregnancy specific protein in the maternal bloodstream of ruminant animals that is only elevated when that animal is pregnant. He developed a test called BioPRYN (Pregnant-Ruminant-Yes-No) that measures the concentration of this protein in blood and can provide an extremely accurate determination of pregnancy status in cattle, goats, sheep, bison and other ruminant animals very early in gestation (28 days post breeding).

A growing number of dairy and beef producers and their veterinarians are utilizing blood-based pregnancy testing in unique ways to complement traditional pregnancy detection methods and because BioPRYN is a proven, convenient, accurate and cost-effective way to check your animals for pregnancy that eliminates subjectivity. Some progressive producers that are using embryo transfer or synchronization protocols with artificial insemination will use BioPRYN as an early "open check" at 28 days post breeding to identify if the animal needs to be reintroduced to the synchronization program. Other producers and their veterinarians will use a BioPRYN check to supplement monthly or biweekly herd health checks to identify those open cows as early as possible and to avoid the entire herd being locked up for extended amounts of time on pregnancy-check day. BioPRYN is also a useful tool for a reconfirmation pregnancy check later in gestation to identify the small percentage of cows that will experience embryonic loss and not carry to term.

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# Coburn introduces new dehorner

## EXPRESS dehorner are available for sale

Whitewater, WI: Coburn introduces new Dehorner for 2018. Express Dehorner, distributed by The Coburn Company, Inc., provide easy, fast and economical ways to remove horn buds.

Express Dehorner are a great and convenient option for dehorning/debud-

ding calves and goats. Debudding at the youngest age possible greatly reduces stress on the calf, encouraging quicker gains. When dehorning/debudding it is important to follow pain management practices recommended by your veterinarian and it is also important to follow the instructions included with the Express Dehorner.

Express Dehorner are available in two styles, allowing producers to find the perfect dehorner for their operation.

Express Propane Dehorner are economical, lightweight and come with two different hose lengths – 5' and 15'. Each Express Propane Dehorner comes with a fuel regulator to help reduce fuel waste. Propane Gas Dehorner heat to 1,200oF, in less than three minutes. Units come with reversible brass 11/16" and 13/16" Express Dehorning Tip (14020), hose, regulator, hex key and flint striker. Additional Express 3/5" Goat Dehorning Tip (14015) is available.

- 114-005G Express Propane Gas Dehorner with 5' Hose - Works with 14 oz. propane cylinder (not included)
- 114-015G Express Propane Gas Dehorner with 15' Hose - Works with 20 lb. propane tank (not included)

Express Portable Dehorner are built to last and are constructed for easy use. Express Portable Dehorner operate using a Express High-Powered Fuel Cartridge (446) consisting of butane, propane and propene to ensure a hot, consistent fuel source. Express Portable Dehorner reach working temperature in three to five minutes. Units come with metal carrying case, one Express High-Powered Fuel Cartridge and a hex key.

- 134G Express Inline Dehorner - Comes with 3/4" Express Dehorning Tip - Two other tip sizes available – 5/8" tip (11115) and 1" tip (11125)
- 144G Express Pistol-Grip Dehorner - Comes with reversible brass 11/16" and 13/16" Express Dehorning Tip (14020)

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I haven't had a single problem with our fresh heifers since Jerry corrected our stray voltage problem. I would highly recommend Stray Voltage Consulting to anyone who thinks they might have stray voltage."



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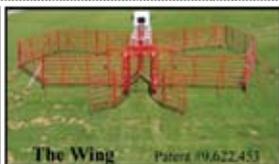
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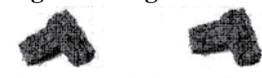
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