

# *Western Farm, Ranch & Dairy Magazine*

The vital resource of the Ag Industry

Rocky Mountain/Heartland • winter/spring edition 2010-11

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ON THE COVER

Soil core samples withdrawn from a field near Fort Collins, Colorado. Photo by Scott Bauer, courtesy of USDA Agricultural Research Service.

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## Grazing Grass On Irrigated Farms

By: Don Hajar – Pawnee Buttes Seed Inc.

**A**griculture is changing and today's landowners are looking for a different way to enjoy the land and still make a profit. Growing grass in the arid west under irrigation can be profitable if done correctly. The first step is to study how grass grows to understand what it requires to stay healthy. Doing your homework by reading, attending range management seminars, and visiting an actual irrigated grass operation can be very beneficial. Once you have done all this research you need to determine what you want this irrigated grass to do for your operation. An experienced range scientist, agronomist or individual educated in land, grass and cattle can help you plan this second step.

You need to select the field you want to convert to irrigated grass and decide if spring or fall planting would be best for your operation. Now it is time to prepare a seedbed. The seedbed should be firm and weed free. The grass seed should be planted with a grass drill designed to handle all grass seed types and able to control the depth the grass seed is planted. Grass seed should be planted ¼" to ½" deep. Planting the grass seed deeper reduces emergence by 80%.

Planting a warm season cover crop in June will out compete weeds, firm up the seedbed and provide protection against soil erosion is a good investment. Harvest the cover crop in August, spray the regrowth with Roundup and drill the grass seed di-

rectly into the standing stubble.

Seed can also be planted March – May, or if planting in the fall it is the best to plant straight grass prior to October 1st. A grass/legume mix or straight legume should be planted at least 30 days prior to the average historical freeze date. Legumes are less tolerant of frost than grass, and any plant needs to have time to get big enough to survive the winter. You also want to ensure you have good soil moisture prior to winter.

The newly seeded grass needs water within the first seven days. If rain showers do not occur within 2-3 days after planting; begin irrigating.

Fertilizing to establish grass is not as important as it will be when the grass is more mature and you're expecting high forage production. Grass requires 150-200 lbs of nitrogen per acre per year applied in 2-6 applications. Phosphorus requirements range from 40-80 lbs/Ac/year. The best way to determine fertilizer requirements is to take a soil sample and ask the lab to make recommendations based on a desired yield of 5-7 tons of hay/acre.

Irrigated grass requires ¾" to 1" of water per week for optimum to maximum production. The source of water can be precipitation or irrigation. Total annual requirements is 24-30"/year. Cool season grasses should be watered from March 1st to November 1st for maximum yield. Cool season grass under irrigation can produce more forage annually than warm season grass because the growing season for cool season grass is March 1st to November 1st as compared with May 15th to September 15th for warm season grass. Grass planted on irrigated ground should be watered adequately to recoup the benefits of irrigation. Grass watered less than adequately produces much less forage and may never pay for the investment.

A Grazing Management System accounts for 12 months of grazing with a cow-calf operation. If the operation is yearlings the operation needs to be flexible to allow for the peak periods of grass production, summer slump and increased weight of the stockers as time progresses. In other words, a stocking rate of 1500 lbs of beef per acre in April using three 500 lb yearlings may be correct but 60 days later assuming a rate of gain of 2 lbs/head/day would mean each animal is now weighing 620 and the stocking rate is now 620 lbs/animal x 3 head or 1860 lbs/acre.

The pasture is now overstocked and as day length increases and daytime temperatures increase the grass will produce less forage and the stocking rate should be reduced from 1500 lbs of beef/acre to as low as 1100 lbs of beef/acre depending how hot it is, amount of irrigation applied and amount of fertilizer and usage. The more a pasture is abused the less forage it produces.

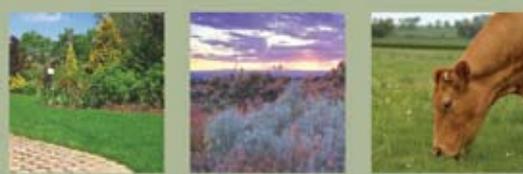
The key elements of a grazing plan are proper stocking rate, having at least 6 paddocks, six or less days of grazing per paddock and 25 – 35 days of rest between grazing periods. For example, eight paddocks grazed 4 days each would take 32 days to graze all paddocks and each paddock would receive 28 days of rest. The grass should not be grazed less than 4". Reserve is very important to the plant.

With all of these elements in place, grazing on irrigated grass has much more of a chance of being successful and profitable. 



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# A. Link, Inc.

## A short Profile of our Company

If you're looking for a safe, effective way to biologically improve your soil, the search ends with BIO Gold or BIO Red from A. Link, Inc. of Grand Forks, North Dakota. BIO Gold or BIO Red are dormant soil bacteria used by both conventional and organic growers. For an organic grower, enough nitrogen for the organic plants to produce an above average crop is very difficult. Our bacteria supplies 40 to 50% of your nitrogen needs organically. Conventional or organic corn does very well using BIO Gold or BIO Red. Our BIO also increases brix levels, increases organic material in the soil, helps reduce crusting and can be applied to all soil types for a vast array of uses, just to name a few advantages. For the farmer with thousands of acres to the home gardener with flowers and/or vegetable garden, BIO Gold or BIO Red are your one stop resources for healthier, higher quality crops plus increased shelf life of fruits and vegetables.

After a few years of preliminary research by Douglas Peterson and his brother/ chemist partner, Mark, the company

was officially formed in 2006.

A Link, Inc. is proud to be a smaller company that is flexible in meeting all of their customers' needs. 2010, A. Link, Inc. has implemented a pilot program, whereby chemist partner, Mark is formulating BIO Gold or BIO Red engineered for individual grower's needs. The fall of 2010 we will know the outcome of this new program.

BIO Gold or BIO Red have earned rave reviews and in a relatively short period of time, have established a solid reputation throughout the United States. The only difference between the two products is speed of activation, which is taking BIO from dormancy to application ready: BIO Gold takes twenty four hours, BIO Red takes thirty minutes to activate.

Both have their advantages: BIO Gold is ideal for the farmer with larger acreages, while BIO Red is great for faster activation, for gardeners and farmers with smaller acreages.

The two BIO products are remarkably versatile we have been told. End rot on tomatoes is caused by a fungus, our bacteria consumes the fungus before the fungus has a chance to attack the tomatoes on the tomato plant. Our beneficial bacteria will not only eliminate the fungus but will also boost its immune system so disease is unlikely.

Watermelon growers remark on not only the increased size of their watermelon, but also the melons are sweeter tasting. Watermelon growers have observed larger crops because they have increased their pickings from two to five or six pickings per season. Vineyards have made similar observations noting better quality and better tasting grapes. Having a sweeter, higher quality grape, the wineries are expressing a higher quality wine.

"You can really taste the benefits, because our BIO Gold or BIO Red increases the sugar levels in the fruits and vegetables," Peterson explains. He continues, "I love visiting with people from all over the U.S. and hearing their different stories. Everyone has a slightly different problem and it's rewarding to help them."

BIO Gold or BIO Red are not only used on the above crops, but all crops. All crops need an abundance of good bacteria to overcome the bad bacteria, and that's basically why BIO Gold or BIO Red is so successful in the field.

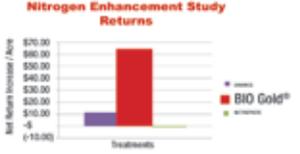
Hog farmers have expressed enthusiasm over their ability to reduce odors by consuming ammonia in their lagoons and barns. Without the ammonia odor, the hogs are living in an environmentally clean atmosphere whereby the hogs eat and drink less, but gain weight faster.

To learn more visit [www.biogoldonline.com](http://www.biogoldonline.com). Email [biodoug@alinkusa.com](mailto:biodoug@alinkusa.com) or Call 877-246-9722.



BIO Gold® from A. Link, Inc. is an all organic product containing a wide variety of microorganisms including those that are nitrogen fixing. BIO Gold® produces natural hormones such as auxins, indoleacetic acid, and gibberellins (gibberellic acid) which support function of growth and maturity in plants. Since BIO Gold® contains both organic matter and microorganisms, it develops its own compost which contains humates. BIO Gold® microbes convert atmospheric nitrogen to a usable form by the crop and metabolizes enzymes organically, assuring a constant supply for the plant. Commercial nitrogen rates can be reduced by 40% to 50%.

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Treatment	Net Return Increase/Acre
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# Ron's Manufacturing

## Vertical Tillage Coulter Kit Attachment Gets Even Stronger

**R**on'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 605-266-2177; E-mail info@ronsmfg.com. (Also, please see their ad in this issue). **✪**



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(Please see press release in this issue)

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An internal combustion engine generates the carbon monoxide and drives a compressor pump that pressurizes the exhaust gas to 115 psi in a storage tank. An air hose and a hand held probe inject the gas directly into the burrow without any digging.

Brand new to the PERC lineup is the PERC 620, a trailer-mounted unit with a 20 hp motor and six reels - each with a 50' hose and hand probe. The 620 features a tandem axle with turf tires. It sells for \$12,950 plus S&H.

The PERC 412 is a trailer-mounted

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unit with a 13 hp motor and four reels each with a 50' hose and the hand probe. The 412 features turf tires and is designed to be pulled behind an ATV. It sells for \$7,249 plus S&H.

The PERC 206 is a skid-mounted unit with a 6.5 hp engine, two reels with 50' hoses and hand probes. It sells for \$4,595 plus S&H.

The PERC 206T is the skid unit mounted on its own special trailer. It sells for \$4,995 plus S&H.

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Units have been shipped to customers from Southern California to central Canada and as far east as Florida. Though most of the market has been with alfalfa growers, orchard and specialty crop growers have also purchased units. The PERC system is the best solution anywhere burrowing rodents are a problem.

For more information call (530) 667-5181 or visit the website [www.handmgophercontrol.com](http://www.handmgophercontrol.com)

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# Health Benefits of Bramble Fruit

**There are many good reasons to eat raspberries and blackberries.**

They are high in Vitamin C, which prevents scurvy, reduces risk of stroke, and helps prevent cancer initiation. They are good sources of Folate, which is an especially important nutrient for



pregnant women, since it helps prevent neural tube (spinal column) defects. It may also help prevent heart disease. They are cholesterol free and virtually fat free. They are sources of dietary fiber that lowers cholesterol and may help prevent colon cancer and heart disease. They are low in calories. All these make bramble fruit a good addi-

tion to your diet.

But that's not all. Raspberries and blackberries have been shown to contain healthful substances which research shows may slow down the aging process, boost immunity, and protect against chronic disease, including heart disease and cancer.

An increasing number of studies link various foods--especially berries and other intensely colored fruits and vegetables such as strawberries, blueberries, and carrots--with improved health and disease prevention. Some of the healthful, bioactive substances in these foods appear to be the pigments that give them their bright colors. Others are flavor compounds, such as those that give an astringent taste to the seeds.

For example, anthocyanin, which gives berries their red color, is an antioxidant that scavenges free radicals, which may cause aging of cells. Researchers are currently linking anthocyanin activity to improving vision,

controlling diabetes, improving circulation, preventing cancer and heart disease, and retarding the effects of aging, particularly loss of memory and motor skills. Ellagic acid, a phenolic compound found in berries, has exhibited anti-carcinogenic effects against a wide range of carcinogens in several tissues. And ellagic acid has been shown, in studies with rats and mice, to contribute to significant inhibition of colon, esophageal, liver, lung, tongue, and skin cancers.

**Why not just take a nutritional supplement?**

When it comes to nutrition, no one has been able to outsmart Mother Nature. Research shows that it is a combination of phytochemicals working together with the berry's fiber, vitamins, and minerals which make it so effective. For example, the combination of anthocyanins, Vitamin C, and ellagic acid can act together, contributing to berries' high ORAC (Oxygen Radical Absorbance Capacity) value, a measure of antioxidant effectiveness. Antioxidants are shown to work best when combined; the presence of fiber, and other plant compounds enhance the health benefit. Scientists have also found that raspberries and blackberries may have cancer-fighting properties, but cannot attribute them to only one component. For these reasons, a nutraceutical source --a food with health properties-- is a more viable antioxidant option than a dietary supplement. And a lot tastier!

This article was provided by The North American Bramble Growers Association, a growers association whose objective is "to promote the general interest of the bramble growers in North America through improved communication and research." The article, along with a wealth of information on this subject, can be found at their website: [www.rasperryblackberry.com](http://www.rasperryblackberry.com).

If you are looking for a source for thornless blackberries, contact Tom Doyle of Doyle's Thornless Blackberry Inc., 1600 Bedford Rd., Washington, IN 47501. Phone 812-254-2654 or email [tomdoyle@fruitsandberries.com](mailto:tomdoyle@fruitsandberries.com)

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# Healthy Grown Still Growing Wisconsin Potato Growers Make Strides in Conservation and Sustainability

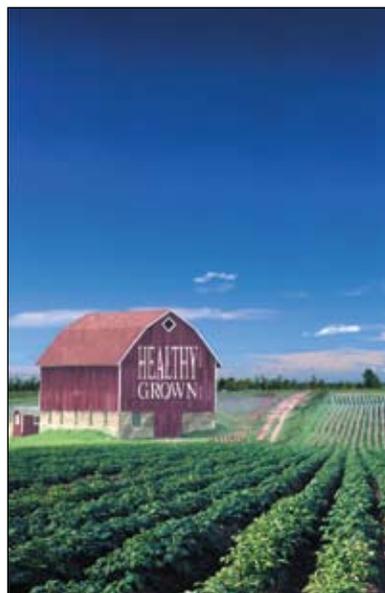
“Large-scale agriculture plays a critical role in the health of our ecosystem,” notes Deana Knuteson, BioIPM Field Coordinator for the Wisconsin Eco-Potato partnership. “A wide range of variables—tilling, pest- and weed-control, irrigation, crop rotation, remnant lands—impact the environment,” notes Deana Knuteson. “Minimizing that impact was the motivation behind developing the Wisconsin Eco-Potato partnership and the Healthy Grown® eco-label.”

Established in 1996, the Wisconsin Eco-Potato partnership is a collaboration between the Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association (WPVGA) and the University of Wisconsin. The International Crane Foundation, the Defenders of Wildlife and the World Wildlife Fund are also part of the partnership. The science-based team helps potato growers reduce the use of crop protection inputs such as nutrients, pesticides and other additives, by adopting integrated pest management (IPM) alternatives—biologically based pest management systems that do not harm the environment. The partnership also works to reduce impacts on water, conserve and restore biodiversity to natural ecosystems, and increase productivity without genetic modification of the produce. The partnership has resulted in the Healthy Grown® potato eco-label.

With over 350 eco-label products on the market, consumers and businesses are growing more wary of “greenwashing”—exaggerated or misleading claims about eco-friendliness—according to the World Resources Institute (WRI). WRI notes that in response, both the Federal Trade Commission and the Security Exchange Commission have begun paying attention to green claims, and Senator Dianne Feinstein has begun developing legislation focusing on eco-labeling.

As part of its transparent eco-labeling process, all Healthy Grown growers are certified and audited each year by Protected Harvest—an independent oversight organization that ensures strict adherence

to sustainable agricultural standards. Growers must pass annual field-by-field certification with a farm audit and pesticide, fertility, and bio IPM record requirements. All certification standards are documented as proof that Healthy Grown practices are taking place in the field. All packers and shippers are also certified by Protected Harvest. Unique to eco-label products, Healthy Grown has



compiled an eight-year database tracing IPM and pesticide use. In addition, farmers maintain on-farm statistics that record both the progress of, and challenges to, their sustainable whole-farm methods.

“Healthy Grown is a science-based, measurable, transparent label that provides a process that can ultimately examine the whole farm,” notes Jeb Barzen, International Crane Foundation Director of Field Ecology. “Though the Healthy Grown standard does not yet measure all resources that come from a farm, we’ve accomplished much in the past decade to bring us closer to that point.”

“Healthy Grown is also modular, which makes it easy to add components, or resources, as science allows,” says Barzen.

“This is a huge accomplishment, especially given the current nationwide efforts that are underway.”

One of the modules critical to the Healthy Grown whole-farm sustainable approach is the ecosystem restoration part of the standard. Growers work with various researchers from the University of Wisconsin and the International Crane Foundation to restore biodiversity to degraded natural areas within the farms. “Agriculture comprises the largest land-use in North America, and we have to realize that farms do more than simply provide produce. Large-scale agriculture impacts natural ecosystems. That’s why Healthy Grown uses a whole-farm approach, so we can address biodiversity, climate change, water use, and soil erosion simultaneously on the same farm that produces our food,” explains Barzen.

Adds AJ Bussan, Associate Professor in the Department of Horticulture at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, “One of Healthy Grown’s greatest strengths is the collaboration between researchers, conservationists and growers. Healthy Grown emerged from a targeted set of specific sustainability standards, but all of us continue to challenge those standards. The standards will continue to evolve as we find better ways to manage pests and invasive plants, restore natural ecosystems, support native animals, improve production and minimize impacts. It’s a work that’s always in progress because we use science as the basis for our certification of the Healthy Grown eco-label.”

Healthy Grown is anything but stagnant. Since its inception, the interest in and regard from international conservation groups has grown, as has the interdisciplinary participation of University of Wisconsin-Madison researchers, including production, soils, ecosystem and social science faculty. Other Healthy Grown highlights include:

#### **Sustainable whole-farm agriculture**

- Reduced pesticide risk to both human

and environmental health by 32 percent among certified fields.

- Banned 11 pesticides from Healthy Grown farms that are of particular concern, as well as established a list of “use with restriction” materials. This list goes above and beyond current legal requirements.

- Increased use of IPM and other preventative pest tactics by 50 percent.

- Managed fields with equal yields and quality of product to non-Healthy Grown farms with less impact on human and environmental health.

- Consistent annual expansion of research, education and software programs for growers.

- Successful use of cover cropping, mulching, organic soil amendments and experimental solarization to control soil borne diseases and improve soil and water quality.

#### **Eco-label transparency**

- Development of data management system to provide historical farm-level data of all whole-farm sustainability and conservation efforts, including data concerning pesticide use, fertility and water use, and biodiversity tracking.

- Database of documented research-based eco-label standards which illustrate whole-farm sustainability improvement trends and challenges over time.

#### **Current biodiversity and conservation research**

- Successful implementation of biodiversity conservation to restore endangered and rare ecosystems in Wisconsin. Healthy Grown farm land parcels (over 400 acres) now being restored to native prairie, savanna and wetland ecosystems.

- According to Emily Aker’s Master of Science thesis, “Monitoring Vegetation Response to Ecosystem Management in Agricultural Landscapes Under an Eco-label Scheme”:

- Positive trends were recorded in native plant diversity on nearly all of the endangered prairie and savanna ecosystems on Healthy Grown farms.

- Overall, the longer a unit was enrolled in the Natural Community Standard, the higher the site scored in terms of floristic quality—the presence of conservative plant species.

- Management activities have been implemented in the natural community

areas to control exotic or invasive species, and to promote the growth of native species. Activities such as prescribed burning, invasive species removal, and planting of native species have advanced restoration efforts.

- Large-scale ongoing research projects, funded by the USDA-NRI program, to gauge the importance of natural ecosystem restoration in relation to crop quality and production. The projects include research concerning:

- Scientific assessment of the biodiversity of plant, bird and insect species in both agricultural and non-agricultural adjacent lands.

- How agricultural and non-agricultural landscapes interact and what the optimal balance is between farmed and non-farmed lands.

- Examination of the distribution of bird species in non-agricultural portions of the Healthy Grown farms and potential benefits of preservation of these avian habitats.

- University of Wisconsin, Department of Entomology seed predation research project to assess effect of insect diversity on agricultural and non-agricultural lands.



#### **Awards and honors**

- USDA Secretary’s Honor Awards for Maintaining and Enhancing the Nation’s Natural Resources and Environment

- World Wildlife Fund Gift to the Earth Award

- International IPM Award of Achievement

- International Crane Foundation Good Egg Award for Excellence

Going forward, Healthy Grown is examining the possibility of expanding its eco-label and farm certification to other vegetable crops. Notes Knuteson, “Our data continues to illustrate that it’s economically feasible to grow in a sustainable manner. The more we learn about ecologically-sound alternatives and the

benefits of increasing biodiversity on non-agricultural plots of land located on the farms, the more everyone benefits. It’s a process of trial and error, but we have a comprehensive database to guide our course. We’ve certainly had our fair share of challenges over the past decade, but every one of us is committed to the research-based standard.”

Adds Ann MacGuidwin, Professor of Nematology and Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, “The on-farm research the Healthy Grown growers contribute is a constant motivator. The growers are so savvy when it comes to testing new biorational practices and products. They’re committed to research and will design and implement trials themselves, as well as partner with University researchers.”

Nick Somers, Healthy Grown grower agrees. “After all these years, there is still a commitment to move forward. As growers, we’re always asking ourselves what more we can do to improve sustainability. We have a science-based, transparent, certifiable product and we know that it’s good. We need to keep moving forward and tackle other sustainability issues to become better.”

Concludes Knuteson, “Everything in the Healthy Grown® standard is research-based. We document changes over time not only to see what we’ve accomplished, but as a means of improving standards in the future. We’re always looking beyond what we’re doing today—working to maintain, and then surpass, the high research bar we have set for ourselves.”

#### **About Healthy Grown®**

The Healthy Grown® eco-label, established in 2001, is a product of the Wisconsin Eco-Potato partnership between the Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association (WPVGA) and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The International Crane Foundation, World Wildlife Fund and the Defenders of Wildlife are also part of the partnership. The Healthy Grown standard is designed to help growers reduce impacts on water, conserve natural ecosystems, increase biodiversity and improve productivity through researched-based sustainable and IPM processes. Healthy Grown sustainable farming practices are overseen by Protected Harvest, an independent oversight organization. 

# Considerations for growth and success with Canela Russet

By: Robert Davidson, CSU Extension Seed Potato Specialist

Canela Russet has been grown by SLV growers for the past few years, sometimes with great success, but often with problems related to its **individual** cultivar characteristics. **This cultivar has the potential for producing a high percentage of US No 1 tubers in a very tight size profile**, but overall yields may be less than other cultivars. Even though yields may be less (380 cwt/a +) Canela Russet has the potential for long term storage and has been very profitable for many growers when sold late season (early May to late June). This cultivar, however, has seen its share of problems in the last couple of years. This article will help to put some of these issues into perspective and, hopefully, provide some insight into understanding the cultivar so that each grower will have a greater chance for success.

Late storage to early season: Canela Russet is a cultivar which has a long dormancy (147 days average from the time of harvest to sprouting) which translates



into a need to warm the tubers prior to planting (**50-550F for two weeks**) to assure proper germination. This is especially critical when deciding to cut the tubers to help promote growth of each eye. Cutting is problematic since the tubers are very smooth and have few eyes, with more eyes concentrated near the

bud end of the tuber. It is very easy to cut the seed too small producing seed pieces with no more than one eye. This in turn produces a crop with a high percentage of single stems. During the early trials for this cultivar, the number of stems per plant was 1.9. This is quite low, so efforts must be made to increase the number of stems per plants from 1.9 to near 3.0. **This requires the use of slightly larger seed pieces (3.0 to 3.5 oz) and cutting no larger than splitters when available.** Additionally, warming the seed prior to planting and avoiding fresh cutting the tubers can pay big dividends in terms of stem numbers.

Growing season: Nitrogen management is critical during the season. **Total N rates should not exceed 140 to 160 units total for the season including residual from soil and N from irrigation water.** These levels appear to be critical

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for proper growth during the season and also for the finishing of the vines during the late summer. We know that **excess N applied later in the season has a dramatic effect on the vine maturity and on tuber maturity coupled with skin set.** The past couple of years, late season environmental factors have delayed vine maturity on those fields with **excess N** present and made for very difficult tuber skin set conditions.

**Harvest/Storage:** It is crucial for this cultivar to have the appropriate length of time for good skin set, assuming that the vines are actually maturing and ready to go down. **Four weeks is not too long for skin set, so proper planning is essential in terms of N management and vine killing.** In the past two to three years many growers have experienced problems relating to Fusarium spp. and tuber dry rot. **After much investigation, we believe that these problems are related to harvesting immature tubers which bruise more easily and provide wound areas for the pathogen to enter.** Additionally, very cool late season harvest temperatures set the tu-

bers up for greater wounding and, thus, more potential for dry rot. While this cultivar is not resistant to dry rot, it is no more susceptible than many other common cultivars raised by growers in the San Luis Valley. There is one notable difference, however. It appears that Canela Russet takes slightly longer to heal than for example, Russet Norkotah, which can provide greater likelihood of Fusarium spp. becoming established in the tuber. Also, keeping early storage temperatures in the 500F range for longer than two to three weeks can have a very detrimental effect on the amount of dry rot seen in the crop, especially when dealing with immature tubers. Finally, growers should recognize that this cultivar will store for a very long period, but only if the crop has been properly managed during the season and the tubers are mature.

**The use of Canela Russet as a long term storage alternative for producers can be very successful when following the appropriate management guidelines.** Please keep in mind a few rules as you produce this cultivar. Larg-

er seed, more eyes/seed piece, warming seed prior to planting, N management, proper vine maturity and vine kill with plenty of time for skin set, good harvest practices and proper early storage management. Following some of these practices can help you become more successful with this cultivar and increase both yields and profits. 

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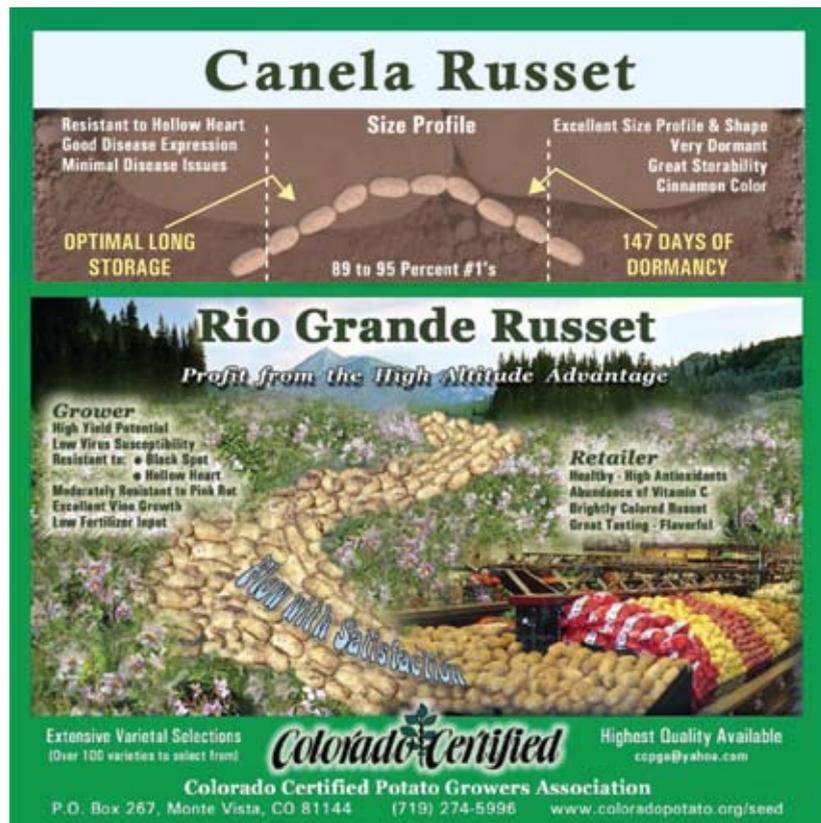
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# North Dakota Seed Potatoes

Willem Schrage, ND State Seed Department

**T**he North Dakota certified seed potatoes acreage has remained stable as the second largest seed potato industry in the country at around 16,000 acres for the last few years.

ND is the largest producer of seed of the variety Norland with over 2850 acres of Red and Dark Red Norland. Of the 2500 acres of Red LaSoda in the country over 1550 acres are grown in ND. ND is the second largest producer in the coun-



Bright red potatoes from the rich black soil in ND.

try of varieties such as Shepody, Umatilla Russet and Ranger Russet. While it is the third largest producer of seed potatoes for chipping with over 3200 acres, it is the largest producer of Dakota Pearl with almost 1200 acres.

The rich ND soils are producing the most attractive red potatoes, but several kinds of russet potatoes are now grown to supply the demand for the processing industry. The fact that many acres are irrigated has created a reliable supply

of processing potatoes.

Through the years ND certified seed potato producers have not changed their tolerances for viruses and have therefore been able to maintain the low level for diseases that is necessary to produce good quality seed potatoes. In the west of the state in isolation from other potatoes greenhouse tubers are planted for one or at the most two generations in the field. Formerly the first generations were grown in the Beach area in Western ND, but now they are now grown more north, close to Grenora. Most of production is shipped as clean seed to seed potato producers in the rest of the state. In the Cando area of ND isolation is still available allowing producers to maintain low disease readings. After these generations seed lots move to the final seed areas, where they are multiplied further. Seed potato producers in several other states also have found a clean seed source in ND.

Maintaining low inoculum levels of Potato Virus Y (PVY) demands continuous attention of seed potato growers, because of the virus's ability to spread fast when inoculum is present. PVY is still mainly a seed potato growers' problem and has not been of great concern to commercial growers. This is a good indication that seed potato producers have done a good job in keeping the inoculum down. However, since the virus has developed new strains, of which some may produce tuber necrosis the virus may become of more interest to commercial potato growers in the future. ND seed potato producers are staying on the alert to maintain low inoculum levels in order to keep the reputation of ND seed potatoes up.

The ND seed potato directory is available at: [www.ndseed.com](http://www.ndseed.com) (click on "Potato Directory") and at NDSSD, PO Box 5257, Fargo, ND, 58105, phone 701-231-5400

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which yield 6 gallons. The other 25% are making wine from fruit and grape juice. The wine juice kits do not require much time and effort. Your reward is 30 bottles of wine that cost between \$1.75 to \$2.75 a bottle. Midwest's DVD demonstrates how to make wine from fruit and grapes. Winemaking is truly a hobby that you can do for the rest of your life.

Midwest has a free 80 page catalog which is available upon request. The catalog has over 2000 products in it related to beer and winemaking. Midwest's "How to" DVD is free with any purchase. Gift certificates are available on-line. Beer and Wine kits make great gifts!

Contact us at Midwest Homebrewing and Winemaking Supplies, 3440 Beltline Blvd., St. Louis Park, MN 55416, visit our website at [www.midwestsupplies.com](http://www.midwestsupplies.com) or call toll free 888-449-2739.

## Make Beer & Wine at Home!



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Midwest has over 102 Beer and 136 Wine recipes to choose from.

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Minneapolis, MN 55416

## Hall Manufacturing Bush-Whacker Mowers

**H**all Manufacturing is excited to introduce 0% interest for 36 months on most of our 2011 product line. Bush-Whacker mowers are increasing in demand for agricultural, commercial and other applications where a heavy-duty, rugged mower is needed. We pride ourselves by leading the way with innovative design, superior performance and proven durability. We understand that today's economic times are not the best and we don't want that to stop you from getting the job done.

We hope that our great 0% interest for 36 months will give you enough flexibility to get you the best tools so you can finish the job.

For years our dealers and consumers have requested Bush-Whacker medium-duty cutters and now they are available. Designed with the same innovation as the heavy-duty Elite Series, but a better fit for clipping pastures, cutting grass and stocks to control insects and cutting brush up to 2" in diameter. Priced where the most price conscious consumer will

be excited.

Hall Manufacturing has been in the business of fabricating steel products for over 75 years. During that time our engineers, and love for barbecue, have come up with a barbecue pit smoker that is sure to win over your toughest judge. The Smokin' Bob is made of 5/16" rolled plate steel for the body & firebox. The cooking chamber is 60"x 30" and has over 10.7 square feet of cooking surface. The big question will be, with a trailer or without. 

## No More Five Gallon Buckets! Prevent Crop Loss at Header Downer Creek Crop Guard-Versatile Header Attachment

**I** watched my dad year after year hobble through milo stalks picking up dropped milo heads with a five gallon bucket in each of his hands. He always said, "There's got to be a better way." Finding myself in the same situation for many years, I have found the "better way." through Downer Creek Crop Guards. This improved crop guard with 3/8" thick plastic crop catching fingers guides the crop into the header. This reduces head loss and saves grain. Plastic fingers are bolted to a powder-coated heavy metal framework. The tapered

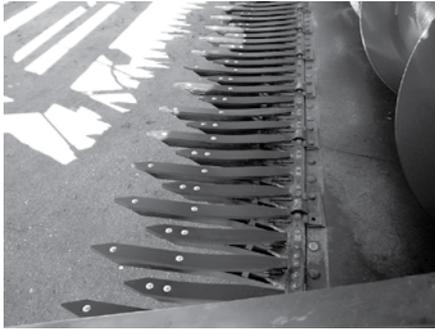
plastic at the cutter bar allows greater sickle cutting width while 17" and



13" staggered fingers allow crop flow into the header. 1-1/2" wide

fingers allows a 50% open area for crop flow into the header. All metal is double welded for strength and longevity. Attaching the guard to the combine header is a one bolt per foot process. The Downer Creek Crop Guard is available for rigid, draper, and flex headers and can be used for multiple crops including milo, sunflowers, canola, corn, and hauled wheat. Visit our website at [www.downermiloguards.com](http://www.downermiloguards.com) for testimonials and pictures of mounted crop guard on header. Please call 785-731-5634 for additional information.

## Downer Creek Crop Guard



Downer Creek Crop Guard, Ransom, Kan., announces its improved Downer Creek Crop Guard with 3/8" thick, UV resistant, heavy-duty plastic crop catching fingers to guide the crop into the header. This reduces shatter loss and saves grain. The Downer Creek Crop Guard is proven effective with milo, sunflowers, corn and hauled wheat. The tapered plastic at the cutter bar allows greater sickle cutting width, while 17 - and 13" staggered fingers allow crop flow into the header. A 12" downward bend allows the finger to be lower than the cutter bar. It's also available for John Deer 4" drapers. Drapers and flex heads available.

**Call 785-731-5634, or visit  
www.downermiloguard.com**

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# Mechanical Transplanter Co., LLC

## Model 92 Bed Shaper/ Mulch Layer

**M**echanical Transplanter Co. has now created a lower cost bed shaper/mulch layer machine. This machine will create a 4" high bed. Growers can use either 4' mulch for a 24" wide bed or 3' film for an 18" wide bed. This simple bed shaper/mulch layer also has a quick start system. All the grower needs to do is lower the machine after the roll of plastic film has been installed and it will start at the beginning of each row as the tractor pulls forward. Drip attachment is available for laying drip tape and this machine can also be used for flat ground.

Also remember to check out Mechanical's complete line of mulch transplanting equipment. Mechanical's new line of Model 912 & 948 machines give growers many new plant spacing options. Also each model now has a twin row configuration. The Model 912T or 948T have twin row spacings of 12, 14, 16 or 18". All plants transplanted with the twin row system will be set in a staggered pattern.



Contact: Mechanical Transplanter Co., LLC, Phone: 800-757-5268, FAX: 616-396-3619, Email: [mtc@egl.net](mailto:mtc@egl.net), Website: [www.mechanicaltransplanter.com](http://www.mechanicaltransplanter.com) 

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# Horstline

## Dump Wagons

**H**orstlines NX 240 is one of the BIGGEST players on the field. This silage dumper is 24 feet long 9'-2" wide inside and with extensions it has 8' high sides. This brute boasts 1900 cubic feet of volume or 54 cubic meters. If you heap this monster it has about 2300 cubic feet or 65 cubic meters. Riding on large 750/45x22.5 alliance radial tires and with a 26 ton 52,000 lbs pay load capacity it will make short work out of any field. Standard on all NX series trailers ( NX 160 - NX 240 ) as well as many other models, is our self opening hydraulic tailgate with built in grain door, rubber mounted height adjustable hitch with 360 deg swivel clevis. European style hoist which takes very little hydraulic fluid to raise, also lowering cycle times, Hydraulic disk brakes that work off tractor remotes as well as a full light package, including brake lights, signal lights running lights and a set of back up lights which are a must for evening operation. All our units can have an optional hydraulic jack instead of or 12,000 lbs drop leg



bull dog jack, as well there is optional hoops available for tarping, when using this unit for grain. No matter what you use this beast for it will get the job done fast and smooth, everytime. 

# MECHANICAL TRANSPLANTER CO.



**Model 1000  
Transplanter**

- Excellent for bare root and small cells
- Single row or multi-row units available
- Our most popular transplanter



**Model 90  
Mulch Layer**

- Lays any size mulch from 3-6 feet wide
- Shown with optional Drip Attachment
- Bedshapers also available



**Model JP-1  
Hand Seeder**

- Excellent for many seed sizes
- Lightweight & easy to handle
- Accurate spacing
- Toolbar models available

## Mechanical Transplanter Company, LLC

1150 Central Avenue \* Holland, MI 49423

Phone: 616-396-8738 or 800-757-5268 \* Fax: 616-396-3619

website: [www.mechanicaltransplanter.com](http://www.mechanicaltransplanter.com) \* e-mail: [mtc@mechanicaltransplanter.com](mailto:mtc@mechanicaltransplanter.com)

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From **Horstline**



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RX trailers feature almost indestructible high tensile steel.

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Cobden, Ont.

**HorstLine**



# Delta-Tooth Harrow

## The Shape Of The Future

Invented in 1988 by a Colorado rancher, the Delta-Tooth Harrow brings new life to an old implement. Totally redesigned to eliminate the problems inherent in other flexible harrows, the Delta-Tooth consists of a series of cast triangles and connectors bolted together in a pattern. This unique design allows for very tight tine spacing, more weight per foot, and superior longevity, creating the most versatile

harrow ever built. A quick comparison between the Delta-Tooth harrow and others:

Will it tangle? No, regardless of how roughly it has been used or how old it is, it will never tangle. Is it easy to repair? Yes, if needed the harrow can be repaired right in the field with two small wrenches. Does it self clean? Yes, because it is heavier and travels with a shaking motion, trash will accumulate to a certain

point then the harrow will roll it out. Can it be pulled at high speeds? Yes, speeds up to 15mph are common.

Distributed by Hi-Valley Manufacturing in Kremmling Colorado, the Delta-Tooth Harrow is custom assembled to each customer's exact need. We offer three bolt patterns, and custom widths to fit every budget. For more information please contact Dave or Chris Sammons 970-724-9488. 

## PHASE-A-MATIC 3 Phase Power Anywhere!

Phase converters are used when three-phase lines are not available or are cost prohibitive. The phase converter will run virtually any 3-phase machine at any single-phase location. Advances in converter technology have resulted in low price, high performance and reliability closely resembling three-phase line power. This enables us to provide the required power for CNC and other voltage sensitive equipment.

### APPLICATION

**Phase-A-Matic, Inc. Rotary Phase Converters** run all common three-phase machine shop equipment, providing the power necessary to run all load types - including CNC/PLC, transmitters, lasers, welders, battery chargers, heating

elements, etc. Whatever the load type - motor restive, induction, or transformer load - our Rotary Converter will power it. Bring your request to us and we will supply the right conversion for your application.

### ABOUT US

Product lines began over 46 years ago with the well-known **STATIC CONVERTER**, the workhorse for tens of thousands of regular shop machines, such as mills, lathes, etc. The **ROTARY CONVERTER FULL POWER** line is a true phase converter jointly developed with Baldor Electric and built to our stringent specifications for high performance and proven long-term dependability. It's the quietest rotary converter on the market, and the best

quality available anywhere. It meets your concerns in delivering the critical uptime and reliability your operation requires.

### COMPANY REPUTATION & BENEFITS

Profession, available technical support for proper sizing and installation, consistent product reliability and immediate delivery from stock for most items are core components of the strength of the company and the esteemed reputation.

Phase-A-Matic, Inc. phase converters range from 1/3 to 500 HP or more. We have the right converter to meet your needs in delivering economical reliable and true 3-phase power of the highest quality, thus providing the dependability and uptime you must have. 

## Lime City Equipment

In 1999, Blaine Kaylor founded Midwest Industrial Metal Fabrication at Huntington, Indiana. The company grew quickly, and in 2007, Blaine formed Lime City Equipment. After extensive R&D, LCE began designing and subsequently building steel grain trailers, special application trailers, and other custom agricultural equipment, i.e., gates, carts, scrapers, shrouds, rippers, etc. In response to the immediate demand for our products, LCE built a state-of-the-art

40,000 sq. ft. facility in 2008. This



new operation houses two (2) production lines with a capacity of 10 trailers

per week.

LCE has the dedicated team of highly skilled individuals committed to providing the highest quality steel trailers and equipment at affordable and fair prices.

We use certified welders, US Steel, and over 100 years of combined experience in metal fabrication and steel construction to provide American farm country with a grain trailer that will stand up to the rigorous requirements of a Midwest farmer. 

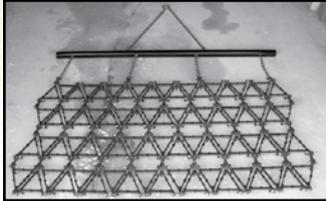
## Delta-Tooth Harrow

# THE SHAPE

### OF THE FUTURE

#### Advantages of the Delta Tooth

- Will not fold over on itself, allowing tight turns. Travels at high speeds
- Will not tangle.
- Will fold up for easy transportation on Trailer or pickup.
- Can be pulled end-wise through small gates.
- Will wear longer because the material is considerably harder than steel rods yet it has great strength and good ductility.
- Will clean itself of trash.
- Won't require repeated passes over areas heavy manure concentrations because of much greater weight & number of tines.
- Produces smaller pieces and better distribution.
- The Hi-Valley Harrow won't ever cause you to regret you bought it!



#### PRICING

Harrow Sections: Start at 4' and sold in even feet.  
 Available With or Without Pull Bar  
 Original Model: \$98 per linear ft.  
 Hammer Model: \$78 per linear ft.  
 Combination Model: \$88 per linear ft.  
 Pull Bar: 2 1/2" x 2 1/2" x 1/4" Square Tubing Using 1/4" High Tensile Chain to attach pull ring and harrow sections \$13.50 per foot

## Hi-Valley Manufacturing

Dave & Chris Sammons

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# C&R Supply, Inc. Birth Of A Sprayer

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 of sprayer to meet their needs.

"Instead of taking an off the shelf tank and attaching features, we needed to get all the input we could from customers and ATV manufacturers", said product

manager Dusty Miller. "With a good vision of what features and options were required, it became obvious that a completely new tank design was needed".

The EZ ATV Sprayer was designed with the operator in mind for ease of operation and functional ability and safety. With the sleek design brings the weight forward and more to a center of gravity for better machine balance. Allow-

ing the legs of the tank to wrap around the fenders of the ATV gives the sprayer dual sumps to give 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 is fitted with a 4 gpm Shurflo Pump and a quality Tee-Jet trigger style handgun in the convenient control panel at your

Used and New Irrigation Systems																											
Tico • Rainbird Wade • T&L • Hobbs/Amadas • Rovatti • Caprari																											
	<p><b>John Deere/Berkley</b>  <b>NEW</b> for \$9950.00            750 GPM at 60 PSI 400 GPM at 110 PSI            Full Safety Control • Primer/Battery/Muffler            5 x 20 Suction/Screen Rain Cover            Trailer/Fuel Tank add \$1000            New Amlad 3" 750 220 GPM \$1000</p>																										
	<p><b>Deals on Reels</b></p>																										
<p><b>In Stock Used Irrigation Systems in Good Condition for Immediate Delivery</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>800 pieces Circlelock 6 x 30</td><td>\$100</td></tr> <tr><td>200 pieces Circlelock 5 x 4</td><td>\$120</td></tr> <tr><td>30 Flex O Seal 6 x 20</td><td>\$50</td></tr> <tr><td>1000' Tico Mixed 5/6 x 6/20</td><td>\$2500/lot</td></tr> <tr><td>1000' Al 7 x 30 Hook</td><td>\$1500</td></tr> <tr><td>600 Tico 2 x 30 H&amp;R Sprinkler</td><td>\$50</td></tr> <tr><td>300 Hook 3 x 30 H&amp;R Sprinkler</td><td>\$55</td></tr> <tr><td>200 Sure Rain H&amp;R Sprinkler</td><td>\$80</td></tr> <tr><td>150 Pieces Used Hastings Hook 4 x 30 Sprinklers</td><td>\$100 Ea.</td></tr> </table> <p>Gaskets in stock for all makes of irrigation pipe.</p>	800 pieces Circlelock 6 x 30	\$100	200 pieces Circlelock 5 x 4	\$120	30 Flex O Seal 6 x 20	\$50	1000' Tico Mixed 5/6 x 6/20	\$2500/lot	1000' Al 7 x 30 Hook	\$1500	600 Tico 2 x 30 H&R Sprinkler	\$50	300 Hook 3 x 30 H&R Sprinkler	\$55	200 Sure Rain H&R Sprinkler	\$80	150 Pieces Used Hastings Hook 4 x 30 Sprinklers	\$100 Ea.	<p><b>100 of Solid Set Irrigation System \$100,000</b>            Tomato Grower Retired</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/2 Mile of Main Line</li> <li>• 2400 (Hook Type) 3 x 30" al pipe with sprinklers</li> <li>• NEW Ahmid Disk Filter 3" 250GPM \$1,000 (This system can be split up. Have pictures of total system)</li> </ul>								
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*Spray 30 feet wide with no boom*

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 requirements and needs.

C&R Supply, Inc. is a distributor and manufacturer of agricultural and roadside spray equipment located in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. For over 25 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 such as their C&R Foam Marker, Spot Sprayer, and the EZ ATV Sprayer featured in this ad. C&R is a provider for precision ag products such as GPS guidance systems, variable rate controllers, mapping, steering assist systems, and chemical injection units. C&R prides themselves on the knowledge and experience that is required to keep up with today's technology.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Safety</li> <li>- Quality</li> <li>- Durable</li> <li>- Efficient</li> </ul>	<p><b>FEATURES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Center of gravity low and forward</li> <li>- 4gpm Shurflo Pump</li> <li>- Controls at your side for easy and safe operation</li> <li>- Quality Tee-jet trigger handgun</li> <li>- Dual sumps and baffle</li> </ul>

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# Egbers on Super Edge

“There just isn’t enough we can say about the Super Edge Auger Flighting” Agrees Doug and Laura Egbers, owners of Egbers Flighting Company, Inc. The Super Edge is created in the rolling process. This is a cold rolling process so the steel is not heat treated. “This lets the steel retain its strength.” States Doug. Because of how the flighting is made, the outside edge is thicker than your common market flighting or plain flighting as they call it. Super Edge Auger Flighting has approximately 50 thicker outside edge. It gives longer wear and longer life of the auger.

And Egbers knows their augers. Their repair and fabrication division has years of experience in re-flighting and balancing auger sections. “It just makes good sense to replace the auger flighting instead of buying a new auger section.” Confirms Doug, “New auger sections can be pricey and the Super Edge Auger

Flighting is priced to sell.” Along with their repair’s Egbers offers a wide assortment of replacement parts and tubing. They have you basic inside tubing, pipe, rolled tube for grain cart unloading augers all the way up to 40 ft. lengths for transport augers. “We’ve always thought freight and shipping to our customers was a problem, we can ship pretty much all the replacement parts a customer needs from here.” States Laura “That way all your parts come from one location instead of several.”

New service for Egbers is their ability to balance combine rotors. “We’re always looking for new products and services for our customers. These rotors can be balanced at a fraction of what a new one costs,” Says Laura.

All in all Egbers supports a great team for sales and repairs. They’re your One-Stop-Shop for your replacement needs. Call them at 800-462-2588 or check them out on the web - [www.eflighting.com](http://www.eflighting.com).





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Left Hand                      Super Edge                      Right Hand

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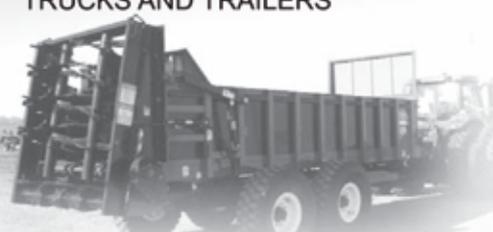
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# LOOK MA – NO WIRES! WIRELESS GRAIN TEMPERATURE MONITORING

Technology 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 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 (1 to 2 miles) 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 as well as numerical. Temperature parameters (minimum and maximum) can be set for each bin, as well as a rate of rise temperature over a designated time period. Temperature history reports are also available for print out.

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.

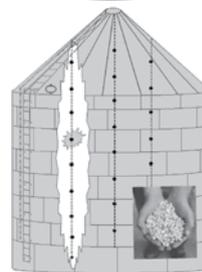


Either of these wireless systems will save you time and money, while providing peace of mind about the true condition of your grain. Knowing your grain temperatures, while watching for changes, is the only safe way to monitor the condition of your grain.

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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# Buy Irrigation Motors and Controls Factory Direct!

Lubbock Electric Co. of Lubbock, TX and North American Electric have forged an alliance to market vertical hollow shaft irrigation motors. The press release states:

North American Electric, Inc. is proud to announce that it has entered into a strategic alliance with Lubbock Electric Company to market its Vertical Hollow Shaft Irrigation Motors as the first step in a larger relationship. Lubbock Electric Company has been appointed as the Master Distributor, Distribution Center and Sales Agent for North American Electric products. Per the agreement, Lubbock Electric will maintain a dedicated warehouse of North American motors in Lubbock, Texas. According

to David Hackman, Vice President of North American Electric, Inc. "Aligning ourselves with the right partner is absolutely critical in order for us to enter the Lubbock market. Lubbock Electric Company has the product expertise and offers the after sales service and logistical support that we need."

Currently, inventory is in place from 50HP through 250HP in Lubbock, with additional ratings through 500HP available in the first quarter of 2011. With this alliance, Lubbock Electric Co. can offer factory-direct pricing, cost-effective freight rates, and factory authorized warranty or modifications.

Along with the motors, Square D pump panels are offered in across-the-line, soft-

start, or variable frequency drive configurations. Please call Tom White at 800-692-4474 for complete details and pricing.

Lubbock Electric Company was founded in 1944 with one service truck and five employees, repairing electric motors. Six decades later, LECO occupies more than 100,000 square feet of office, warehouse and shop space. Eighty-five diversely talented employees operating more than 50 service vehicles work to service an industrial clientele with the highest quality products from the industrial sector's finest manufacturers. Service departments include electric motor rewinding, cotton gin hydraulics, electrical control panel fabrication, and systems integration. 

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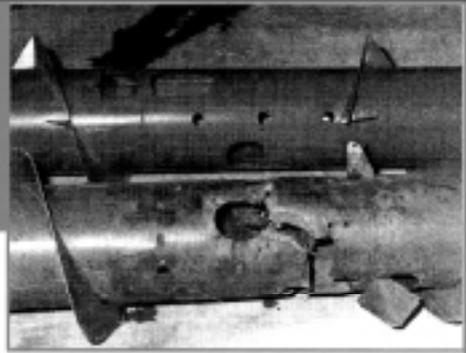
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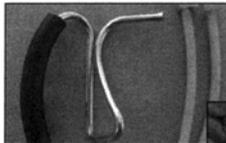
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# Leadership Named For The 59th All American Jersey Show & Sale

The team of Jersey breeders who will lead The 59th All American Jersey Shows & Sales were announced today by the general chairman for 2011, Jim VanBuskirk, Carleton, Mich.

An annual production of the American Jersey Cattle Association, the All American is held in conjunction with the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky. More than 100 Jersey breeders and enthusiasts from across the country donate their services to planning and staging the three shows, two sales and youth awards banquet that make up the most exciting weekend of dairy breed promotion in the world.

Corey Lutz, Lincoln, N.C., will chair the Sale Committee, succeeding Mike Fremstad, Viroqua, Wis., who will serve as the 2010 associate general chairman. The 2010 associate chair for

the sale committee will be Jim Quist, of Fresno, Calif.

Chair of the Open Show Committee will be this year's Klussendorf Trophy honoree, Mike Stiles, Clear Brook, Va. Named associate chair was Joshua Gordon, Warsaw, Ind.

Sue Luchsinger, Syracuse, N.Y., will chair the meeting of the Junior Activities Committee, with Wesley Blankenship, Jackson, Tenn., serving as the associate chair. Also serving on this committee will be the 2010 National Jersey Queen, Lena Sweeney of Visalia, Calif.

The National Jersey Jug Futurity Committee will be led by Jennifer Gordon, Warsaw, Ind. Brooke Core Powers, Richmond, Ky., is the associate.

## 2010 Shows, Sales Set Records

The 2010 All American was the largest exhibition of registered Jerseys in the world, with 398 outstanding females placed in the open show and the

National Jersey Jug Futurity. A total of 218 animals were shown by 133 aspiring Jersey breeders in The All American Junior Jersey Show.

The 58th All American Sale averaged \$7,029.10 on 67 lots, including the high selling bull Sunset Canyon Dominican-ET at \$96,000. The high female at \$21,500 was Hi-Kel Tbone Pfenning-ET. The 53rd Pot O'Gold Sale, presented by Cow's Match® Jersey Blend, smashed all previous records, with the high seller at \$10,750 and an average of \$4,796.77. All 31 heifers sold in the Pot O'Gold had been genotyped.

The 2011 events will run from Saturday through Monday, November 5, 6 and 7 at the Kentucky Exposition Center. Contact Dr. Cherie L. Bayer, coordinator of The All American Jersey Shows & Sales, for more information on the events or available sponsorships at 614/322-4456. 

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The original multi-layered insulated curtain was developed and patented in 1984 by Carolyn Henderson, American Agra Curtain's current president. Since then, many modifications and improvements have been incorporated into our insulated curtain which is marketed under the name of Insulated MAR-CO-LITE. Most of our curtains are still on the job after seven or eight years of service.

In addition to our insulated curtains, we have many other products designed specifically for the agricultural building industry such as room and shop dividers, fan covers, bird barriers, pulleys, stainless steel cable, rope, cord, split bolts, curtain clips, and insulated curtains with no film for dairies, concrete blankets, sidewall insulation for garages, door covers for basement rooms, and crawl space covers. Installation instructions are included with all orders.

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# Aristocrat Angus Ranch

**A**fter 10 years in the sale management business, and ranch manager for several purebred operations, Aristocrat Angus Ranch was founded in 1966 by Ben & Nita Houston just outside of Platteville, CO. Situated between the St. Vrain and South Platte rivers with a backdrop of the majestic Rocky Mountains, Aristocrat Angus is an idyllic location for raising cattle. It didn't take long for Ben to establish himself in the national Angus spotlight when the bull Nobleman was crowned Grand Champion at the International Livestock Show in Chicago in 1968. Since then Aristocrat Angus has strived to be at the forefront of genetic improvement of the Angus breed by utilizing modern selection processes and reproductive technologies to produce balanced, high-performing seedstock for the beef industry.

Utilization of the tremendous amount of information provided by the American Angus Association in the form of EPDs and comparative data allows



Aristocrat to select the best prospects for future generations. Selection criteria include performance, carcass, maternal, temperament and "value-added" traits. Full data is available on all of Aristocrat's bulls, giving buyers another valuable tool to aid in their

selection of the best fit for their individual program.

The ultimate goal at Aristocrat Angus Ranch is to provide functional genetics that can perform in a multitude of environments. This includes the high mountain environments right on their doorstep, so Aristocrat has consciously selected bulls that can perform at high altitudes.

Over the years Aristocrat Angus has been involved in some groundbreaking international cattle deals including the shipment of live cattle, embryos and semen to Ukraine. Many industry groups from across the country and around the world have toured the facilities and been guests of the Houston family. Son Skylar, grandson Tanner and their loyal employees will insure that the tradition of excellence started by Ben will continue for many generations to come. 

## Microchips: Now, More Than Just A Number

By: Colleen Riley

**F**or decades, animals have been identified with implanted RFID microchips. Microchips provide a safe, reliable, humane way to identify your animals. A small microchip, about the size of a grain of rice, is implanted just under the skin of the animal with a syringe. It provides permanent identification for animals that are sold, transported, bred, and shown. This identification is very useful for veterinarians, transporters, auction houses, and rescue workers. Many animals look alike, and only permanent identification can guarantee that an animal is the one it's reported to be. Microchip identification also provides peace of mind in identifying animals that have been lost, evacuated, stolen, or need to be sold quickly.

New microchip technology is now available exclusively from Destron-Fear-

ing which not only identifies the animal with a 15-digit unique number; it also



reads the temperature of the animal. The Bio-Thermo LifeChips, when read with

a Destron Universal Reader, will give the temperature of the animal within a degree of the rectal temperature. We did the studies for the Bio-Thermo LifeChips in our herd of llamas to prove that the temperatures are accurate and reliable. In one quick push of the reader button, you can get a precise temperature reading without undue stress on the animal. This added feature that only costs a few dollars more per chip, makes reading the temperature of an animal fast and convenient. It's easy to monitor your animals for signs of stress while traveling, showing, or in case of a health issue. While not every animal will need this new technology, those that travel frequently, are sensitive to temperature, or have increased value will benefit from it. For more information about Bio-Thermo LifeChips, visit [www.rileyid.com](http://www.rileyid.com) 

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## All-natural feed additive for beef and dairy cattle helps nutrient digestion and aids in preventing bloat.

BovaZyme is an all-natural feed additive specially formulated to increase nutrient digestion and productivity. Quite simply, cattle have trouble digesting all the nutrients in even the best feedstuffs. The range of enzymes in BovaZyme break down the undigested nutrients so they can provide all the nutritional benefits you paid for, while increasing the output of important microbial proteins.

### Better digestion pays big benefits

Scientific studies and on-farm field trials have shown that BovaZyme can provide many important benefits to cattle:

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- Better transitioning

### Bloat Prevention for Wheat Pasture Cattle

The findings of a 2010 study conducted by the Texas Agrilife

Research Center in Vernon, Texas determined BovaZyme decreased foam strength, an essential step in helping to prevent bloat in cattle grazing on wheat pasture. Bloat is a very serious and costly metabolic disorder that particularly affects cattle grazing wheat pastures – typically 2-3% mortality attributed to bloat.



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Improper fermentation in the rumen creates foam that traps gases resulting in distention and culminating in (frothy) bloat. The study found that the enzymes found in BovaZyme effectively reduce foam strength, which has been shown to reduce the occurrence of bloat. None of the 20,000 head of cattle given BovaZyme in on-farm feeding experienced bloat. And all the other cattle experienced the many important digestive benefit of this all-natural enzyme feed additive provides.

Simply adding BovaZyme to your feeding program can help nutrient digestion and aid in preventing bloat. To learn more about BovaZyme, a product of York Ag, call 1-800-632-1895 

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## Ranchers are Raising Alpacas and Loving It

**T**housands of farms and ranches across America now raise alpacas as a successful livestock business.

Alpacas are beautiful, intelligent, and docile animals. Cousin to the llama, adult alpacas stand about 36 inches at the withers and weigh between 150 and 200 pounds. They do not have horns, hooves, claws or incisors. Social animals that seek companionship, alpacas communicate most commonly by humming, but neck posturing, ear and tail positioning, and head tilting are other communication methods.

Alpacas are native to the Andean Mountain range of South America, particularly Peru, Bolivia, and Chile. Once an Incan civilization treasure, alpacas provided clothing and transportation. Their fiber was reserved for royalty and was known as the "fiber of gods".

The United States first commercially imported alpacas in 1984. What began as a small, intimate alpaca community has blossomed into an official national organization, the Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association (AOBA). That was over twenty years ago. Today, AOBA is headquartered in Nashville, TN, and serves to facilitate the expansion of a strong and sustainable alpaca industry through the growth and development of the national herd and its products. Since AOBA's official

formation in 1988, its membership has grown steadily to more than 4,000 members with over 150,000 registered alpacas throughout North America.

Many ranchers find that alone, or in addition to raising cows, horses, and other livestock, raising alpacas offers countless benefits – benefits that are hard to match. With their gentle personalities, alpacas are the perfect livestock to raise as a family business. They are easy to handle and raise, require minimal acreage and food, and can offer numerous financial benefits.

The complete package. That is how Barb Nuessle of Bay Springs Farm Alpacas, LLC in Cape May, NJ describes her alpaca business. Barb was a market research manager for a high profile company and her husband, Warren, ran his own head-hunter business, placing executives into major corporations. They both wanted to escape corporate America... they couldn't wait to retire! Together, the Nuessles decided to venture into farming.

The Nuessles researched a variety of livestock businesses. Barb liked llamas but felt they were a bit too big. Then, in 1993, Barb met her first alpaca. "I am a knitter," says Barb. "Their fine fiber was the clincher for me!"

There are two types of alpacas in the United States today. Although almost physically identical, what distinguishes the two types of alpacas is their fiber. The Huacaya (wa-Ki'-ah) is the more common of the two and has a fluffy, extremely fine coat. The Suri is the rarer of the two and has fiber that is silky and resembles pencil-locks.

Working outside, interacting with the alpacas, sharing her experience with farm visitors, and working in her on-site store are just some of the things that Barb loves about her new life. "This is a lifestyle as well as a business," says Barb. "Being able to work with such amazing animals is just the icing on the cake."

After 10 years in the alpaca business with 26 Huacaya alpacas and a successful store on their farm, the Nuessles no longer look forward to retirement. "I look forward to the future of this great business," says Barb. "I have no plans to retire!"

Another desirable aspect of the alpaca industry to many is the fact that alpacas don't have to be killed to be profitable. Alpacas are shorn, without harm, every twelve to eighteen months. They produce a luxurious fiber that is stronger, warmer, and lighter than wool and is frequently compared to the softness of cashmere. Making it even more desirable, alpaca fiber is hypo-allergenic, contains no lanolin, and comes in 22 natural colors.

For Janet and Mike Wilkins of Wilkins Livestock LLC in Geneva, Nebraska adding alpacas to their cattle ranch made sense. The Wilkins's know cattle. For them, it has been a lifelong business. They've raised Angus cattle, registered quarter horses, and hogs as well as feeding cattle commercially. For 40 years, they ran a cow-calf operation. They then began a livestock insurance business that included alpacas. Seeing the many benefits of raising alpacas, expanding their herd was logi

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# Dry Creek Alpacas

**F**iber, fiber, fiber... ah what does a person do with all this fiber. If you bought your alpacas as an investment, second income, or just wanted alpacas to enjoy everyone has



fiber from their alpacas. What does a person do with the fiber now that it has been sheared? One thing to remember is that just because one person does one thing with their fiber that might not be the answer for you. Look into every option and be ready to change as your life style changes.

Once you have the fiber shown from your animals you need to skirt it. No, that doesn't mean putting clothes on your alpaca. Skirting in this case means to clean the fiber from foreign objects that the alpaca rolled in or blew in from the wind. Lay your fleece out and start picking out weeds, beans (manure), grain, etc from the fleece. Second cuts (the short little stubby pieces of fleece from being shorn) needs to be taken out. All guard hair or primary fibers needs to be removed. Once you have your fleece all skirted it is ready to be processed.

One option is to send it to a mini mill to be made into yarn. Once the fleece has been made into yarn it is ready to be either sold, knitted, weaved or crocheted into an item. Scarves is a favorite and can be worn be everyone. Hats are also

very popular. I love to have my favorite alpaca's yarn made into a blanket. Who doesn't love a warm soft blanket when the weather outside is cold.

Another option is spin it yourself into yarn. Many design possibilities open up by having it hand spun. Combine different color fibers to create a different color yarn. Spin the fleece into a Navajo yarn, add beads, or combining other types of fibers such as wool, angora, or bamboo for a totally different look and feel. There are lots of books out there on the different types of yarns a person can spin. If you know how to knit or crochet you can have or spin it yourself the weight of yarn you need for a specific project.

If none of these options don't appeal to you how felting. Felting has become

a favorite with crafters and so many things can be made from felted alpaca. Felting is a technique where a big change in water temperature and friction is applied to the fiber causing it to enter twine with its self. Felting can also be done with needle punching the fibers over and over again. Once the fiber is felted it doesn't fray and is very strong. Place mats, wall hangings, bags, hats or even clothing can be made. The possible are truly endless.

Coops are still another option. Send in your fiber to a coop in exchange for an already made yarn, socks, blankets or hats. A person doesn't have to wait for their fiber to be processed. There are several coops in the States to choose from.

Now you are asking what does Dry Creek Alpacas do with their fiber. We sell our roving to hand spinners and spin most of our fiber ourselves into yarn. We enjoy the creative process of making one of a kind yarn for our customers. The leg and neck fiber we have made into unique rugs and sell them. When time is allowed we knit scarves and hats at our local craft events. 

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# AlpacaKing's Rocky II

## A true story about a very brave little alpaca

Story by Mary C. King

Photographs by Lindsey R. Annan

**R**ocky, Samson, and May returned home on April 17, 2008. We were so happy to get them home and were hopeful they would feel welcome with the rest of the herd. By summer we began halter training in preparation for Fall Fest, a large alpaca show in Loveland, Colorado. Rocky and Samson were both looking great and we were sure they would win.



As time drew near, we eagerly awaited our chance to show Rocky and Samson. They were both very nervous about traveling to the show, so we gave them special vitamins and minerals and probiotics to help relax them for the trip. When we arrived, we stopped for a vet check. This requirement is necessary so a vet can evaluate their health before they enter the building.

Doctor Wheeler examined both boys at vet check. Saturday, November 15, 2008 was the first day of the show. Rocky entered the show ring with two half brothers to earn a Get of Sire for Denver Rio Grande, Rocky's sire. Get of Sire is when you show three offspring of a herd sire to show the stamping of his genetics. They won second place for Denver Rio Grande. As the day went on, Rocky was becoming more stressed because he was away from home and very hot because of his dense and long fiber,

which began to melt and flop. It was much warmer than usual for this time of year and we had not brought fans to cool down the alpacas.

We entered the show ring with Rocky for Bred and Owned Yearling and got the gate—we were shocked and very disappointed but realized he was difficult to judge because of his wilted fiber. Samson received a Third Place ribbon in his halter show so we were delighted with this award.

We brought several fans into the boys' pen to try to dry Rocky before he showed in his halter show on Sunday. Rocky entered the show ring with 14 other alpacas. He looked good but his fiber was still damp and difficult to judge and he got the gate again. We were in disbelief and very disappointed because we felt Rocky was high quality with high quality fiber. This was a low point for us because the previous year Rocky was rejected by his mother and his herd and now was excluded from the ring.

My sister was sitting next to me as I observed this shocking experience and saw my disappointment. She reminded me to not give up on Rocky because this was just part of his story. In my mind I was thinking this was a story I was not enjoying. We just needed to go home and prepare for the next show in January 2009, the National Western Stock show in Denver.

For many years, the Alpaca Breeders of the Rockies had held an alpaca halter, performance and fleece show at the Estes Park Wool Market (EPWM). As Colorado added more alpaca breeders, EPWM could no longer accommodate the alpaca show, so in 2002 the ABR Board of Directors began searching for a new venue. The National Western Complex in Denver was approached since they had plenty of space to house the show, with lots of room for growth. It was a large financial undertaking, but it has been very successful for the Great Western Alpaca Show—now the largest Alpaca Show in the United States.

The National Western Complex is also home to the National Western Stock Show (NWSS), one of the largest stock shows in the country. The Stock Show for 2011 will be the 105th annual show, drawing livestock from across the United States and internationally and has had over 600,000 visitors for its sixteen-day run in January each year.

Becky Zierer, President of ABR in 2003, contacted the National Western Stock Show Livestock Manager after the first successful Great Western Alpaca Show to see if an alpaca show could be added to the stock show as livestock, making the alpaca an official participant of the NWSS, not just an adjunct for interest. The NWSS did not include the alpaca as livestock, but that first Great Western Alpaca Show in 2003 drew over 400 alpacas and grew to over 1300 alpacas from 30 states in 2010. The Stock Show personnel were impressed with the number of alpacas coming to the ABR sponsored shows, and each year Becky continued to ask if the alpacas could be added to the stock show as livestock. Finally a new Livestock Manager, Bill Angell, was hired and in 2008 asked if we wanted to showcase the alpacas at the stock show in 2009. It also helped that in 2008 the federal Farm Bill officially listed alpaca as livestock.



In January 2009 the National Western Stock Show included the alpaca for the first time! We decided to take Rocky to this show and try again. I was almost sick to my stomach as I sat in the audience and watched Larry show Rocky. I didn't think I could bear another rejection.

# Alpaca Registry, Inc.

**A**lpaca Registry, Inc., or ARI, is the largest alpaca registry in the world. Created in 1988, the ARI methodology and database are some of the most sophisticated and accurate of any livestock industry worldwide. ARI was created specifically to protect the alpaca gene pool in North America, and helps ensure each breeder's investment in alpacas is protected from cross-breeding with other camelids. Since its inception, Alpaca Registry Inc. has maintained and administered the database for ARI-registered alpacas, most of which are in North America.

Included in the data that ARI stores is:

- the scientifically-qualified genealogy for each registered alpaca
- blood typing/DNA records for each registered alpaca, and,
- ownership records of alpacas.

Alpaca owners can apply to register alpaca offspring, called crias. Once the parentage has been validated, ARI will issue a registration certificate that provides the known lineage, displaying up to five generations, and assigns a unique number to each alpaca. In 1998, members of ARI closed the registry to the addition of alpacas from outside the registry. Since then, only alpacas born to an ARI registered sire and dam qualify for registration.

It is an exciting time at ARI right now. The Registry has recently started gathering alpaca EPD (Estimated Progeny Difference) data to add to our already extensive database. With data from over 3000 alpacas already submitted, ARI will be completing the first EPD calculations this fall. EPDs have long been used in other livestock industries

and this program is the future of our industry. Alpaca breeders will be able to make more informed breeding and buying decisions to improve their herd. This benefits farms of all sizes and is a tremendous asset to the entire alpaca community.



Prior to deciding to enter the alpaca industry, it is important to gather as much information as possible. This includes speaking with current alpaca breeders, attending nearby shows, researching prices and obtaining general education. Once you have decided to invest in your first alpacas, we strongly recommend involving an attorney to develop a contract which fully explains all rights and obligations between the buyer and seller. When buying at auctions, one should be sure to fully understand the auction house's rules with regard to payment and possession of alpacas. Also, be aware of the conditions for releasing and obtaining the ARI certificate for the alpacas purchased at auction.

Those who make up ARI are, appropriately enough, those who benefit most from its existence. All owners of a living, ARI registered alpaca are, by default, members of ARI and receive ARI related information, including ARI policy and procedure and bylaw changes. ARI members can also elect to become voting members. Voting members are entitled to free database queries and to vote for board positions, changes to bylaws, and the usual governing issues. Each voting member receives ARI mailings, which include ballots, surveys, and communications. The ARI staff members, located at the headquarters in Lincoln, Nebraska, is here to assist you with any questions you may have on how to set up a new account with ARI.

ARI is constantly adding services and value to the alpaca industry. ARI has increased educational opportunities for potential and existing ARI members through our Alpaca Academy website, [www.AlpacaAcademy.com](http://www.AlpacaAcademy.com). On Alpaca Academy you will find an extensive library of articles and videos to help you as you start your exciting journey into alpaca ownership. ARI also has a FAQ section available on our registry website, [www.alpacaregistry.com](http://www.alpacaregistry.com), to answer many of your questions regarding ARI and our services.

ARI can be contacted over the phone, online, or through the mail. We look forward to working with you soon! Alpaca Registry, Inc.

5901 North 28th Street, Suite 100

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tion. There were 15 alpacas in the show ring and Rocky was one of the youngest. Family and friends were sitting with us as the judge looked at Rocky. I cannot put into words my anxious feelings.

As the judge examined all the alpacas, she chose six to place and Rocky was in the finals. She went back to place in proper order and she put Rocky in FIRST place! My sister-in-law was sitting next to me and we both started crying. I could not believe my eyes. Just two months

before, the show ring rejected Rocky, like his mother and herd rejected him, and now he not only was allowed to participate, but was awarded the first place blue ribbon in a field of 15 alpacas. The judge commented as she gave him his ribbon, "this male has every quality you would look for in choosing a herd sire for your breeding program—he is the full package." Her words couldn't have been sweeter. So as my sister reminded me two months earlier—this is just part of

Rocky's story--and this is the part I really love. Rocky will go down in the annals of the National Western Stock Show as the first white alpaca blue ribbon winner.

This concludes the second part of Rocky's story. As he continues to grow and mature into an adult and walk into the show ring and his breeding career, we will continue to document and watch this brave alpaca who has overcome adversity and grown strong and proud in the process. 

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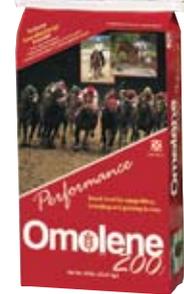
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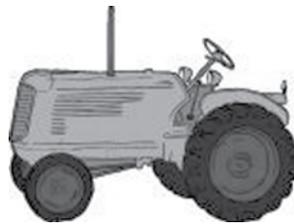
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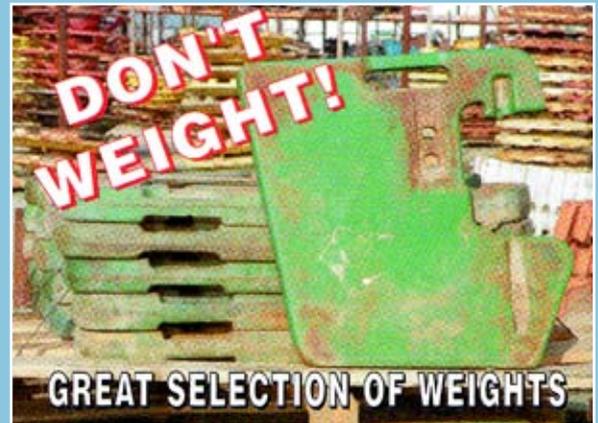
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