

# *Western Farm, Ranch & Dairy Magazine*

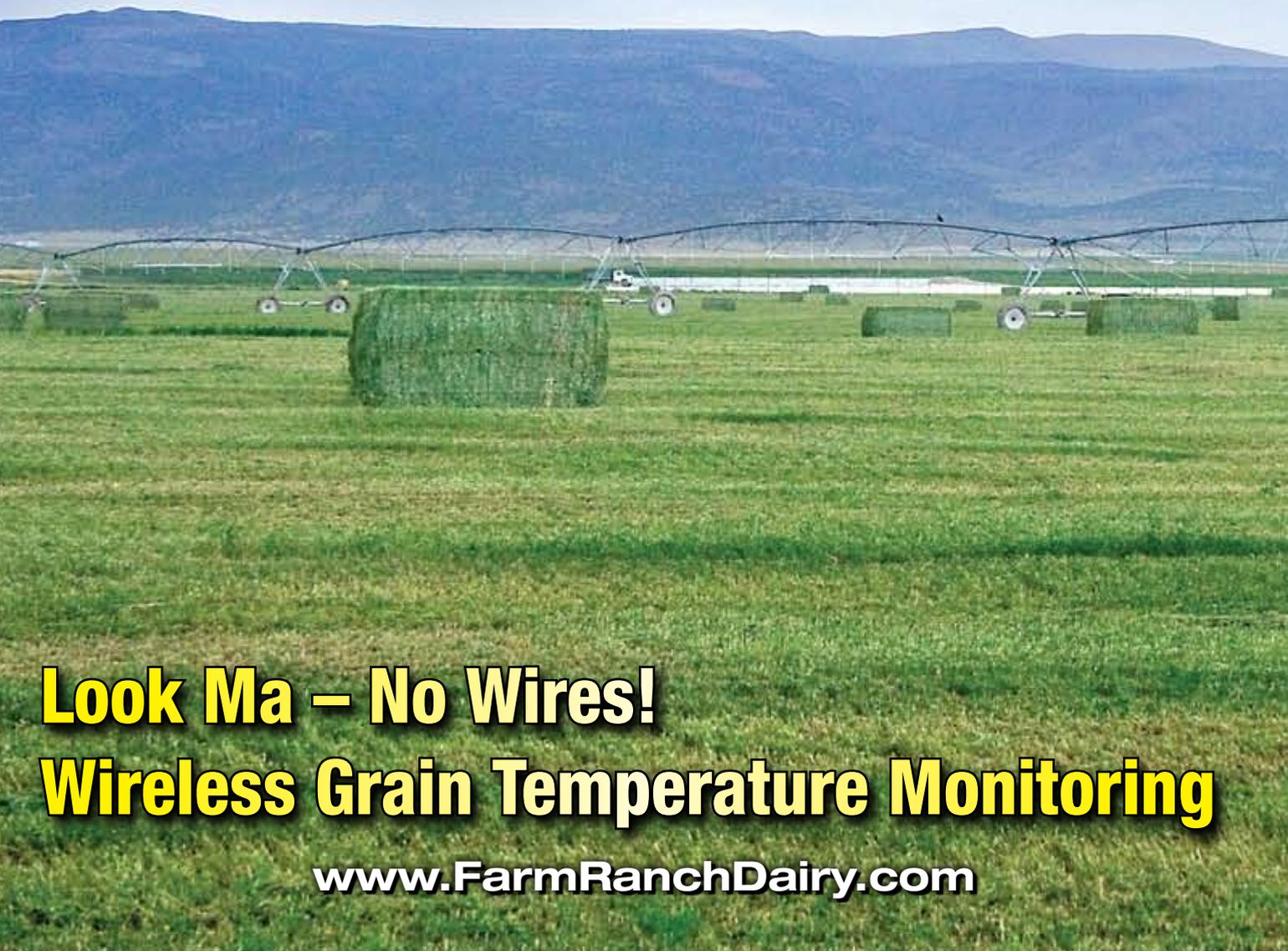
The vital resource of the Ag Industry

Rocky Mountain/Heartland • spring/summer edition 2011

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ON THE COVER

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Rocky Mountain/Heartland • spring/summer edition 2011

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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. 

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Missouri Hay Tarps has been protecting and covering round and square bales across the US since 1996. The company's founder Earl Miller is responsible for many US patents but it's his unique "Stake and Wind Lockdown" system that has put Missouri Hay Tarps on the map. Grommets are spaced every 12 inches. Combined with the patent locking stake and webbing, when installed properly, this engineered hay covering system is virtually indestructible and is advertised to have 300% more holding power than the competition.

In addition to the unique lockdown system, the tarp boasts a rip-stop fabric that

is rope and fiber reinforced, waterproof, shrink-proof and is among the heaviest hay tarps sold. Tarps are white in color and come treated with a special coating,



both are critical components in combating the sun's damaging UV Rays. Tarps are offered in 27 different sizes guaran-

teed to cover just about any hay configuration you can dream up.

The founder Earl Miller passed away in 2004 and the company is now owned and operated by Owensville, Missouri, residents Bruce Paneitz and Randy Blaske. The two partners are committed to continuing the business under the principles of which it was built, offering a quality product at a reasonable price, backed by exceptional service.

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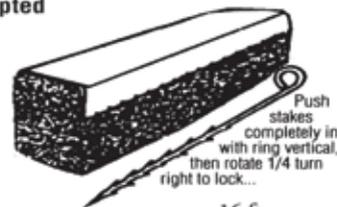
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# Grazing Grass On Irrigated Farms

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 directly 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 graz-

ing 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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## 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](mailto:info@ronsmfg.com). (Also, please see their ad in this issue.)

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Making beer at home has never been easier and the quality of the finished product rivals that of micro brewed beer. Midwest offers over 110 recipes to choose from and all of the ingredients you need to make your own custom recipes. Could you be the next Sam Adams? Jim Cook, the founder of Sam Adams started as a home brewer while he perfected his recipes.

Beer recipes are available for beginners to expert homebrewers. Either way, Midwest has a "How to" DVD that takes you step by step through the process of brewing beer at home in your kitchen. Simply pop in the DVD and start brew-

ing. You see the brewing process demonstrated from the boiling process all the way through to the bottling process.



Making wine at home has never been more popular. Back in the 1970's winemakers made wine from what ever fruit they could get their hands on. You may remember the Plum or Beet wine your neighbor or Uncle gave you that made your eyes water. The times have changed. Today winemakers use high quality wine juice from all over the world. This juice has been acid adjusted and pH balanced to insure optimal results. Make high qual-

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Midwest has a free 88-page catalog, which is available on 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!

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# Let's All Conserve Hay

By Steve Hodgen

As the summer months wane, along with the pasture forage for your horses, it's time to start thinking about feeding hay again. Before you do, you need to ask yourself if you're going to go through the same old routine of seeing your hay go to waste or are you going to make a



change. You know the story, put a bale of hay out and watch your horses pull it out and stomp it into the mud.

If you're like most people, (including me at one time), you're wasting anywhere from 40 to 50% of your hay every year. Here in the Midwest, we've had a pretty good year for growing hay. Prices have remained low and the quality is excellent. Ask someone in Texas how their year was and you'll get a different answer (maybe even a punch in the nose). The same goes for people in the Northeast and the Northwest. Either too much rain or no rain at all has made buying hay a miserable experience. And don't think you're safe in the Midwest either. Those other people have to get their hay from somewhere and that means we have to ship it to them. This drives the price up for everyone. Here at Sunny Meadow Farms in Fountain-town, Indiana, we knew it was time for a change. We decided to invest our money in the "H-8" big bale feeder for horses from Klene Pipe Structures of Greensburg, Indiana. Not only has it cut our hay waste to practically nothing, the safety and durability of this feeder is unparalleled. We bought our first "H-8" in the fall of '07 and were so pleased that we bought a second one in the fall of '08. Let's All Conserve Hay By Steve Hodgen To me, free choice is the

best way to feed your horses and this feeder is perfect for that. You can leave your hay out 24/7 and because you can easily attach a roof and your hay sits on a deck 2' off the ground, you don't have to worry about your hay getting wet or moldy. You can also latch the grills up when you want to stop feeding for any reason. No mold, no stirring up hay dust and no waste, what more could you ask for? Made out of heavy gauge steel tubing and built on skids for portability, the

"H-8" weighs over 1000 pounds; your horses aren't going to be abusing this feeder.

When I find a product I like, I want to let other people know about it. That's why I didn't hesitate when I had the opportunity to write this article. I just hope that this will help others who suffer from the same problem that I had.

You can find more information at Klene Pipe Structures, Inc. 800-876-9721 or [www.klenepipe.com](http://www.klenepipe.com)



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# “The Eliminator” Incinerator

**E**xciting new times at Super Nova Mfg., Inc. we are currently in the process of setting up a dealer and distributor network. The company is also adding new items to its product line, which will help to serve the needs of our ever expanding customers.

Sammy Massey is the owner, inventor, designer, and patent holder of all six models of “The Eliminator” incinerator (SN250, SN500, SN1000, SN1500, SN2000, & SN3000). Any of these models can be setup with diesel, L.P. gas, or natural gas.

The Eliminator is the best incinerator on the market today. It’s built out of quality materials and quality parts, which provide our customers with many years of high performance, low maintenance, and lower fuel consumption.

To customers and employees, Super Nova promises to abide by its new mis-

sion statement. “Super Nova Mfg., Inc. is committed to the design, manufacturing and service of the most efficient and highest quality incinerators in the world



that exceed the needs and expectations of our customers and government agencies. Further, Super Nova promises to engage in healthy and good business practices by adhering to a strict code of

ethics, honesty, integrity, and creations of everlasting relationships.”

Visit Super Nova’s website for updates on new products and announcements of dealers and distributors: [www.supernovamfg.com](http://www.supernovamfg.com)

Super Nova makes the following models:

SN250 – for animal shelters, veterinarians, funeral homes, & law enforcement

SN500 – for small poultry & turkey farmers, veterinarians, animal shelters, & funeral homes

SN1000 – for large poultry & turkey farmers

SN1500 & SN2000 – for meat processors & swine farmers

SN3000 – for large meat processors, swine, cattle, horse farmers, & landfills

Super Nova Mfg., Inc. – 558 Baggs Ferry Rd., Camilla, GA 31730 – Phone: 229-336-9337 – Website: [www.supernovamfg.com](http://www.supernovamfg.com)

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ADS has recently extended the application list to include three additional part numbers. Twelve part numbers that fit hundreds of machines; including Agco, Buhler, Case, Caterpillar, Challenger, Iveco, JCB, John Deere, Massey-Ferguson, McCormick, New Holland, and Versatile equipment.

Two new distributors have joined the ADS network to provide modules in North America. For more information on becoming a distributor, or if you are ready to try the Agricultural Diesel Solutions module, please feel free to contact any of our helpful representatives at 1-800-637-2658, 1-800-237-4692, or 1-254-592-4694

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# Inland Tarp & Liner's Bull Flex Hay Tarps Outlast The Competition

For over 30 years, Inland Tarp & Liner, L.L.C., has been in business, taking pride in quality of the products they offer. The Bull Flex Hay Tarp is one of their many products and it continues to perform very well, outlasting other tarps on the market. The Bull Flex tarp is specifically designed for the cost conscious customer who wants a hay tarp that is built as tough as a bull, yet flexible enough to meet all of your covering needs.

When it comes to securing the Bull Flex Hay Tarp to your hay stack, it combines the best of two worlds. First, it comes with high-strength 2" webbing loops to tighten your tarp to the hay stack instead of traditional grommets, thus providing up to 300% more strength. Second, the

Bull Flex Hay Tarp also has an innovative pocket sewed the length of the tarp on both sides. This gives you the option to slip a pipe into the pocket and tie down the tarp in the same manner as the popular Performer Hay Tarp.



The weight and strength combination of the Bull Flex Hay Tarp averages nearly 20% greater than most competitive products. When combined with the use

of Inland Tarp & Liner's patented Super Cinch tie down system, you end up with a winning combination that beats out other grommet and loop style hay tarps.

In addition, a 25'x52' Bull Flex Hay Tarp will cover 72 round bales (4'x5') in a 3-2-1 pyramid stack. Check out their website at [www.InlandTarp.com](http://www.InlandTarp.com) and learn how you, too, can benefit by using the Bull Flex Hay Tarp during the next hay season.

For more information on the Bull Flex Hay Tarp and their other products, contact Inland Tarp & Liner, L.L.C. by phone at 800-346-7744 or 509-766-7024, visit their website at [www.InlandTarp.com](http://www.InlandTarp.com), or write or visit them at 4172 North Frontage Rd. E., Moses Lake, WA 98837.



## 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, 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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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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# Pressurized Exhaust Kills Burrowing Rodents

The H & M Gopher Control PERC system (Pressurized Exhaust Rodent Controller) uses carbon monoxide from pressurized engine exhaust to kill burrowing rodents such as gophers, ground squirrels, prairie dogs, moles & voles.

According to the company, exhaust gas has long been one of the most lethal and least expensive methods to kill burrowing rodents. But until now there hasn't been an economical, efficient delivery system.

Company owners, Allen Hurlburt and Virginia Massey, said that the PERC system involves a narrow steel wand that is used to probe the burrow and inject pressurized exhaust that fills the burrow in two minutes with lethal concentrations of carbon monoxide before the rodent has a chance to either escape or block the burrow.

An internal combustion engine generates the carbon monoxide and drives a compressor pump that pressurizes the exhaust gas to 115 psi in a stor-

age 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 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.

The PERC system is simple to use and safe for the operator as well as wildlife since there is no poison bait or explosion involved. Crop stands are not damaged during treatment. No other control method is as effective, efficient and as inexpensive to operate as the PERC.

A PERC system can treat moderately infested alfalfa fields at about 3.5 acres an hour with a single operator. Each probed location requires only about 1 to 2 minutes injection time.

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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# Tree Shear For Skid Steers

The Lyon Cub Tree Shear is a low-maintenance tree cutter for skid steer loaders that works fast to clear small trees.

Designer Jay Lyon and manufacturer Gene Schendt of G T Metal, LLC in Lawrence, Neb., have received rave reviews on the new tree shear.



Lyon says, "Everybody who's seen it work is amazed at how simple it is, how well it works, and how fast it is. It's perfect for removing small trees along fence lines or clearing second growth cedars out of pastures. Once you have the larger trees cleared out, it's a great maintenance tool for future growth."

The quick-tach tool works best on 3 to 4-inch diameter trees. The partners say they have successfully cut 6-inch diameter trees, but conditions have to be just right.

According to the pair, the unit consists of two 22"-diameter blades made of heavy, high carbon steel, well braced with 18" brace blades. To make them, they modified new rolling cutters off a V-plow and added a good bearing with a center support. You don't have to take the center support out to change the blades, as it's just there to protect the bearings and hub, they point out.

The blades can be easily removed using 5 lug bolts, and they are reinforced on both sides with mild steel discs that bolt to the hub to take the flex out of them.

The blades penetrate the surface of the

ground and cut a small V into the soil, but they don't create a big disruption. It leaves a smooth stump, either ground level or below, depending on operator's skill.

The blades never need to be sharpened. However they will eventually wear down and can become chipped from working in rocky areas, in which case

you just replace the blade.

Retail price for the unit is \$3,200 plus shipping, and the partners are currently accepting dealer applications.

For more information, contact: G T Metal, LLC, Box 187, Lawrence, Neb. 68957 (ph 402 756-7835 or 402 469-2157 (cell), 402 469-2085 (Jay); gtmetal@gtmc.net). Patent pending. 🚧



**The Lyon Cub Tree Shear**  
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## 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. 

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Each feature of the Reman Balestacker is designed with the end user in mind. From the easy to use ergonomic hand-held controller to the durability and safety of the machine, the Reman Balestacker was designed and build for you. So whether you are trying to maintain the moisture of your forage or beat the rain to your hay, the Reman Balestacker is the answer for you.

For more information contact Reman sales and service, Listowel, Ontario, Canada 519-291-5025 or visit the website [balestacker.com](http://balestacker.com) 

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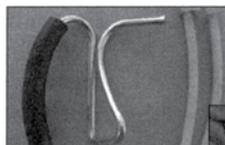
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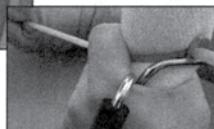
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### APPLICATION

**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. 

---

# No More Five Gallon Buckets!

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### Downer Creek Crop Guard-Versatile Header Attachment

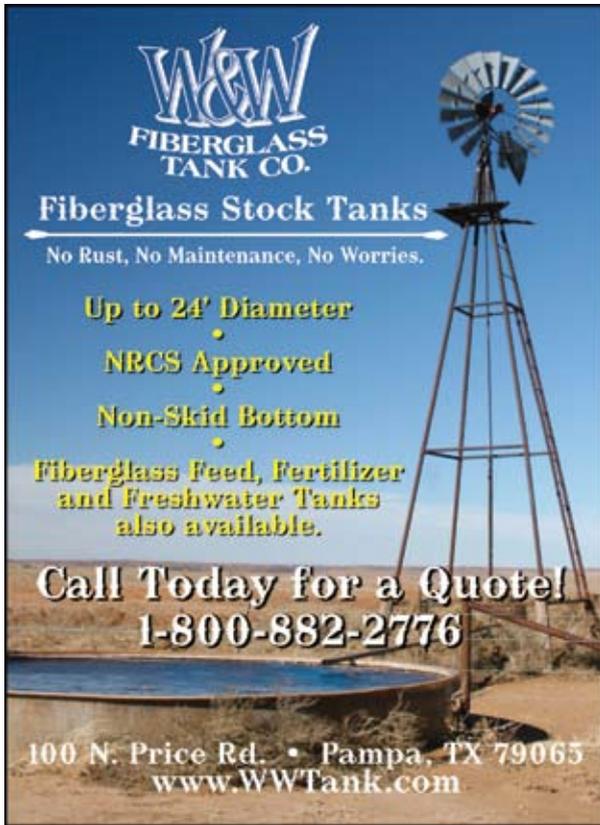
I watched my dad year after year hobble through milo stalks picking up dropped milo heads with a five gallon bucket in each of his hands. He always said, "There's got to be a better way." Finding myself in the same situation for many years, I have found the "better way." through Downer Creek Crop Guards. 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 fin-

gers 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, millet, corn, and haled 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. 



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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. Allowing 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 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.



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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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# Scorpion Truck Bed Linings

Scorpion Truck Bed Linings (www.ScorpionLinings.com) is proud to announce in 15 year anniversary on 2011. Scorpion started as a small Midwest-



ern coatings contractor in 1996 and through the years has grown to be one of the largest manufacturers and distributors of specialty polyurethane coatings (www.ScorpionCoatings.com) in the world. Scorpion currently exports to over 30 different countries in all parts of the world, and we have registered well over 2,000 applicators in the US alone over the last decade and a half.

Scorpion has been able to experience growth in such a competitive market because it is unique. The coatings we sell are all non-hazardous, and environmentally friendly. Our application methods are highly cost effective, with the spray units costing around \$100 as compared to the \$25,000 price tag that our competitors levy against their customers. Scorpion also does not charge and franchise fees to its dealers, feeling that they know how to better spend their money that the company does.

Starting in 2008, Scorpion launched its first retail brand, Al's Liner (www.AlsLiner.com). The brand uses much of the same technology as its professional system – just designed to allow a person who would rather do it themselves the ability to do so. The brand has rapidly grown since its inception, increasing sales by over 200% every year.

Scorpion latest launch is Scorpion Window Film (www.ScorpionWindowFilm.com). With this line, Scorpion has used the connections it has gained over the last fifteen years to partner with some of the largest and best known window film manufacturers in the world. The highest quality and the lowest price is an ideal that Scorpion has always chased, and the window film is no exception.

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## 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 his-

tory 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.

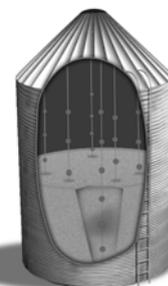
Either of these wireless systems will save you time and money, while providing peace of mind about the true condition of your grain. Knowing your grain temperatures, while watching for changes, is the only safe way to monitor the condition of your grain.

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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# Are You Thinking About Lamas?

By Cheryl Juntilla

Llamas and alpacas have been raised as livestock for hundreds of years in South America and over the past several decades have become quite common in the United States and Canada. Both llamas and alpacas are members of the camelid family and are collectively referred to as “llamas” with only one L. They have many similarities, but one of the questions most often asked of llama owners is “what is the difference between llamas and alpacas?”

The most important physical differences between llamas and alpacas relate directly to the purposes for which they are used. Alpacas are primarily raised for their fiber, which is as warm as wool, but much lighter and very soft. Llamas also produce fine fiber, but can also be used as pack animals so they are generally larger and have straighter backs than alpacas. A well-conditioned pack llama can carry a substantial amount of weight and several llamas can be led in a pack-string which allows one person to take a lot of supplies into the backcountry. Hiking with llamas enables campers to experience wilderness areas closed to motor vehicles without carrying all of their gear in heavy backpacks. Llamas have soft pads on the bottoms of their

feet and have little or no impact on trails. Because of their keen sight and hearing, llamas are also used as guard animals for other livestock. Some llamas can even be trained to pull carts. Both llamas and alpacas work well with children and are often used for 4-H projects.



While alpacas are typically smaller than llamas, it should be noted that there can be quite a bit of variation in the size of llamas. Some llama breeders seek to produce large, athletic animals for packing, while many others are now concentrating on fiber production. Both llamas and alpacas produce different types of the fiber. Most lama

fiber has crimp and loft, but there are also suri llamas and alpacas which have a slicker type of fiber that drapes elegantly like silk.

There is so much variety available now in the lama market that a potential buyer really needs to think about why they are purchasing llamas or alpacas and look for animals to suit that purpose. Llamas can live more than 20 years, so should be considered a long-term commitment and not be purchased on a whim. It is important to do some research and get as much information as possible before making a decision. Local and regional llama and alpaca associations are good sources for information and many have websites.

One excellent regional association is the Rocky Mountain Llama and Alpaca Association (“RMLA”). It was formed in 1982 for the purpose of educating its members and the public about llamas and is one of the oldest non-profit lama organizations in the country. RMLA sponsors or is involved with dozens of lama-related events and shows every year, including the National Western Stock Show, the Estes Park Wool Market and the Fairplay Llama Race. Its publications include a quarterly newsletter and the book *Caring for Llamas and Alpacas*, which is a valuable resource for both new and experienced lama owners and considered a standard in the industry. RMLA’s library has one of the most comprehensive collections of lama-related books, videos and other publications in the country, all of which are available to members. More information about RMLA and llamas can be found at [www.rmla.com](http://www.rmla.com).

So if you are thinking about getting involved with llamas, or alpacas, or both, please also consider getting involved with the local or regional lama association closest to you. Even if you have a lot of livestock experience, there is much about caring for llamas and alpacas that is unique to camelids and can be best learned from other lama owners. Joining an association also provides valuable networking opportunities and priceless social connections. 

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# How to Begin Your Alpaca Business Successfully

Raising alpacas is a growing industry. It's easy to see why. The animals are gentle in nature, require minimal land, and can provide an exciting business opportunity. Educate yourself and take advantage of the many alpaca resources available.

Alpacas are beautiful, intelligent, and docile animals. Cousin to the llama, adult alpacas are smaller and stand about 36 inches at the withers; they weigh between 150 and 200 pounds.

Originally from South America, the United States first commercially imported alpacas in 1984, and today there are more than 150,000 registered in the United States and Canada. Once an Incan civilization treasure, alpacas provided clothing and transportation.

Although almost physically identical, the two types of alpacas are distinguished by their fiber. The Huacaya (wa-Ki'-ah), the more common, has a fluffy, extremely fine coat. The Suri (surrey), the rarer, has fiber that is very silky and resembles pencil-locks.

Shorn every twelve to eighteen months, alpacas produce a luxurious, soft fiber that is as warm as wool at 1/3 the weight. It is a specialty fiber, being both rare and extremely fine. Pure alpaca fiber is hypo-allergenic. Additional alpaca performance characteristics include: stretch, strength, wicking properties and odor reduction. It comes in 22 natural colors.

Alpacas do not have horns, hooves, claws, incisors or upper teeth. Alert and curious, they are social animals that seek companionship. They communicate most commonly by humming. Neck posturing, ear and tail positioning, and head tilt are other communication methods.



The average lifespan of an alpaca is 20 years, with a gestation period of 11.5 months. Female alpacas normally give birth, without assistance, in the daylight hours. Single births are typical, but twins are possible. The most recent figure notes that 1 in 2000 is a twin.

## Getting Started

Begin your successful alpaca farm op-

eration by educating yourself. Gather as much information from as many resources as possible.

First visit alpaca farms in your area. Local breeders will gladly answer all your questions and share helpful information about their start-up experience. To find an alpaca farm near you, visit [www.alpacainfo.com](http://www.alpacainfo.com) and click on the "Farm and Ranch Locator" link. You can also order an Alpaca Owners Guide by clicking the "Request Information" link or by calling (615) 834-4195.

The Alpaca Owners Guide (AOG) is a must for potential new breeders. This handy color catalog contains extensive information and a list of alpaca farms or ranches to visit near you. The Alpaca Owners Guide is a valuable tool for researching the alpaca industry. It includes articles about the history of the alpaca, frequently asked questions, how to get started in the alpaca business, the financial considerations, the alpaca industry today and alpaca farms listed by region and by state.

This material is made available by the Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association (AOBA). AOBA is the driving force of the alpaca livestock industry and is an excellent resource for information about the North American alpaca industry.

AOBA can provide the information necessary to help you understand what

Continued on page: 31

## Greystone Manure Vacuums

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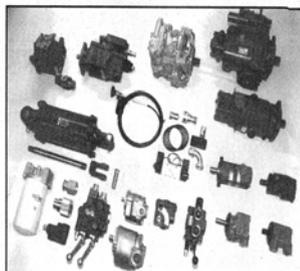
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## How to Begin Your Alpaca Business Successfully

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the alpaca community is all about; alpaca breeders are a unique, dedicated group. For some, alpacas are a primary source of income. For others, they are a part-time business venture. Young couples with children can enjoy the benefits of owning and caring for alpacas as a rewarding family experience. People who have raised their kids and are seeking a business and lifestyle to enjoy as they approach retirement are often owners. Whatever the personal reason, alpacas undeniably are pleasurable and can bring the potential for a rewarding lifestyle and business opportunity. And AOBA can help you get started.

Another great way to learn about alpacas and the alpaca industry is to attend AOBA certified shows and events. These shows are national, regional, and local. For a complete list of upcoming shows, visit [www.alpacashows.com](http://www.alpacashows.com) and click on "Upcoming Shows".

The biggest alpaca event of the year is the AOBA National Show showcasing over 1,000 alpacas. It will be held in Denver, Colorado on May 20, 21 and 22, 2011 at the Denver National Western Complex. Admission is FREE and open to the public. The National Show is the largest AOBA certified halter and fleece show. Breeders and guests witness the inner-workings of the alpaca industry and learning never ends. There is no better place to buy, sell, and learn about alpacas, apparel, and a variety of alpaca-related materials.

There are also several regional and local shows and events. To find a complete list of events, visit [www.alpacainfo.com](http://www.alpacainfo.com) and click on "Event Calendar".

Once you have visited a local farm, read the Farm and Ranch Guide, attended a few alpaca shows, it's time to fully immerse yourself among the thousands of others who love and raise alpacas. Join the Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association (AOBA). Be amongst the warmest and welcoming community of about 4,000 with members throughout Canada and in all 50 states, including Alaska and Hawaii.

AOBA membership has many benefits. You can join as either an Associate Member or a Farm Member. Every member receives a subscription to Alpacas Magazine. Established in

1990, this quarterly magazine is now 20 years old. Standard, in-depth articles often include topics of alpaca health, tax-related information, innovative ways to market your animals and end-products, and more. Published three times a year (two semi-annual issues plus one special Herd Sire edition), Alpacas Magazine also has several advertising opportunities, which is a wonderful way to market your farm or ranch, while staying in-touch with financial trends. Alpacas Magazine has

a strong reputation within the alpaca industry and beyond.

The AOBA lending library is one of the largest alpaca-related libraries in the world. AOBA's Marketing Committee has produced several resources to purchase or to borrow. Topics include everything from care, feed, and nutrition to how to raise your alpaca in general.

Once again, the best way to learn more about alpacas is to visit a farm or ranch. Visit [www.alpacainfo.com](http://www.alpacainfo.com) to locate one near you. 



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