

## “No-Spill” Water Bowls Have High-Flow Valves

Dairy farmer Andrew Kenny got tired of watching cows splash water out of their water bowls and getting feed wet, so he developed a polyethylene water bowl that’s deeper than regular bowls. The end result is less waste and easier-to-clean feed mangers.

The patent pending Kendu Zero Spill water bowl has a high-flow tube valve located low inside it. The animal activates the valve by pushing it in any direction. The water level is maintained at about 2 in. in the bottom of the bucket. The animals can’t raise the water level above 2 in. unless they submerge their nostrils to access the valve.

“The distance from the water surface to the rim of the bucket is at least 8 in. The water volume is similar to standard water bowls, but the remaining volume of the bucket is intended only to keep splashes contained,” says Kenny.

According to Kenny, there hasn’t been a major change in water bowl design since 1918. “Modern water bowls offer higher flow and some offer higher volumes. However, one basic flaw in the design has never been successfully addressed. Cows love to splash water out of the bowl for hours at a time when they’re bored. Over a day, 10 to 20 quarts could easily be splashed onto their feed or bedding.

“Cows don’t like to finish their feed once it’s wet so they leave it for the farmer to clean

up and discard. This wasted feed can cost thousands of dollars per year. Wet bedding creates health problems for the cows such as soft hooves and ulcers as well as mastitis. Dry, comfortable stalls allow the cows to achieve top production.

“Water bowl manufacturers have recognized that water splashing out of their bowls is a major concern with farmers, but their attempts to solve the problem haven’t been successful. Several manufacturers have labeled their water bowls as ‘non-splash’. However, I’ve tried them all and they simply don’t work.”

Kenny says the Kendu water bowl will increase the water consumption of high producing cows. “Cows can drink a large amount of water very quickly if it’s available. If the water flow is too high in a traditional water bowl it’s likely to splash out of the shallow bowl, so valves must be restricted to reduce the flow rate.

“In the deep bowl of the Zero Spill, the valve can be unrestricted to allow maximum flow. The flow restrictor can be removed to allow up to 25 liters per min. at 50 psi, so cows can fill up quickly and comfortably. Milk production won’t be limited by the lack of water consumption.”

He adds that the high rim of the bucket reduces the chance of a cow lifting feed into the bucket, and the high flow valve scours



**Kendu Zero Spill water bowl is deeper than regular bowls and has a high-flow tube valve located low inside it. Cows can’t raise water level above 2 in. unless they bury their noses in water and hold the valve down.**

the bottom of the bowl to keep it clean. The high flow also keeps small particles of feed suspended in the water so they’re swallowed by the cow.

The Kendu Zero Spill water bowl is available in 2 models. The KZS-13 sells for \$98 Canadian plus S&H; the KZS-07 for \$120 Canadian plus S&H. Mounting hardware is available to make installation easier.

“The main difference is that the KZS-13 has a polyethylene bucket instead of rubber. It’s our most popular model because poly is less

expensive and the high density polyethylene bowl is virtually indestructible,” says Kenny.

“Customers can contact us toll-free to get assistance and suggestions for the best way to install and use our water bowls. U.S. customers have their orders filled from a Buffalo, N.Y. warehouse and pay 20 percent less with U.S. currency.”

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**Charlie Trayer’s cowdog training style focuses on guiding them to be go-getter types of dogs. “If used right, one dog will replace two or three cowboys,” he says.**

## Cowdogs Trained Charlie’s Way Get The Job Done

Give him a good horse and a few well-trained cowdogs, and Charlie Trayer says he can move a herd of cattle without any human help. With 40 years experience managing the Cottonwood Ranch in the Flint Hills of Kansas, the “retired” 72-year-old passes his cowdog skills on through workshops and his DVD: *How to Train and Handle the Cowdog*. Plus, he breeds and sells Hangin’ Tree Cowdogs.

His training method works for any cowdogs, Trayer notes, but he is partial to the Hangin’ Tree breed.

“It’s a breed that Gary Ericsson developed over 35 years ago. In the last 10 years they have taken off,” Trayer says.

The breed is a blend of Border Collie, Australian Kelpie, Australian Shepherd and Catahoula Hound, bred for traits such as herding instinct, intelligence, trailing ability, endurance and being a “tough” cattle dog.

“They’re not like other breeds that are sensitive. They are bold, happy dogs,” the trainer says.

And his training style focuses on guiding them to be go-getter types of dogs.

“If used right, one dog will replace two or three cowboys,” says Trayer, who used to regularly gather 100 to 500 yearling cattle in large pastures with a few dogs.

He trains his dogs most intensely during the cooler months of winter and teaches ranchers through demonstrations at regional events. He hosts clinics at his Seymour, Texas, ranch every fall and spring. Participants can bring their dogs or just watch and learn. Contact him for information about the spring date.

For those who can’t travel to events, the 2-disk DVD training set sells for \$69.95 plus S&H, and is available on his website.

“It shows everything I do in my training, from how I start pups to advanced training,” Trayer says.

For those interested in buying quality, registered dogs from him, prices range from \$1,000 for pups to \$3,000 for dogs that have started training.

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**SnowDog power unit pulls rider on a sled. It goes up to 20 mph and can tow up to 1,100 lbs.**

## Year-Round Machine For Work, Fun

“Snowmobiles - fast and expensive. SnowDog - low cost and slow.”

That’s how the owner of the company explains the SnowDog, a power unit that pulls a rider on a sled. Being inexpensive and multipurpose throughout the year helps make the SnowDog a great piece of equipment, says Howard Carstensen, sales and marketing manager for Power Equipment Company in Cortland, Ill.

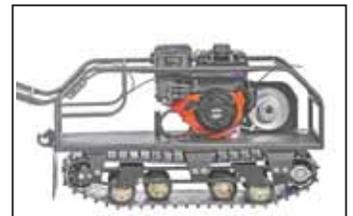
A power unit that pulls a sled and its rider is an early snowmobile concept that originated in the U.S. in the 1960’s by Bolens Corp. While conventional snowmobiles took over the market in the U.S., Europeans and Russians appreciated and continued to use the tracked power unit design, mostly for ice fishing, but also for hunting, trapping, hauling firewood and supplies, camping and outdoor fun, and trail grooming.

With the high cost of buying snowmobiles and their maintenance, Carstensen was curious when he received information about the SnowDog.

“This looked like something that is intriguing for running on the snow and year round,” he says.

He was the only person from a U.S. company who responded to a letter from the Russian manufacturer who makes SnowDog. After working through design changes, import regulations and other details, the “utility task machine” became available in the U.S. in 2015 and is sold through a variety of dealers.

Powered by a 10 hp. or 13 1/2 hp. Briggs



**Tracked power unit is powered by a 10 or 13 1/2 hp. Briggs & Stratton engine.**

and Stratton engine, a SnowDog goes up to about 20 mph and can tow up to 1,100 lbs.

Prices for the power unit range from \$2,999 for the compact model to \$3,499 for the standard model that goes through 26-in. deep snow. SnowDog comes with a 2-year warranty, electric start with recoil backup, headlights, disc parking brakes and an engine cover that comes with a choice of three patterns. The cover is removed during warm weather.

“One of the big things is its compact size,” Carstensen says of the SnowDog. “They weigh 265 to 330 lbs. so they are small enough so you can put it in your SUV and you don’t need a special trailer for it. For storing it, just push the handle forward, and it takes up about as much room as your push lawn mower.”

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