

## Rhino Gate Stands Up To Abuse

GoBob Pipe is an Oklahoma-based fencing company that offers what it claims is the heaviest, toughest, and safest livestock production gate that money can buy.

With its Rhino Gates, GoBob aims to lower the risks of working with large animals by giving their handlers a quick and secure way to put space between them.

Rhino gates look similar to the standard gates that GoBob Pipe has sold for over two decades, but they differ in strength and latch style. The new gates are made from high-tensile steel that is 69 percent thicker and 30 percent heavier than the company's standard 14-gauge gates. It's best to put them in areas where you may need to make a quick escape.

Built into each Rhino gate is a lightning latch, a patent-pending invention that makes it easy to latch gates securely without looking at it directly. The latch guides itself into position with minimal effort, making it ideal in situations where you must stay aware of a large animal at all times.

Contact GoBob Pipe directly for the most



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up-to-date pricing and shipping information.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, GoBob Pipe, 5873 W 181st St. S, Mounds, Okla. 74047 (ph 877-851-2365; www.gobobpipe.com).

## Teat Scrubber Keeps Milk Clean

To help keep debris, dirt and bacteria out of milk, Puli-Sistem created the F488 Teat Scrubber, Foam Generator, and Control Unit PLC.

In a pre-milking phase, high-density foam is drawn from supply drums and generated in seconds using regulated compressed air pressure. The foam can be adjusted for density and quantity before being sent to the F488 scrubber, where it helps rid the teats of bacteria and dirt.

The F488 scrubber strips, washes, dries and stimulates cows consistently. Components are acid-resistant and can be safely used with approved chemical products.

Working in tandem with the F488 and foam generator, a control unit PLC collects data including the number of trigger pulls, brush cycles completed, and liters of water and chemicals used.

Installation of the system is simple, requiring only 3 to 4 hrs. when following a well-documented step-by-step owner's manual.

Puli-Sistem's equipment is available throughout Europe, Asia and North America.



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Pricing and additional information can be obtained by using the contact page of their website.

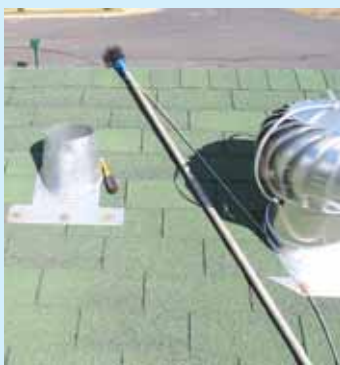
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Puli-Sistem, L. Manara 11, 26010 Azzanello, Cremona, Italy (ph (0039) 0374 66808; info@puli-sistem.com; www.puli-sistem.net).

## Reader Shares His Creative Ideas

FARM SHOW reader Ben Parks knows the value of a homemade solution for a lingering problem. Here, he shares some of his ideas.



Parks didn't want to throw away an old broken coiled phone cord, so he disconnected it from the phone and, using electrical tape, attached one end to a ballpoint pen and the other to a clipboard clip hole, securing it in place with a plastic bag twist tie. Now when he grabs his clipboard, a pen is always included.



Second, Parks figured out how to use a dryer vent brush that was too short to reach the end of his vent pipe. Clearing out the dryer vent helps it dry more quickly, uses less energy overall, and reduces fire risk.

"The way my house is built, the washer/dryer is in front of an interior wall instead of an outside wall," says Parks. "Because the dryer vent is on the inside wall, the plumbers ran the dryer vent pipe up the wall through the roof, making the need for such a long brush (18 ft.) to reach the bottom."

He reused a 20-ft. piece of pvc pipe left over from a construction project and taped the brush to the pipe to extend its length. Now he can get through the 18-ft. pipe to the roof without issue.



Third, Parks wrapped the left sun visor on his truck with the clear plastic that comes covering mailed magazines. He left the side ends open on each side to form a pocket that he can slip papers into it. So far, the plastic visor guard has proven helpful for staying focused and organized on the road. "I did this to keep from soiling the visor with my hands, but a side benefit is that I can keep my insurance papers on display as well as slip notes, receipts, and other papers behind the plastic. Everything is in plain view when driving," explains Parks.



Finally, Parks purchased a compact 1-gal. shop vac in 1992 that he's depended on ever since. "Its only downfall is that it's so lightweight that it won't stay upright and tends to flip over easily when pulling in the house," he shares. Parks' solution is to keep it in a plastic milk box. Not only does it stay upright, but the handles on the box make it easy to carry. "I also keep my attachments inside and roll the cord and hose up neatly for easy storage," he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ben Parks (quincy443@yahoo.com).

## His Poultry Are Certified Standard-Bred

Frank Reese can guarantee customers that his heritage turkeys and chickens are what he claims. That's because his birds are certified by the American Poultry Association, which means breed judges have visited his farm and examined the birds to ensure they meet the longtime standards of the breed. It isn't cheap, but it's worth it to Reese.

"For many years, I was the only USDA-certified standard-bred poultry producer in the country," says Reese, a breeder and marketer of multiple turkey and poultry breeds. "Every package of chicken or turkey I sell is labeled USDA certified standard-bred."

Breeding flock certification was once commonplace, but for around 50 years the APA stopped offering the service due to declining interest. In 2015 it was reintroduced with Reese a major advocate. He maintains that while there are lots of people breeding heritage poultry, most are breeding for poultry shows, not meat or egg production. In some cases, they may be far different from old breed standards.

Reese puts the responsibility for the change on poultry breeders and their customers alike.



**Murray McMurray Hatchery APA certified standard-bred Partridge Rock rooster.**

While he would like other breeders to invest in certification (base fee of \$300 for a flock of 100 or less, plus a dollar a bird for each bird over 100), if the buyers of their birds don't ask for it, breeders have little reason to spend the money.

Reese advises people considering buying heritage breeds of poultry to ask for certification and more.

"Ask what your expectation for the birds should be," says Reese. "People who raise cattle or hogs know to ask about birth weight, finishing weight, etc. When it comes to poultry, most people don't ask."

If planning to raise birds for the meat market, he suggests asking about feed conversion rate, growth rate, time to reach market size, live weight, and finished weight. If buying for a layer or breeding flock, he advises asking how many eggs they can be expected to lay, their fertility rate, and their hatching success.

The difference between a certified standard-bred heritage turkey or chicken and non-certified heritage birds can be night and day. One of the breeds Reese raises is the Plymouth Barred Rock, the number one meat bird in North America from 1870 to 1940. While increasingly popular today, if from a non-certified flock, birds may not be what a breeder or hatchery claims.

"I've been asked by people who say they raise them to look at their flock," says Reese. "I've walked into a field full of birds and had to tell them there isn't a true Barred Rock on the farm."

Reese notes that maintaining a breeding

flock is expensive. Certification is an added expense. Those buying from hatcheries have only one option as far as Reese knows.

"Murray McMurray Hatchery has made the investment needed," he says. "If buyers respond, perhaps other hatcheries will make the investment too."

A Murray McMurray Hatchery spokesperson confirmed they have five breeds that are certified, with the APA looking at more of their flocks this spring.

Reese is working with Jed Greenberg and others to expand awareness of certification. They founded the Good Shepherd Conservancy (GSC), named for Reese's farm, Good Shepherd Poultry Ranch. The goal of the organization is to encourage the successful breeding, production, and marketing of heritage standard-bred poultry breeds.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Frank R. Reese Jr., 730 Smoky Valley Rd., Lindsborg, Kan. 67456 (ph 785-227-3972; turkeys@lrmutual.com; www.goodshepherdconservancy.org); or Murray McMurray Hatchery (ph 800-456-3280; www.McMurrayHatchery.com).