

Introducing products, services for cattlemen; compiled by Linda Robbins, assistant editor

# **Multi-species** fly control

W.F. Young Inc., makers of Absorbine<sup>®</sup> animal care products, has introduced Flys-X® ready-touse insecticide for multi-species insect



control. Flys-X is a water-based formula that contains pyrethrins, a botanical insecticide. It can be used on lactating and non-lactating beef and dairy cattle, and kills horn flies, house flies, face flies, mosquitoes, gnats and blood-sucking lice on cattle, horses and dogs. It also kills fleas and brown dog ticks when used as a premise spray.

The product comes ready to use in a 32-ounce (oz.) refillable spray bottle and in a gallon container.

For more information visit www.absorbine.com.



## Livestock group weighing

Digi-Star LLC livestock scale system for group weighing is now available online. Producers can retrofit old mechanical scales to a digital scale system with the new mounts contained in the kit. It includes all the necessary hardware and load cells to place under an existing group weighing platform. It also comes with a StockWeigh 600 digital indicator. The SW600 indicator efficiently works with 7,000-pound (lb.) load cells or heavier. It can be used to export weight, date and time data via a serial port to a printer or third-party software programs.

Producers can also use the kit to complete their own homemade platform/group scale. The company recommends use of a structure that is rigid to minimize deflection, with load cell mounts that are placed near the

perimeter of the platform base. The kit of load cells, hardware mounts and indicator are designed to withstand high weight capacities and outdoor agricultural environments.

For more information contact Robin Starkenburg, marketing communications manager, at 920-568-6231 or robin.starkenburg@digi-star.com.

### Heat stress app

The University of Missouri (MU) College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources has released ThermalAid, a smartphone app that monitors heat-related stresses on beef and dairy cattle and alerts farmers when there is a health problem. The app also recommends which intervention strategy will be most effective.

The 99¢ app receives temperature and humidity data from the weather service according to the GPS location of the user. The farmer tells the app if it is a beef or dairy cow, if it is in the barn or outside, if it is on the pasture or feedlot, and its health status and other information.

With that, the app calculates the animal's Temperature Humidity Index, or THI. If the THI is not stressful, the app shows green for that cow. If heat stress is an issue, the color goes to yellow and then orange. Red indicates a life-threatening condition. The farmer can also measure each cow's respiration rate, a good indicator of heat-stress impact on the animal. A built-in timer can assist the user to record the respiration rate.

When farmers know their animal is stressed, they can intervene with additional shade, fans or water misters to improve comfort and productivity. The app is tied to an MU database called ThermalNet (www.thermalnet.missouri.edu), which provides additional climate and weather data, as well as tips to manage heat stress.

To download the app, search "ThermalAid" in iTunes or visit https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/ thermalaid-tool-to-detect/id645969505?mt=8.

### Semi and gooseneck trailer in one

Featherlite has introduced its Model 8271 stock hauler that combines the best features of semi and gooseneck stock trailers into one vehicle.

The trailer features an expanded carrying

capacity with the maneuverability of a gooseneck, allowing the trailer to be hauled by a wider variety of vehicles than a trailer with a semi hitch would allow. The stock trailer has an all-aluminum subframe, is equipped with triple axles, an internal rear ramp behind the axles, two center gates with sliders, a skid-resistant interlocking extruded aluminum floor and a radius roof rail.



Curbside look of 40-ft. stock trailer 8271 shown with optional step for escape door and additional clearance lights.

Available in 32-foot (ft.), 36-ft. and 40-ft. sizes, the trailer is fully customizable with options that include halogen load lights, colored side sheets and aluminum wheels.

For more information contact the nearest dealership, call 1-800-800-1230 or visit www.fthr.com.

#### **Upgraded front-end loaders**

Westendorf has announced the availability of its FM-540 and FM-550 loaders that fit the John Deere 6D Series tractors.

The new loaders come with free remote control couplers and a patented stealth valve integrated into the loader. The loaders do not require a third hydraulic lever, and their V-shape self aligns and stays tight, according to the release.

The complete package also includes the new smart-lock solid mount loader system; mounting brackets, grill guard; hose kit; and an 86-inch (in.) Freedom Mount<sup>™</sup> bucket with 1.3 cubic yards (cu. yd.) of heaped capacity.

A full line of attachments is available. For more information call 1-888-237-9168 or email sales@ westendorfmfg.com.

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► The Westendorf FM540 loader is shown on a John Deer 6105D tractor.