



New Products

► Introducing products, services for cattlemen

New stock trailer

Sundowner Trailers has released the first of its redesigned ProStock trailers with a number of innovations. The trailer has an increased load height, making it easier for livestock to load, and its aluminum floor is designed for positive traction, assuring an animal's upright position even in tough hauling conditions.

The ProStock trailers now have sliding walk-through rear and center gates that slide with the touch of a finger and have spring-loaded latches. A heavy-duty slam latch on all center gates and heavier rear-gate hinges were added for safety and durability.

The ProStock line comes with a three-year "hitch-to-bumper" warranty that covers every aspect of the trailer, along with the company's eight-year limited structural warranty. For more information contact Sundowner Trailers at 1-800-438-4294 or visit www.sundownertrailer.com.

Working boots

Red Wing Shoe Co. announces enhancements to the Pecos boot, the company's Western-designed, heavy-duty work boot. The Pecos boot now has sole improvements with water, grit and oil resistance. It features full-grain leather, a Texon® insole and a single-density ComfortForce® footbed that the company says will provide maximum performance and comfort during long days. All Pecos boots meet American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) ratings and are available in soft toe, steel toe and lacer styles.

For more information on Red Wing work shoes and boots, visit www.redwingshoe.com.

Fly control

Elanco Animal Health, a division of Eli Lilly and Co., is now offering Elector® Bait, which has been approved for fly control by the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in dairy, beef, poultry and other livestock operations. The bait is a yellow, granular formulation that is highly attractive to flies, has no foul odor, and uses a delayed mode of action that kills flies after they have eaten and left the bait area.

The bait is ready to use and comes in 5-pound (lb.) and 40-lb. stackable containers. Both sizes come with a hinged cover for convenient dispensing.

Elector Bait can be purchased through animal-health suppliers, feed stores and veterinarians. For more information visit www.elanco.com. Elector Bait is not yet approved in California.

Digitally monitor animal health

Digital Angel Corp., an advanced technology company in the field of rapid and accurate identification (ID), location tracking and

condition monitoring of high-value assets announces that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has granted the company a patent for its Bio-Thermo® implantable microchip. The temperature-sensing, syringe-implantable microchip uses Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology to determine the temperature of its host animal for non-laboratory applications, and could supply noninvasive monitoring of temperatures in cats, dogs, livestock and horses to provide early detection of infectious diseases.

The patented technology covers a passive transponder, a sensor and integrated circuit that together make it possible for someone with a scanner to determine the body temperature of an animal implanted with the microchip. The company is planning to sponsor a study with the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine to test and document the correlation between the temperature measured by the subcutaneous microchip with other common forms of temperature measurement.

The patent was granted in March, and the company began marketing the chips in the U.S. equine market with plans to launch sales in the companion animal market. The microchips are already being sold in the United Kingdom, Japan and the Philippines for companion animals, and in South Africa in the equine market. For more information about Digital Angel, visit www.digitalangelcorp.com.

New herbicide

Dow AgroSciences announces a new herbicide designed specifically for improving rangeland and pastures. ForeFront™ R&P herbicide combines a new molecule — aminopyralid — with the broad-spectrum control of 2,4-D to provide control of more than 60 broadleaf weed species, including Canada thistle, biennial thistles such as musk and plumeless thistles, horsenettle and ironweed. According to the release, ForeFront R&P also offers:

- the broadest-spectrum weed-control option available for rangeland and pastures;
- lasting residual control;
- not a federally Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP);
- application to the water's edge; and
- no grazing restrictions for any class of livestock, including lactating dairy animals.

For more information, contact your Dow AgroSciences range and pasture specialist or visit www.forefrontptherbicide.com.



adapter, animal retinas, which are as unique as human fingerprints, can be scanned and sent through Bluetooth technology to a central file server up to 330 feet (ft.) away. Optibrand has been using IOGEAR's Bluetooth adapter for two years and found it to be the most suitable device for integration in the OptiReader retina scanner.

The OptiReader is a combination of a handheld computer and an ocular digital video camera. The camera uses light-emitting diodes (LEDs) to illuminate the ocular fundus and transmit full motion video of animal retinas at 19-frames-per-second to the handheld computer. Traceback of animals to farms of origin, tracking the movement of animals from farms to markets and abattoirs, and within and between countries are all critical to animal disease control. Reliable ID and source-verification systems such as theirs, according to the two companies, make quarantine and containment of animal illness possible.

For more information on either company, visit www.iogear.com or www.optibrand.com.

Mapping software

AGCO Global Technologies introduces GTA300 Mapping PC software, a map-making and data management tool that the company says simplifies gathering, transferring and analyzing data from tractor- and combine-mounted GTA consoles and Fieldstar terminals equipped with GPS as well as other spatial data sources. The new software edits, sorts and filters data to create customized single-layered maps to help customers maintain and improve profitability.

Data logged on consoles or terminals can be transferred to a PC or exported in a format compatible with a wide array of farm management software. Users can trace and manage field operations, including equipment, inputs and labor, with mapped data providing traceability and cost accounting. As-applied maps produced with GTA300 can also be used to verify use of inputs to fulfill regulatory requirements or add value at marketing. Data can be filtered by field, farm, commodity or other parameters, for specific sites or for attributes. It can also be used for sorting and editing data, including field markers and other information. To learn more about GTA products visit www.globaltech.agcocorp.com.

Web site spotlight

► www.fortdodgelivestock.com — Fort Dodge Animal Health launched its new Web site as an online resource for veterinarians, producers and horse owners to access information about its products. The site contains more than 600 pages of information about the company's products, searchable by species — beef, dairy, swine and equine — and by product name or category. The site contains links on each page to product labels, along with documents providing a comprehensive look at current research and data, such as dosing information and efficacy studies pertaining to those products. Fort Dodge Animal Health is a division of Wyeth, a manufacturer and distributor of products for the livestock, equine, companion animal, swine and poultry industries in North America and international markets.

Books available

NRAES. The Natural Resource, Agriculture and Engineering Service (NRAES) has released a new book, *Managing and Marketing for Pasture-Based Livestock Production*, the first of four books on pasture-based livestock systems to be published this year. This first book focuses on the framework of management decisions around which a forage-livestock production system is developed. According to the NRAES, the 116-page guide will be an invaluable resource for anyone considering a pasture-based livestock operation and a useful tool for current pasture-based livestock producers, confined-animal producers considering a switch to a pasture-based system, farm or ranch managers, product advisors, Extension educators or environmental professionals.

Contact NRAES for price and shipping information or for a free publications catalog by phone at (607) 255-7654, by fax at (607) 254-8770 or by e-mail at nraes@cornell.edu.

U of I. The University of Idaho (U of I) Department of Animal and Veterinary Sciences also has a book available to help cattle producers with management and marketing decisions for their calves and cull cows in the recently updated manual "Cow-Calf Management Guide and Cattle Producer's Library." The manual is published as a three-ring binder filled with more than 230 research-based fact sheets on all aspects of beef-cattle production, including reproduction, nutrition, management, finance, genetics, drought, quality assurance, and health and pasture. The manual can be purchased in a package that includes a CD-ROM, or the CD-ROM can be purchased separately. Manual owners can also buy revised fact sheets each year. Sample fact sheets can be previewed on the university Web site. To order, contact the U of I at (208) 885-6345, cowcalf@uidaho.edu or www.av.s.uidaho.edu/wbrc.

BeefSpotter. Also available is the 2006 *BeefSpotter*™ feedlot atlas, with detailed map locations and contact information for more than 800 feedyards and 63 auctions and sale barns in the United States. Published for more than 20 years, the 2006 edition has tabbed state pages for easier navigation and can be used by cattle haulers, livestock feed companies, animal health companies and many other associated industries. For more information call 1-800-955-9716, or go to www.beefspotter.com for an order form.

Soybean technology

Advanced Biological Marketing (ABM) has introduced Excalibre,™ a soybean inoculant (seed treatment) that offers a two-year shelf life and an extended post-application planting window. Excalibre contains a unique proprietary blend of three highly effective strains of bacteria that work in variable soil and planting conditions, and can increase crop yields by up to 4.4 bushels (bu.) per acre, according to the release.

Due to Excalibre's formulation, seed companies can inoculate soybean seeds 90 days in advance and have them available for when their customers need the product. ABM says additional testing on Excalibre is being conducted, and they believe it will offer a 180-day planting window once the testing is complete. For more information about ABM products, call 1-877-617-2461 or visit www.americasbestinoculant.com or www.abm1st.com.

