

## Demand Grows For Old English Pigs

If you're looking for a heritage hog with great tasting meat and a calm disposition, check out Gloucestershire Old Spots (GOS) pigs. The higher body-fat pigs thrive outside, even in winter, foraging for much of their food. The combination makes them a good choice for small farm, pasture-raised pork.

"My wife and I are in our 60's and have raised other heritage hog breeds, but sometimes they can be temperamental," says Luther Clevenger, White Buffalo Ranch. "We went with GOS pigs because they are so easy to work with. Neither the sows nor the boars are aggressive."

While temperament is important, it's the pork that is driving demand. In 2013 one of Clevenger's pigs won the Northwest Region Cochon 555, a prestigious culinary competition that focuses on heritage breed pigs.

"It is fabulous meat, some of the best pork I've ever had," says Clevenger. "I sell to a couple of restaurants as well as individuals, and we can't keep up with demand."

Clevenger keeps about 50 breeding sows on his Willamette Valley farm in Oregon. He raises most females born on the farm to sell for meat to his own customers. Most of the barrows (castrated males) are sold young at 30 to 35 lbs. to be raised for meat by the buyer. A 2-month old barrow will bring \$135. Select weaned pigs are sold for breeding at \$300 to \$400 each. Breeding age gilts and boars are higher, with proven boars and

pregnant sows selling for \$750 and up.

"If people buy 10 or more at a time, they get a price break," says Clevenger.

Clevenger says even breeding-age boars make good pork. He has taken boars directly from the breeding pasture and made the meat into sausage to give out as samples.

Clevenger also likes the breed for its hardiness. This past winter he had 5 litters born in sow huts in the pasture during a week of heavy snow and cold.

"There were no heat lamps, just dry bedding," says Clevenger. "Breeders in upstate New York keep their herds on pasture through the winter. Their only problem is when they get too much snow and it covers the fences."

Clevenger is president of GOS Pig Breeders United, one of 2 breed associations in the U.S. GOS pigs are the oldest spotted pig breed in the world, dating back to 1790. The breed nearly died out, but is now recovering.

Mature boars can reach 600 lbs. and a mature sow can reach more than 500 lbs. Litters average 6 to 8 pigs. They have floppy ears and a rounded body, are white in color with black spots.

With a limited gene pool (especially in the U.S.) breeders are encouraged to limit inbreeding. GOS Pig Breeders United members can simply enter the registrations for the boar and sow in a computer program, and it will tell them the inbreeding coefficient.

"Members can get instant results telling



Gloucestershire Old Spots pigs are easy to work with and have high body fat so they thrive outside, even in winter.

them if the genetics are too close to breed," says Clevenger. "FARM SHOW readers interested in GOS pigs can contact us for the names of breeders in their area. They can also access names, phone numbers and emails for breeders by state from our website."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup,

Gloucestershire Old Spots Pig Breeders United, 6653 Shaw, P.O. Box 1310, Aumsville, Oregon 97325 (ph 503 749-1861; Luther@gospbu.org; www.gospbu.org) or Gloucestershire Old Spots of America, Inc., 13575 40th St. S., Afton, Minn. 55001 (www.gosamerica.org).

## Draft Inducers Fix Existing Stovepipes, Flues

Tjernlund auto-draft inducers help wood burning fireplaces and stoves work better and cleaner.

"When the fire dies down and there is less heat going up the chimney, it's common to get some backdraft when you go to stoke the fire," notes Tom Tjernlund, Tjernlund Products. "Erratic draft can also be a problem on still days in the spring and fall when temperatures are in the 40 to 50-degree range or when conditions are windy. Our auto-draft inducers keep smoke moving up and out."

The AD-1 in-line fan fits into a vertical flue and requires removal of a section of pipe. The paddle-type fan with its 1/2-amp motor is inserted through the hole and secured in place with clamps. Gaskets ensure a tight closure. Hot, ground and neutral wires from the fan are connected to the speed control.

Suggested retail price is \$139.95.

The RT series of chimney top fans are larger and somewhat more complex units. The 2-part system consists of a chimney mount and a 40-lb. fan that hinges to the mount.

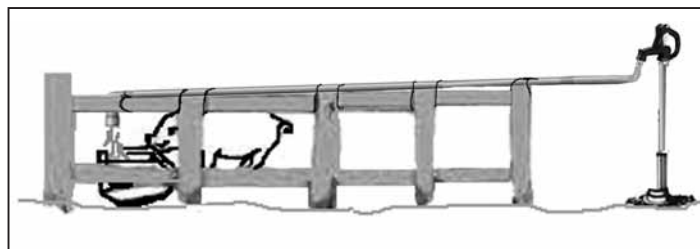
"The lightweight base mounts to the chimney flue," says Tjernlund. "Once it is secure, the fan is set in place and hinge pins are slipped into place. If the chimney needs to be cleaned or the fan accessed, the unit can be swung out of the way on the hinges."

The units are available from online distributors and can be ordered by any heating and air conditioning dealer.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tjernlund Products, Inc., 1601 Ninth St., White Bear Lake, Minn. 55110 (ph 651 426-2993 or 800 255-4208; www.tjernlund.com).



Tjernlund auto-draft inducers keep smoke moving up and out of wood-burning fireplaces. Models are available to fit into flues or on top of chimneys.



Drawing illustrates how Jody Thorp hangs a piece of pvc pipe on a fence line that runs from near her hydrant to her horse tank. "The pipe is at enough of an angle that all the water runs out," she says.

## She Used PVC To Run Water To Stock Tanks

Jody Thorp was tired of thawing out frozen rubber hoses, so she started using pvc pipe to fill her livestock watering tanks. She hangs a piece of pvc pipe on a fence line that runs from near her hydrant to her horse tank.

"I spent years dealing with long hoses, draining them out, and if they froze, having to bring them in the house to thaw," explains Thorp. "The pvc is easy to drain because we hang it at enough of an angle that all the water runs out." She says the idea is easy to

put in place and can be extended as needed if the tank is moved. Simply drive in a few additional steel posts and wire the pvc in place.

"I just cut off the end of a short piece of flexible rubber hose and stick it into the pipe a few feet to fill the tank, and it will stay until the tank is full," says Thorp.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jody Thorp, 610 SW 6th. St., Aledo, Ill. 61231 (ph 309 582-2711).

## Latex Paint Cools Off Roof

Karol Kazmierczak put old paint to good use, covering his brown asphalt shingles with a lighter color. Once the paint dried, Kazmierczak checked the roof with an infrared camera. The painted area was 20 degrees cooler than an unpainted test strip.

"The difference in temperature also showed up the next day when the air conditioning didn't come on," notes Kazmierczak. "The paint lowered the temperature in the building attic where the cooling ducts run."

While noting that lots of factors affect energy consumption, Kazmierczak did report that his energy bill fell 10 to 20 percent after painting the roof.

Kazmierczak, an independent consulting and diagnostic engineer, detects problems in building designs for a living. He previously attempted to reduce the heat absorbed by his roof.

"I coated the roof with dedicated

bituminous aluminum coating sold at a home improvement store," says Kazmierczak. "It washed off in a few months."

After noticing pavers still coated with latex paint after 7 years, he decided to try latex on the roof. He mixed together 6 different colors of leftover paint and sprayed it on the roof. Seven months later, it was still there.

"It was a good way to dispose of old paint, and it reduced my energy costs," says Kazmierczak. "If the paint had been white or silver, the energy consumption would have changed even more."

To see a video of the roof being painted and how it affected roof temperature, go to FARMSHOW.COM.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Karol Kazmierczak, 713 SW 8th Ave., Hallandale, Florida 33009 (ph 305 600-0516; spam@karol.us; www.building-enclosure.com/high-albedo-roof-diy/).