



Drop trap is shown here ready to trigger, as seen from a computer monitor or cell phone.



When the operator triggers the corral via cell phone or remote control, the outside ring falls to the ground.

## “Drop Trap” Catches Entire Wild Hog Herds

The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation has a new way to control wild hogs. The Boar-Buster corral sets above eye level, allowing hogs to come and go without fear until an operator triggers the unit remotely.

“With conventional traps, non-target animals can’t get out and hogs often won’t come in,” explains Josh Gaskamp, Noble Foundation. “If a group of wild hogs gets trapped, the ones who aren’t caught get educated to stay away in the future.”

The Oklahoma-based agricultural research foundation is a leader in innovative farm and ranch management as well as wildlife techniques. One research team had been using remote-released overhead drop nets to capture deer for research. They tried the same technique on hogs. It worked.

“We were able to capture up to 86 percent of hogs in an area with drop nets versus 49 percent with standard corral traps,” says Gaskamp. “That was enough to control the population, and it didn’t educate the ones

who weren’t caught. You need to eliminate approximately 70 percent just to keep up with annual reproduction.”

One reason for the effectiveness was that hogs don’t have predators overhead so they don’t look up.

They developed a double ring corral that could be assembled from sections on site in as little as 30 min. When set up, both rings are above hog height. Hogs can enter and leave in all directions.

The foundation worked with Tactical Electronics, Tulsa, Okla., to develop a cell phone and internet based video camera view and trigger system.

After baiting, a remote operator can watch the site anywhere internet service is available. When the majority, if not all, of a group of hogs is inside the corral area, the operator triggers the corral, and the outside ring falls to the ground in a rotating motion. The inner ring remains elevated to prevent the hogs from jumping out.

“I once triggered the BoarBuster while watching a baseball game in Oregon,” recalls Gaskamp.

Unlike static traps, non-target animals are not caught. Capture rates of hogs were even better than with overhead nets. Gaskamp reports catching 44 hogs at one time.

“The Boar Buster captures 88 percent of feral hogs in an area,” says Gaskamp.

The Noble Foundation has worked with W-W Livestock Systems to bring the Boar-Buster to market. You can see a video of the BoarBuster in action at [www.farmshow.com](http://www.farmshow.com).

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## Walk-Behind Snowblower Converted To Wood Hauler

If you burn a lot of firewood, you’ll appreciate this wood hauler built from an old Sears Craftsman walk-behind snowblower by Kevin Bledsoe of Adrian, Mich.

He unbolted the blower and auger from the snowblower and then mounted a small child’s wagon in their place. The wagon rides on a single caster wheel and is supported by a frame made from 1-in. sq. tubing and flat steel, which bolts onto the snowblower housing. The caster wheel is off a zero turn riding mower.

“I use it to haul firewood about 100 yards from a wood pile to my house, which is uphill all the way. It works like a motorized

**Bledsoe unbolted the blower and auger from a walk-behind snowblower and mounted a small wagon box in their place. It rides on a single caster wheel.**



wheelbarrow and saves a lot of work,” says Bledsoe. “The snowblower’s big lugged wheels provide great traction, even in deep snow, and the swivel wheel makes the wagon easy to steer.”

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