

Battery operated weatherproof door opens to the side and can't be lifted by predators.



Ultimate Chicken Door Opens Sideways

The Omlet Autodoor is designed to work on any wooden chicken coop and comes with all the hardware needed for installation.

The Autodoor has an electric motor and metal gear that's directly mounted to the door frame. Unlike automatic doors that work on a string and pulley system, it can't be lifted by predators. And unlike other chicken doors, it opens to the side.

The system is powered by four AA batteries so there's no need for a nearby power source or additional wiring.

A small weatherproof control box with a light sensor allows the door to open and close according to natural light levels. However, it can be programmed to open and close at set times.

The Autodoor also has built-in safety sensors that detect if the opening is blocked and opens before trying to close it again.

The door has been tested to -4 F. The Autodoor sells for \$179 on the company website. Shipping is free.

Omlet offers a 180-day money-back guarantee. The majority of users on the Omlet website give Autodoor 5 out of 5 stars. Sue says, "Great door. This is the 5th door type I've tried. The others go up and down and always break. Finally, a quality product that opens sideways. Highly recommend."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Omlet Inc, 2711 Centerville Rd., Suite 400, Wilmington, Del. 19808 (ph 646-434-1104; info@omlet.us; www.omlet.us).



Metra grain cleaners range from 200 to 8,000-bu/hr. capacity and have a cleaning chamber sized for optimum air and seed flow.

Grain Cleaners Fit Any Size Operation

Metra sizes its grain cleaners to capacities ranging from 200 bu/hr. on small farms to 8,000 bu/hr. at large facilities. Each of the company's 10 aerodynamic models is sized to the falling grain's trajectory based on the volume of air being pumped along with static and dynamic pressure. This technology precisely separates kernels from chaff based on the relative density of the material being cleaned.

A company spokesman says each model is individually constructed with a straight flow axial motor, a propeller, an airflow straightener, and horizontal nozzles that direct air into specific paths. The size and number of fan blades and nozzles determine capacities.

Meta machines have more height in the separation chamber compared to other models on the market, which allows the grain to fly further and be suspended in the air longer before it enters the discharge chutes. This design provides excellent separation of heavy or light impurities from high-value seed. All models can be equipped with a cyclone dust collector for cleaner operation.

Metra cleaners don't produce swirling

grain that adversely affects cleaning quality. The cleaning chamber is sized for optimum air and seed flow without unequal separating on the sides. Adjustable shutters direct grain into double-sided chutes that direct materials to either side of the machine after cleaning.

Metra cleaners are made of certified materials and hold U.S. and Canadian patents. The cleaners work on all types of cereal grains, legumes, oilseeds, corn, peas, and different types of beans and vegetable seeds. There are no screens in the machines and maintenance requirements are less than competitive models. One person can easily operate a Metra cleaner safely and effectively.

The machines can run on electric power from a dedicated source or a generator. Machines can be mounted stationary or on a trailer for mobile use. Contact the company or its U.S. and Canadian distribution offices for pricing and availability.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Metra Group, 1209 NW 37th Ave., Cape Coral, Fla. 33993 (ph 402-414-4437; info@metragraincleaner.com; www.metragraincleaner.com).

Flake Saver Helps Manage Big Square Bales

When feeding livestock, big square bales get messy after you remove the first few flakes. And if you only need a portion of the bale, it's hard to hold the remainder together.

"After you cut the strings, it has a domino effect with flakes falling on top of one another," says Seth Siedel.

The Ohio sheep producer solved the problem with a "flake saver" he designed as part of his business, Black Sheep Equipment & Mfg. It took a couple dozen prototypes to get the size user-friendly and not too heavy or long for shipping.

"By design, the 3 1/2-ft. steel flake saver doesn't need to go end to end on the large bales. Place one end against something solid before cutting the strings," Siedel says.

Jab the two-prong end of the flake saver in the bale and remove as many flakes as needed for feeding livestock. Then place the stop end of the flake saver on the bale and press firmly to keep the bale tight. As the flakes get used and the bale shortens, adjust the pipe through the prong end.

"It basically clamps it by wedging the flakes from falling down," Siedel says. "The flake saver works on large square bales of hay and straw, wet wrap bales, and even round bales on end if you feed by unraveling the round bale by hand."

He sells the flake saver for \$125.



"It basically clamps it by wedging the flakes from falling down," Siedel says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Seth Siedel, 9033 Mt. Hope Rd., Apple Creek Ohio 44606 (ph 330-317-3033; sswelding3033@yahoo.com; Facebook: Black Sheep Equipment & MFG).



Flock Buddy can fit through standard 36-in. doors, allowing it to move easily from one poultry house to another. With a battery that lasts up to 8 hours, it's built to withstand harsh environments.

"Dead Bird" Cart Aids Poultry Cleanup

Sentinel Robotic Solutions of Wallops Island, Va., developed the Flock Buddy, a U.S.-made, battery-powered cart created specifically for poultry farmers. Its primary purpose is to remove deceased birds from inside large poultry houses, but can be used for many other jobs.

"One of the great things about the Flock Buddy is its strength. It can carry up to 400 lbs.," says Peter Bale, COO of Sentinel Robotic Solutions. "This makes it incredibly helpful for various tasks around the farm. For instance, it can transport tools, supplies, and more."

Sentinel Robotic Solutions developed the Flock Buddy after noticing inefficiencies in daily work at poultry farms. Says Bale, "We had the chance to observe the twice daily ritual of removing mortalities from the house with a 5-gal. bucket. Once the bucket was full, they would open the closest door, place the birds outside, and then continue. This could go on for hours."

Thinking there had to be a better way, the team began to prototype a robotic cart to complete the work solo. After months of development and feedback from a farmer who tested them, the team produced four custom-built Flock Buddies for his poultry

houses. "That was 2 years ago," says Bale. "He still uses the originals to this day, and we've only had one failure in 2 years, which was a mechanical issue because he overloaded it."

Flock Buddy can fit through standard 36-in. doors, allowing it to move easily from one poultry house to another. With a battery that lasts up to 8 hrs., it's built to withstand harsh environments. The cart has an elevated dump container that can handle dumping over high door sills. An integrated bumper system protects the poultry as it works and even encourages the birds to move, which can benefit their overall health.

Though designed for poultry houses, Flock Buddy works for various hauling jobs around the farm. It has a 10-cu. ft. capacity with variable control speed. Says Bale, "My wife had us build one for her after a car crash left her with a bad shoulder. She uses it twice daily for mucking out horse stalls, moving hay, and all other things that horse people do."

The Flock Buddy sells for \$3,799 and comes with a one-year parts warranty.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sentinel Robotic Solutions, LLC, 33531 Chincoteague Rd., Wallops Island, Va. 23337 (ph 757-824-0600; info@srsgrp.com).