

BOARBUSTER

An all-Oklahoma collaboration between the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation and companies from Broken Arrow and Thomas resulted in an innovative new trapping technology that promises to reduce the feral hog population and the damage they cause nationwide.

The BoarBuster™ feral hog trap was conceived and designed by the Ardmore-based Noble Foundation and is manufactured by W-W Livestock Systems of Thomas and enhanced with high tech electronics from Tactical Electronics of Broken Arrow.

The rooting, wallowing and nesting by wild hogs destroy cropland, spread disease and pollution and endanger native wildlife. Unfettered, their population grows rapidly.

Current trapping technology and hunting does little to reduce the numbers of feral hogs and the damage they cause. The situation is most serious for farmers, ranchers and landowners in southeastern Oklahoma and across the southern U.S.

That's why the Noble Foundation stepped up to create a solution to the feral hog problem.

"The BoarBuster trap system demonstrates how the Noble Foundation and agriculture research provides tangible solutions to the real-world problems facing farmers, ranchers and consumers affected by this problem," said Jeff Moen, director of business development for the foundation. "Feral hog populations have been expanding their zone of destruction for years. Our wildlife researchers identified and created a solution to the problem."

The BoarBuster combines a fully suspended, rigid trap enclosure with motion detection technology, streaming video and wireless communications to alert landowners, who monitor in real time and remotely trigger the trap.

The Noble Foundation turned to Ardmore-based Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance extension agent Kay Watson to help identify potential manufacturers for the BoarBuster.

"They contacted me and said 'here's the prototype; we need a metal manufacturer to make them,' Watson said. "We came up with three that they interviewed, and they picked W-W Livestock Systems."

W-W Livestock, a manufacturer of livestock handling equipment, also had its own nationwide distribution network that could facilitate sales.

When it was determined that an electronics supplier was needed, OCAST was there to help. Tactical Electronics, a collaborator with OCAST, was brought in as a partner on the project.

Research gathered during years of testing showed the BoarBuster system is unmatched in its ability to help control the feral hog population. Marc Popejoy, general manager of W-W Livestock systems says the trap is so effective because of its unique approach to snaring the animals.



“The fact that the trap is suspended makes a big difference in trapping the hogs,” Popejoy said. “They walk right into it and start eating the bait. Whoever has the BoarBuster set up can trigger it remotely and trap the animals inside.”

With sales launched in July, the BoarBuster already is bringing revenue into the state and creating jobs for Oklahomans.

“It’s an all-Oklahoma technology and that’s what I’m thrilled about,” Watson said.

[Go to the BoarBuster website](#)

[Go to the W-W Livestock website](#)

[Go to the Noble Foundation website](#)

[Go to the Tactical Electronics website](#)