GOATS OFF GRID

Jody Holthaus
SARE Grant Program
USDA-Producer Grant



PURPOSE

- Documented fact-goats can manage brush and noxious weeds
- Main drawback-keeping goats in pasture, fencing is costly
- Grant, to see if goats can be trained with shock collars
- Goats then grazing within the wireless fence
- Use Solar panel to generate the power for the wireless fencer
- Fencer & shelter rotated around pasture



THE SUBJECTS: CLARENCE & GEORGE





TRAINING THE GOATS

- Set up the fencer
- Flag the perimeter of the area
- Put collars on goats
- Walk goats up to the perimeters
- Allow goats to test the collars
- Training twice a day for two weeks

















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WHAT I'VE LEARNED

- Goats are very stubborn
- Herding instinct helps with the training process
- Bulls like playing with the shelter
- Not brave enough to take far from home
- Not commercially available, YET
- Begin training as soon as grass greens up
- Next year, using does
- Predators not a problem
- Almost need an electric fence to keep cattle out of area



2ND YEAR OF GOATS OFF GRID

- Might be able to add two more goats
- Take GOG to pasture further away
- Looking for brushy, weedy pasture closer to home

