



# Feral Hog Herald

Quarterly newsletter of the  
Feral Hog Elimination Partnership

Issue #2

## Shannon County Farmer Seeks Help with Feral Hogs

Tim Reed is a full-time cattle farmer in Shannon County. In 2014, Reed noticed the tell-tale damage caused by feral hog rooting in his hay pasture.



Feral hogs rooting in a field with cattle. In addition to physical damage to pastures, feral hogs pose a threat to livestock through disease transmission by sharing forage or being in close proximity to the animals.

The damage was so extensive that Reed was forced to sell off thirty head of cattle due to lost hay production. In addition to the economic damages inflicted upon him, Reed says that he also noticed a reduction in the number of turkeys on his property. Feral hogs have been documented destroying

turkey nests, and a study in Texas suggested that feral hogs destroy as many as 30% of all active turkey nests in an area.

After hearing about the Feral Hog Elimination Partnership from a Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) agent, Reed received site visits from MDC and was paired up with a USDA trapper. Since then, a whopping 177 feral hogs have been destroyed on Reed's property. Reed says that things are much better now, even though he had to purchase a \$6,500 harrow at his own expense to repair damages. In terms of working with the Partnership, Reed says "if you want to get rid of hogs, it's the only way to go."

Recently, the Partnership has begun ordering equipment for landowners to borrow to repair damage in certain counties.

To report feral hog damage or receive assistance, call the Missouri Department of Conservation at **573-533-4115 ext. 3296**, or visit us on the web at <http://mcd.mo.gov/feralhog>.



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