



Testimonial – FaST EID and ARCHER

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I have been involved with EID tags for the past four years. We use them at county fairs, National Western Stock Show, and at home here in our cow/calf herd. I have always used a laptop for collecting my data but this can be hazardous to the laptops that I have gone through. I collect data for four county fairs as well as all junior market animals at the NWSS. I also collect all data on our cow/calf herd.

I happened to run into Nephi Harvey (Fort Supply Technologies) at the NWSS (National Western Stock Show). He showed me the Archer Unit and FAST EID Software. I was impressed with the Archer unit and the software. I wanted one right away for use at the NWSS. Malcolm Harvey (Fort Supply Technologies) met me a couple days later at the NWSS with my unit. I have used the unit a lot since then and have added a few extras to the mix.

At the NWSS I was able to take the unit into the truck and scan animals that we had loaded. I also was able to connect the unit to our scan boards during pig loading so all we had to do was watch the unit and it done all the work, scanning every EID as we ran the hogs past the boards and never missing. I used the Archer exclusively during the NWSS and it was a data and time saver.

As spring came the unit was put to work one day during a snowstorm scanning calves as we were working them. The unit was sitting in a ½ inch of water and never quit working the whole time we worked those calves. The screen would get covered with snow and I just wiped it off and continued with my data entry.

During the summer at the county fairs I don't remember how many times I dropped the unit on the cement at the different fairs. Everyone thought I had ruined the Archer unit but I just picked it up and continued entering the data for all the different animals. Everyone was concerned that the unit would slow down the speed of work but there were many times that I was waiting on the crew to do their work or print their scale ticket as I was already done.

I added the Zebra 220 label printer about mid-summer and what a neat asset to the Archer unit and the FAST EID program. I was able to print scale tickets for the exhibitors and when we loaded out for the packer was able to scan the animals again and print out a label that was then used by the packer to identify those animals during the harvest process. The packers thought this was great because they did not have to transfer Ear Tags cutting down on the spread of bacteria. I plan to use this



unit this fall when we BVD test the calves, I can scan them, print a label, and put the label on the tube and have that sample indentified with no writing. The labels are thermal transfer so they are waterproof out of the printer.

I also added the Bluetooth printer to the Archer Unit and in my line of work scanning animals for others it comes very handy in printing a report after the last animal has gone through the chute.

Lately I have added the EID reader that plugs directly into the top of the Archer unit. This is great for being at chute side. All through adding these extras and whenever I needed to ask a question the Fort Supply Technology staff was able to answer my question. It didn't matter what time of day - Malcolm, Nephi, Terrill & the crew was always there for me.

My 10 months with the Archer Unit and FAST EID have been a great pleasure. Anyone in the livestock industry who works with animals and EID tags should be utilizing this unit and software. It is the best on the market and I have tried about all of them over the last four years. The added bonus is the great support from the Fort Supply Technology Staff.