

On April 1<sup>st</sup> I got up and let my goats out of their “dog proof” pen and went back into the house to cook breakfast. A few minutes later I heard one of my nannies crying, so I grabbed my H&R Pardner Handi Rifle .223 single shot and ran out side. I found my goats being attacked by two dogs, one of which was latched on the rear flank of one of the nannies as it was running towards me crying for help. The dog saw me and turned loose as I raised my rifle to fire. My scope was set on 9 power so I could not see the dog until it was 100 ft away. I shot once and it dropped to the ground without any spasms that usually follow a fatal wound. The other dog escaped unidentified, because of my preoccupation with what was latched onto my nanny. The law would allow me to pursue and kill it too, if it was not locked up, but I failed to identify it. I took some pictures of the dog, goat wound and rifle:



I made a portable goat pen that is “dog proof“. It is constructed out of 3 – 16' long hog panels, with extended height. I can tip the pen over on its side and roll it like a big wheel, to move it to fresh grass. It allows me to leave for 12 hours at a time (such as when working) and still protect the goats from dogs; while they are still being fed. I can use it at night also, while I sleep. I can turn the goats out when I'm home or awake to shoot the dogs off (see it on the next page).



The dog looks expensive, and it is a shame that the owner didn't value it enough to chain it up. The Missouri dog laws give priority to the life of livestock and humans. The emotional benefits of a pet dog can cloud the judgment of a dog owner.