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duce little ash.

Western Juniper has been used for decades for fence posts, poles, corrals, and firewood because it is extremely durable and resistant to rot. In a long-term fence post service life study since 1928, Oregon State University reported Western Juniper to last 30+ years, longer than any other untreated western species.¹

They are also not susceptible to termites. According to a study by Baylor University² Western Juniper sawdust killed termites in 1 to 3 weeks with a 0% survival rate. "A lot of wood products will rot after a year or two and you are out your investment," says Chuck Wertz, senior partner, C&R Forest Products.

On the durability classification scale the New Ag Posts rate no. 1, higher than redwood, western red cedar, and lodge pole pine. In addition to their longevity and durability, New Ag Posts are a renewable product and an organic alternative.

According to Sean Wertz there are many benefits to using wood. "A natural benefit of using wood fence posts is how they enhance



New D&S Retainer from D&S Ag Designs

The new D&S Retainer is a new solution available from D&S Ag Designs to keep pipe end posts from moving. The D&S Retainer is a bracket that simply slides over the edge of a pipe end post and is attached to the D&S V-Rod. According to Stout, this will simply attach to your anchor. "There is no need to weld an object to the pipe or wrap tie back wires around," says Stout. The bracket simply slides on and requires no additional hardware.



NewAg Posts are milled out of Western Juniper trees and have none of the disposal problems associated with treated wood and steel.

the beauty of the landscape. Wood blends with the countryside, giving unity and harmony to nature. Wood posts also stay in the ground better (than steel) because more surface area is in contact with the surrounding soil."

Sean Wertz also adds that the Nail withdrawal strength of Western Juniper is 197psi, higher than Douglas Fir (184psi) and Ponderosa Pine (117psi).

Rudy Romero, Talley Vineyards and Romero Vineyard Management recently planted three acres of their 250 acres of wine grapes with the NewAg Posts and plan to plant an additional 35 acres. "We were looking for an option that would also allow us to be certified organic," says Romero. "We don't like metal and this turned out to be an option that worked well for us."

Romero also says that the New Ag Posts are more stable than treated round posts because they are square. "They don't move when you put tension on them."

NewAg Posts come in different variables. They are available in traditional doweled and square poles. According to Stout, 5" x 5" and 6" x 6" have proven to be the popular choice for end posts.

In addition to the NewAg posts, D&S Ag Designs also sells Rib Back stakes. "We offer 1.75# line stakes that works great with 21' to 25' spacing and 2# for greater distances. We also offer 4# and 5# for end posts," says Stout. "We offer 1.12#, 1.75#, 2#, 3#, 4#, and 5# to better serve your individual needs. If we can offer the structure required with less steel, that saves you the grower money."

For more information contact D&S Ag Designs, Ph: 1.866.594.9943 or Email: devin@dandsagdesigns.com and steve@dandsagdesigns.com ■

References:

1. Service life of treated and untreated fence posts: 1996 post farm report, Oregon State.
2. Termiticidal Activities in the Heartwood, Bark/Sapwood and Leaves of Juniperus Species from the United States: 1988, CSFAA Department, Baylor University, Waco, TX

Other References:

- Wood Fence Posts, USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, WI
- Natural Durability of Wood: A Worldwide Checklist of Species, Oregon State U.
- Juniperus occidentalis Hook. Western Juniper, USDA Forest Service, Wash. DC
- Mechanical Properties of Western Juniper, School of Forestry, University of Montana
- Wood handbook—Wood as an engineering material, USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, WI

Western Juniper is a nuisance weed that takes over rangeland and consumes large amounts of water. The range of Western Juniper has doubled over the past 50–100 years in Oregon. Ranchers and farmers have to clear Western Juniper from their land to allow other foliage to grow, and allow grazing land for livestock. By processing the wood into usable products, we are not only providing growers in California with a great alternative, but we are helping the farmers and ranchers in Oregon by "weeding the land."

— Sean Wertz,
junior partner,
C&R Forest Products.



Western Juniper trees have a natural durability so no preservative treatment is necessary.



NewAg Posts rate higher than redwood, western red cedar and lodge pole pine for durability.