

# Hydroponic Fodder from Sprouting Gear Gains Interest in Drought Adaptation Efforts

*Sprouting Gear cuts livestock feed water use by 95% with on-site hydroponic barley fodder—helping ranchers thrive amid drought and rising resource costs.*

RAMONA, CA, UNITED STATES, July 3, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As persistent drought conditions and aquifer depletion threaten the future of American livestock production, Sprouting Gear Inc. is earning attention from researchers, ranchers, and sustainability advocates for its water-efficient hydroponic barley fodder system.



Hydroponic fodder systems in various growth stages, powering scalable, on-site feed production for ranchers

Sprouting Gear's proprietary 3-stage, climate-controlled growing system can reduce water usage for feed production by over 95%, offering a powerful adaptation strategy for ranchers operating in water-stressed regions. Designed to be built adjacent to feedlots, the system produces up to 19 pounds of fresh, nutrient-rich barley fodder per 2 pounds of seed—without the use of tractors, field irrigation, or heavy transport.

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*Paul Pluss, Founder and CEO of Sprouting Gear Inc.*

“Our goal is to help producers grow feed that's independent of rain, irrigation, or rising costs,” said Paul Pluss, Founder and CEO of Sprouting Gear. “The system is built for resilience, and we're seeing growing interest from operators looking to drought-proof their operations.”

## Key Drought Adaptation Benefits:

- Over 95% less water than conventional irrigated hay or silage
- No center pivots, pumps, or tractors required
- Grows feed year-round—even in drought, extreme heat, or water restrictions

High-moisture feed improves digestion and reduces cattle's water intake

The system aligns with national priorities around climate-smart agriculture, regenerative practices, and localized feed production.

“Water is now the single biggest constraint on U.S. cattle production,” Pluss noted. “Sprouting Gear gives ranchers a way to take control of their feed supply and their future.”

Sprouting Gear is actively supporting producers interested in exploring environmental offset opportunities through its licensing and support program.  
About Sprouting Gear Inc.

Sprouting Gear Inc. is reimagining the future of cattle feed with its patented hydroponic barley fodder system. Designed to cut land, water, fuel, and carbon usage by over 95%, the system enables large-scale cattle operations to grow fresh, highly digestible feed on-site, year-round. Based in California, the company supports producers nationwide with scalable, climate-resilient feed solutions.

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Cattle feed on fresh, nutrient-rich hydroponic barley fodder mats produced by Sprouting Gear's indoor system.

**Production Capacity**

Facility Size	Daily Output	Monthly Output	Annual Output
40,000 sq. ft.	35 tons	1,038 tons	12,458 tons
100,000 sq. ft.	86 tons	2,595 tons	32,147 tons
250,000 sq. ft.	216 tons	6,489 tons	77,868 tons
500,000 sq. ft.	432 tons	12,978 tons	155,736 tons

Sprouting Gear’s scalable hydroponic systems can produce up to 432 tons of fresh feed daily, depending on facility size.

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