

Virtual Fence Vendors for Cattle

Basic Comparison (October 2026)

 VF software	 Connectivity	 Collar battery	 Herd size	 Pasture size	 Up front cost	 Yearly cost
eShepherd from  <i>Available for bison</i>	Gallagher from computer or mobile app	Multiple base stations OR Cellular	Solar charged 7-10 years*	20+	~45ft X 45ft No max	\$250-300/collar** \$5,000-6,000/ base station (if necessary) <i>Base station:</i> \$18/neckband <i>Cellular:</i> \$24/neckband
	Mobile app AND computer	Direct-to- satellite	Solar charged 5-7 years*	100+	~32sq ft/ animal No max	\$1,500 deployment/ shipping fee \$96/collar
	Mobile app	Cellular	Solar charged 5 years*	6+	30ft diameter No max	\$312-320/collar** + shipping (includes year 1 subscription) \$32-40/collar**
 <i>Available for sheep, goats & livestock guardian dogs</i>	Mobile app or view mode only computer	Direct-to- satellite	Solar charged 5-10 years*	5+	0.5 ac - 25,000 ac	\$199-239/collar** (includes year 1 subscription) \$45-60/collar**
 Merck Animal Health	HerdManager from computer or view mode only mobile app	Multiple base stations	Replaceable one-time use ~1 year	100+	>200 ac No max	\$10,000-12,500/ base station \$40/collar + \$10/battery/ collar

*According to vendor

**Variable pricing based on herd size

Virtual fence components from different vendors are generally not interoperable or interchangeable. Specific components, GIS data needs, software protocol, software training, frequency and duration of the cues, GPS error, livestock collaring, and livestock training protocols may vary depending on the vendor. Follow the vendor's recommendations and guidelines. Contact vendors for more information on pricing and availability. The University of Arizona does not endorse a specific product.

Questions? Contact Flavie Audoin (faudoin@arizona.edu)

Access more virtual fence information at RangelandsGateway.org/vf

Supported from USDA NIFA WSARE (WPDP22-016) and AFRI IDEAS (2023-68014-39715).

