

# The DawnSong

presented by Purple Martin Products

## Martins Have Returned!

### Purple Martins Returning to Southern USA!

Postings on Facebook are heralded with the announcements of the martins return are you ready?

[Lets Get Ready!](#)

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### First Martin Returnees Can Face Dangerous Cold

I can't tell you how many times my first martins return on a beautiful spring day only to have the following day provide us with a heavy wet snow. Martins after their journey, are worn out and need food. If the weather is not conducive to flying insects where shall they get a meal? In my opinion one of the single most important thing you can teach your martins is to accept supplemental food. When we taught our martins over 10 years ago, all these generation later still readily use my Bed & Breakfast. Ten years ago, it was not easy to teach the martins, and Robert and I froze our fingers to the bone flipping crickets, but that hard work payed off. Today we simply need to fill the [Bed & Breakfast](#) with scrambled egg or crickets. To learn more about how to teach martins to accept supplemental food click the link to an article I wrote a few years ago.



[How To Teach Martins to Accept Supplemental Food](#)



#### Upgrade to Worm Gear Winches

Worm Gear Winches are available to upgrade with purchase of gourd racks . What is all the hype over



#### Why the Rubber Band?

Have you ever wondered why the rubber band is put on to the oval of the trip mechanism of the

the Worm Gear Winch? I wondered that very same question so to that end in 2018 I replaced a D&L Brake Winch with the D&L Worm Gear Winch on a Gemini Gourd Rack. As I have three Gemini's in use so this was a good test.

First off if you have a Gemini Gourd Rack you are aware of how difficult it can be to remove yourself from the ring section after you have lowered your hub section. I have always used the [Brake Winch Extension Handle](#) with my D&L Brake Winches. I asked Robert to come up with something for me to use in conjunction with the D&L Worm Gear Winch. I have shared that [how to here](#).

The Worm Gear Winch has a 5/8" hex drive shaft and included with the Worm Gear Winch is a 5/8" hex socket with drill adapter. The idea is that you attach the socket to your cordless drill, place the socket over the hex drive shaft and with your drill in reverse, lower the hub section.

Your hub section lowers quickly but more importantly there is NO chattering of the hub section that you get with a Brake Winch (the chattering is due to the brake mechanism of the winch, not the gourd rack).

Because the hub is lowering or raising smoothly, eggs don't jostle, chicks and adults are less likely to flush. I was also impressed with how much more quickly I could raise and lower the hub section using my cordless drill.

Overall I am impressed enough that I will be replacing my other two Brake Winches with Worm Gear Winches. Stopping the chattering alone is what sold me. One word of caution, when raising your hub section be sure to mind the stop pin, you don't want your hub crashing into the pin at the top of your pole.

Troyer Tunnel Trap?

It's there because the House Sparrow will equate the rubber band with nesting material. The sparrow will enter, then he will hit the mechanism causing the shutter door to fall. Did you know you can also place some grass material into the rubber band fooling the sparrows even more.



### No Rockers

#### A Purple Martin Products Exclusive

Violent winds can cause eggs, chicks even an adult martin caught unaware can be ejected from a violent swinging gourd. To that end, No Rockers were developed.

No Rockers are designed to work with the type of gourd arm you are using as well as the gourd. For instance if you want to stop the swing of a SuperGourd that has been installed on a [vertical style Gourd Mounting Arm](#), choose model GV-SGE. If that SuperGourd is mounted to a [vertical gourd arm](#) like those found on the Deluxe, Super-Deluxe and K-Series gourd racks you would use model RV-SGE.

For more information about No Rockers [click here](#)

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Purple Martin Products is ready to serve you. When you are ready to make your purchase please check out our web store. We have everything from gourds to gourd racks and everything in-between. Thank you for your past patronage and we look forward to serving you in 2019!

Wishing everyone a successful 2019 martin season!  
Sincerely ~ Diane

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