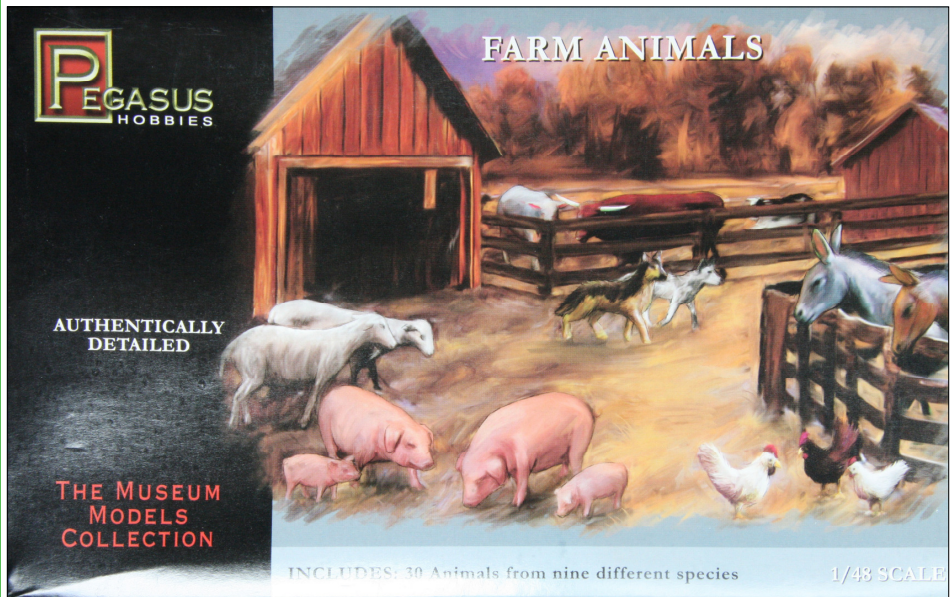


# Animals for Okehampton

I have been looking for animals for Okehampton and have found the Pegasus Hobbies 1:48 set. These are moulded in what looks like polyethylene rather than polystyrene. There is very little flash but I did get 1 misformed part, the horns for one of the cattle. This would be easy to fix with a couple of track pins and some filler.

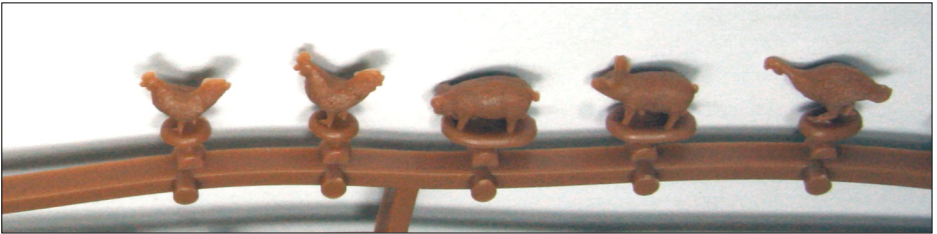
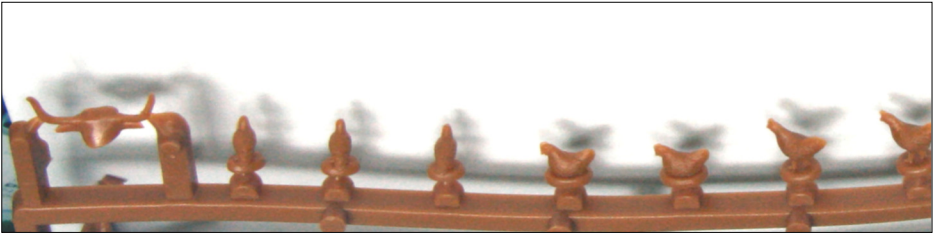


There are 30 animals of 9 different species in the box as follows:

Cattle, 3 cows, 3 bulls.  
Sheep 2  
Goats 2 + 1 kid  
Pigs 2 + 2 piglets  
Chickens 4 + cocks 2  
Pigeons 3  
Dogs 2  
Donkeys 2  
Turkeys 2

Being 1:48 instead of 1:43 they are a little small but this is not a problem as animals come in all sizes and being small is far better than being oversized. In

the case of cattle they are simply young animals being shipped to market. The set is available for £6 to £7 and at this price is worth the money for the cattle alone. They would be excellent to fill cattle wagons at a reasonable cost and weight. Some of the other animals will find a good use in various locations



around the layout. There are a number of fields at the back of the layout that could have animals or maybe someone could make some crates to transport the chickens or pigeons which can then be stacked on the platform? One of the dogs could easily pass for a fox with the right painting.

The animals from Duncan Models are certainly better quality and are probably a good choice for a prominent location on the layout but these animals from Pegasus are perfectly suitable for wagon loads and background scenes. They are also a fraction of the price, as a Duncan Models cow is £4 and also made of whitemetal.

Paul

# Animals for Okehampton—part 2

The first step was to remove the cattle from the sprue and give them a clean with Cif cream cleaner. This will remove any trace of mould release agent and slightly roughen the surface, which is a good thing as they are made of slippery polyethylene. Then a spray with Tamiya grey primer. It is now much easier to see any mould lines which can be removed with a sharp knife. Then another thin coat of primer to cover the exposed plastic.

At this point I wanted to determine the breed of cattle. A search with Google brings up many sites of cattle societies and images. I have settled on a breed called the Red Devon which was used for both milk and beef production and is a breed local to the Okehampton area. They are a red/brown colour and have horns on both bulls and cows.



One of the model bulls had defective horns from the moulding so I was going to have to make some horns anyway, so why not all of them. The horns are made from Peco track pins carefully bent to shape and inserted into a small hole with superglue. A little filler is used to make the head shape better. The defective bull also needed a new set of ears. These were made from plastic tube by cutting at an angle and the head completed with filler. The first attempt had the ear sticking up too much, see right. The ears on cattle stick out not up. Easy to fix and the second attempt looks better, far right, and the head has been shaped with filler.

Paul



Above left, the first attempt at adding the missing ears and horns to a bull, the hole in the head still needs filling. The ears and horns were part of the defective moulding on the sprue.

Above right, after correcting the angle of the ears, filling and priming. The ears are made from a small piece of plastic tubing cut at an angle. I may still bring the ears down a fraction more. The horns could do with being a little thicker and this can be done with a thin coat of Games Workshop liquid green stuff.

Right. A cow with added horns but original ears!

