



**MILES SMITH FARM SARE RESEARCH  
EXTENDING THE GRAZING SEASON  
BY PLANTING AND HARVESTING WITH COWS  
(RESEARCH RESULTS)**



**SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2013  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

**McLANE AUDUBON CENTER  
84 SILK FARM ROAD  
CONCORD, NH**

**RAIN OR SHINE**

Traditionally, cattle in New England graze only 4-6 months of the year. The other 6-8 months they are fed mechanically harvested feedstuffs. High fossil fuel prices and increased grain prices have made extending the grazing season an increasingly desirable alternative to feeding these animals through some of the winter. Brassicas and winter ryes have been recognized as high quality energy forages that can be grown well into our early winter. Mechanical planting of these forages is often impossible or difficult on some of our marginal land that is commonly utilized by farmers to pasture herbivores. This SARE project focused on "Mob Grazing" whereby hoof action of animals was used to plow the land instead of a tractor, readying it to plant forages to extend the grazing season. MIG Grazing was then used to extend the grazing season of the herd of beef cattle from Miles Smith Farm.

At this presentation, Carole Soule and Bruce Dawson of Miles Smith Farm will provide a detailed review of the plowing, harrowing, planting, and grazing used in this project, as well as, weight gains and other pros and cons that were discovered over the season. ***This presentation is free and open to anyone interested in using methods to extend their grazing season. For more information, call Dot Perkins at 796-2151.***

**Directions to the Audubon:** Take I-89 in Concord to Exit 2 for Clinton Street/Route 13. Go left off the ramp (Same direction for both ramps). Turn right at first blinking light, onto Silk Farm Road. Entrance to Center is on the left (watch for sign).

*This project is supported, in part, by the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program. SARE is a program of the National Institute of Food & Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture. SARE provides money for on-farm research. The reports from these projects are on-line and SARE funds people in each state to promote sustainable agricultural practices as they see fit in their states. Visit Northeast SARE at [www.nesare.org](http://www.nesare.org).*

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