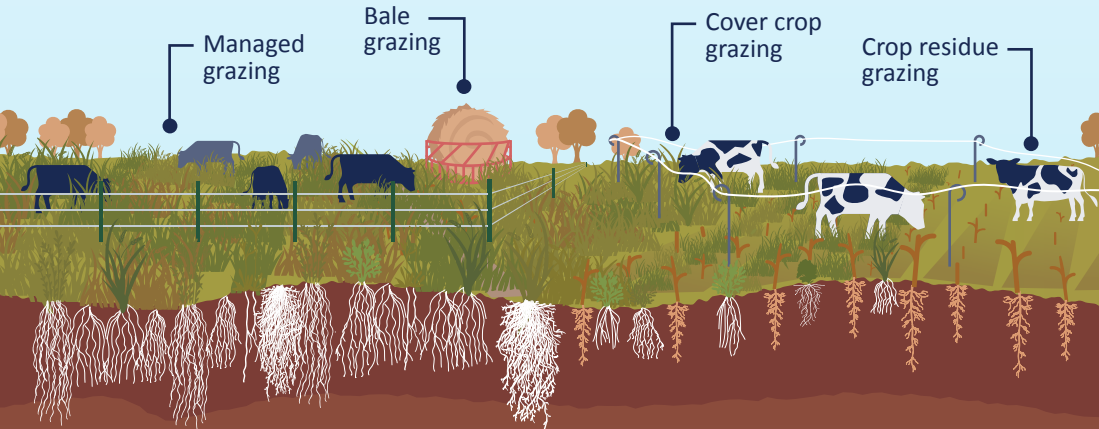


# Partnerships Overcome Challenges of Crop & Livestock Integration

## Common livestock integration practices\*

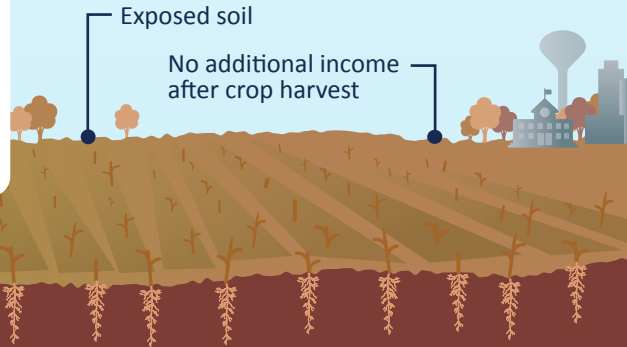


## Benefits\*

- + Manure for fertilizer
- + Improved soil health & conservation outcomes
- + Increased income from same acres

## Challenges

Before Integration



## Challenges\*

## Solutions

Farmers want to improve soil health, reduce fertilizer costs, and control crop pests and weeds

Livestock grazing improves soil health, contributes nutrients from manure, and disrupts crop pest and weed cycles

Livestock farmers' biggest challenge is access to land for grazing

Crop farmers have acreage; grazing of crop residue and cover crops can be a secondary source of income on crop acres

Crop farmers are concerned about getting a good price

Feeding to livestock can add value to crops when prices are low or crops are not harvestable

Crop farmers see challenges to integration: labor, livestock housing, fencing & watering, availability of meat processing

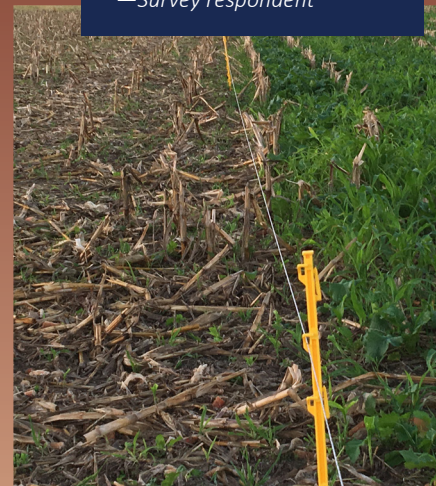
Livestock farmers have learned how to meet these challenges; partnerships allow for shared expertise

"Land feeds livestock, livestock feeds land."

—Survey respondent\*

"Wildlife species of birds, frogs, and insects have returned."

—Survey respondent\*



Aftermath of grazing cover crops in corn residue

Photo by Garth Gatson



Winter grazing on cornstalks

Photo by Ron Schoepp

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\* Based on results from a survey of 500+ farmers.  
Learn more about the survey at [z.umn.edu/MMIH\\_SurveyResults](http://z.umn.edu/MMIH_SurveyResults)

