

**2019**  
**Pennsylvania**  
**Warm Season Grass Producers**  
**Directory**



**Association of Warm Season Grass Producers**

**[www.awsgp.org](http://www.awsgp.org)**

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**The 2019 Pennsylvania Warm Season Grass Producers Directory is a cooperative effort among the following partners:**

**Association of Warm Season Grass Producers  
AWSGP  
c/o PO Box 155  
Moscow, PA 18444  
[www.awsgp.org](http://www.awsgp.org)**

**Penn Soil RC&D Council  
4000 Conewango Avenue  
Warren, PA 16365  
[www.pennsoil.org](http://www.pennsoil.org)**

**Penn State Extension  
The Pennsylvania State University  
College of Agricultural Sciences  
323 Agricultural Administration Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
<https://extension.psu.edu/>**

**Northeast SARE  
Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education  
University of Vermont  
140 Kennedy Drive, Suite 201  
South Burlington, VT 05403  
<https://www.northeastsare.org/>**

## **Preface**

**This directory is a compilation of farmers and other producers in Pennsylvania who grow and market warm season grasses for various purposes. Primarily, warm season grasses include the following:**

- **switchgrass**
- **big blue stem**
- **Indian grass**
- **miscanthus**

**A few years ago a group of producers, individuals, and related businesses met at the urging of Penn State Extension to discuss how to improve markets for warm season grasses, especially within Pennsylvania's farm community. The Association of Warm Season Grass Producers (AWSGP) resulted from that effort.**

**The Association has four primary objectives:**

- **To promote the planting and use of warm-season grasses**
- **To work to maximize the profitability of these crops for farmers**
- **To assist in educating growers on the implementation of best practices for managing and harvesting these crops**
- **To support and encourage entrepreneurial activities that further develop the use of warm-season grasses in all areas of agriculture**

**Growing warm season grass has appeal as both a conservation and a commercial crop. Its perennial growth behavior and robust rooting system makes it a versatile crop for controlling soil erosion, preventing nutrient runoff, and sequestering carbon in the soil. With few inputs it grows capably on marginal lands. High yields of this perennial crop (up to 5 tons/acre/year) makes it an attractive option for fiber markets. It has been used as a feedstock for bioenergy production, as forage material, and as a substitute for wheat straw and similar feedstocks in many applications, including livestock bedding, mulch, and landscape erosion prevention.**

**The demand for warm season grasses currently exceeds known supply. The Association is conducting this survey to locate grass producers in Pennsylvania. Through the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, the Association received a grant to do this survey, exhibits, and other outreach activities under subaward number ONE18-320. The grant helped determine who is producing, numbers of acres planted, and if these acres are enrolled in government programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program. All this information will help us to better market warm season grass throughout Pennsylvania's farm community.**

### **Future Participation**

**The Association continues to locate and survey other Pennsylvania warm season grass producers. Grass growers are encouraged to contact the Association with names of other growers. If others would like to be included in this directory, if errors are found within this directory, or if other suggestions can be made to improve the directory; please send contact information and suggestions to the Association of Warm Season Grass Producers at [www.awsqp.org](http://www.awsqp.org)**

## Bedford County

### Ervin Reiff

142 Elder Lane  
Bedford PA 15522  
717-629-7436  
[ervin@reiffconcrete.com](mailto:ervin@reiffconcrete.com)

**GPS Location:** 39°50'04.1"N 78°37'51.1"W (39.834460, -78.630862)

I grow **4 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX**. Increasing to **20 ACRES...**  
**I DON'T HARVEST YET...**  
Can make **ROUND** or **SMALL SQUARE BALES...**  
Harvest in **SPRING**

## Bucks County

### Michael Kramer

1288 Roundhouse Road  
Quakertown PA 18951  
610-694-8445  
[michael.kramer@boschrexroth-us.com](mailto:michael.kramer@boschrexroth-us.com)

**GPS Location:** 40°30'10.2"N 75°16'07.3"W (40.502826, -75.268705)

I grow about **5 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX ...**  
**I DON'T HARVEST**

## Bucks County (continued)

### Nathan Crooke

Windybush Hay Farms LLC  
108 Irish Meetinghouse Rd.  
Perkasie PA 18944  
267-446-5518 Nathan  
215-353-7439 Gail  
[windybushhayfarmsllc@gmail.com](mailto:windybushhayfarmsllc@gmail.com)

**GPS Location:** 40°24'18.1"N 75°12'06.3"W (40.405040, -75.201754)

We manage **80 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS** growing on Pennypack Park lands in Montgomery County...  
Make **LARGE SQUARE BALES**...  
Harvest in **SPRING**

## Columbia County

### Rodney Leighow

135C Rarig RD  
Catawissa PA 17820  
570-317-4319  
[rleighow@verizon.net](mailto:rleighow@verizon.net)

**GPS Location:** 40°54'23.6"N 76°23'16.1"W (40.906568, -76.387816)

I grow about **16 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS** ...  
Make **ROUND BALES** ...  
Harvest in **BOTH FALL** and **SPRING**

## Columbia County (continued)

### Mike Stewart

1838A SR254  
Orangeville PA 17859  
570-394-2607  
[mstewart@ap.org](mailto:mstewart@ap.org)

**GPS Location:** 41°07'53.5"N 76°26'14.6"W (41.131525, -76.437401)

I grow about **20 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS ...**  
Make **SMALL SQUARE BALES ...**  
Harvest in the **FALL**

### Nathan Moss

192 Cabin Run Road  
Berwick PA 18603  
570-912-8915  
[NRM3635@gmail.com](mailto:NRM3635@gmail.com)

**GPS location:** 41°04'13.0"N 76°22'13.1"W (41.070277, -76.370318)

I grow about **140 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS ...**  
Make **BOTH ROUND BALES** and **SMALL SQUARE BALES ...**  
Harvest in **BOTH FALL & SPRING ...**  
Expand my planted acreage **EVERY YEAR**



## Crawford County

### Ernst Seed, Inc

8884 Mercer Pike  
Meadville PA 16335  
814/333-3860  
[dan@ernstseed.com](mailto:dan@ernstseed.com)

**GPS Location:** 41°35'18.8"N 80°09'12.3"W (41.588562, -80.153413)

We grow approximately **3,000 ACRES SWITCHGRASS**  
**300 ACRES INDIANGRASS**  
**650 ACRES BIG BLUESTEM ...**

Make **ROUND BALES**  
Harvest in **BOTH FALL & SPRING**

## Luzerne County

### Will Brandau

31 Smith Mountain Road  
Wapwallopen PA 18660  
570-814-0195  
[willbrandau@gmail.com](mailto:willbrandau@gmail.com)

**GPS Location:** 41°05'08.0"N 76°07'11.4"W (41.085563, -76.119839)

I grow about **40 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX ...**  
Make **ROUND BALES, SMALL & LARGE SQUARE BALES ...**  
Harvest in the **SPRING ...**  
Can process **MATERIAL FOR BEDDING**

## Luzerne County (continued)

### Leonard Reggie

56 Deer Path Lane  
Wyoming PA 18644  
570-696-3754  
[bhswood46@yahoo.com](mailto:bhswood46@yahoo.com)

**GPS Location:** 41°18'42.6"N 75°50'14.8"W (41.311832, -75.837433)

I grow about **6 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS** ...  
Make **SMALL SQUARE BALES** ...  
Harvest in **BOTH FALL** and **SPRING** ...  
Can **MILL** and **BAG GRASS** for **ANIMAL BEDDING** ...

### Daniel Chorba

153 Zosh Road  
Dallas PA 18612  
570-477-3407  
[dan@sweetvalleydoitbest.com](mailto:dan@sweetvalleydoitbest.com)

**GPS Location:** 41°19'32.4"N 76°03'11.7"W (41.325658, -76.053241)

I grow about **20 ACRES** in grass in the **CREP PROGRAM** ...  
which I **DO NOT HARVEST** ...  
Have additional fields in cool season grass that I plan to convert to warm season grasses

### Bruce Trumbower

21 Bonham Road  
Hunlock Creek PA 18621  
570-606-9573  
[bruce.trumbower@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.trumbower@gmail.com)

**GPS Location:** 41°13'26.7"N 76°09'57.1"W (41.224084, -76.165855)

I grow about **7 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX**  
(**SWITCHGRASS, BIG BLUE STEM, WILDFLOWERS**) ...  
Grow **35 ACRES** of grass in the **CREP PROGRAM** ...  
Make **ROUND BALES, SMALL & LARGE SQUARE BALES** ...  
Harvest in the **SPRING**

## Luzerne County (continued)

### Chris Miller

261 Jackson Rd.  
Shavertown PA 18708  
570-406-2639  
[ChrisMilleraaaa@Gmail.com](mailto:ChrisMilleraaaa@Gmail.com)

**GPS Location:** 41°18'16.8"N 75°59'35.0"W (41.304657, -75.993063)

I grow about **3 ACRES** of each of the following grasses:

**SWITCHGRASS, GAMAGRASS, BLUESTEM ...**

All grass acreage is in the **CRP PROGRAM ...**

**I DO NOT HARVEST:** do not have cut and bail machinery ...

Please contact me if anyone in the Shavertown area is willing to cut and bail

### Stephen Chest

62 Jeanette Street  
Mocanaqua PA 18655  
570-762-4401  
[sixgun22@netzero.net](mailto:sixgun22@netzero.net)

**GPS Location:** 41°07'11.3"N 76°06'58.8"W (41.119806, -76.116322)

I grow about **30 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX**

**(SWITCHGRASS, MISCANTHUS, INDIAN GRASS, BIG BLUE STEM)...**

Make **ROUND BALES...**

Harvest in the **FALL**

## Montour County

### Joe Woodruff

1022 Wagner Drive  
Danville PA 17821  
570-441-1534  
[Dirtfarmerjoew@gmail.com](mailto:Dirtfarmerjoew@gmail.com)

**GPS Location:** 40°57'51.8"N 76°31'32.7"W (40.964399, -76.525755)

I grow about **12 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS ...**  
Make **ROUND BALES ...**  
Harvest in the **SPRING**

## Northampton County

### Matt Glennon

1200 Books Hill Rd  
Pen Argyl PA 18072  
610-248-4725  
[glennon@ptd.net](mailto:glennon@ptd.net)

**GPS Location:** 40°48'45.6"N 75°15'47.8"W (40.812660, -75.263288)

I grow about **90 acres** of **SWITCHGRASS, INDIAN GRASS, BIG BLUESTEM & LITTLE BLUESTEM ...**  
Make **LARGE SQUARE BALES ...**  
Harvest in **BOTH FALL & SPRING ...**  
Use custom labor ... Aim for **FALL HARVEST ...** Bringing more fields into production ...  
2016 = 100 tons. 2017 = 105 tons. 2018 = 149.

## Somerset County

### Craig Coleman

779 Walker School Road  
Somerset PA 15552  
814-267-5197  
[Coleman2008@yahoo.com](mailto:Coleman2008@yahoo.com)

**GPS location:** 39°52'21.3"N 78°57'52.4"W (39.872581, -78.964561)

I grow about **15 acres** of **SWITCHGRASS** ...  
Make **ROUND BALES** ...  
Harvest in **FALL**

### International Conservation Center (Pittsburgh Zoo Elephant Mating Farm)

Patricia Vitullo Manager  
1299 Glen Savage Rd  
Fairhope PA 15538  
814-267-4764  
[pvitullo@pittsburghzoo.org](mailto:pvitullo@pittsburghzoo.org)

**GPS Location:** 39°53'36.3"N 78°48'05.3"W (39.893422, -78.801484)

We grow about **45 acres** of **SWITCHGRASS** for bedding and feed for elephants here at the Mating Farm and Pittsburgh Zoo...  
**MAKE ROUND BALES** and **SMALL SQUARE BALES...**  
Harvest in **SUMMER**

## Tioga County

### Jim Unruh

248 Hager Rd  
Roaring Branch PA 17765  
570-250-0533  
[Jim.unruh567@gmail.com](mailto:Jim.unruh567@gmail.com)

**GPS Location:** 41°37'18.8"N 76°54'12.5"W (41.621882, -76.903467)

I grow about **25 ACRES** in **SWITCHGRASS ...**  
Make **ROUND BALES ...**  
My acreage is out of the **CRP Program**

## Westmoreland County

### Tom Stickle

P.O. Box 612  
Ligonier PA 15658  
412-398-9604  
[tstickle@verizon.net](mailto:tstickle@verizon.net)

**GPS Location:** 40°14'35.1"N 79°14'16.4"W (40.243093, -79.237889)

I grow **200 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS...**  
Make **LARGE SQUARE BALES...**  
Harvest both **SPRING & SUMMER...**  
Sell grass, manage it for bird, wildlife, and pollinator habitat...  
Maintain warm/cool season grass contour strips for biodiversity and wildlife habitat needs...located in the rolling hills of western Pennsylvania

## Grass Producers, Other States, Marketing In Pennsylvania

### Joey Massey (Greene County, Arkansas)

33 Greene Rd 747  
Paragould AR 72450  
870-573-6712  
[joey2massey@yahoo.com](mailto:joey2massey@yahoo.com)

**GPS Location:** 36°01'59.8"N 90°40'13.7"W (36.033285, -90.670471)

I grow about **125 ACRES** of **MISCANTHUS ...**  
Make **LARGE SQUARE BALES ...**  
Harvest **BOTH FALL & SPRING**

### Sara Calhoun (Anne Arundel County, MD)

Ivy Neck Farm/Restoration Foods  
PO Box 365  
Harwood MD 20776  
410-353-3882

**GPS Location:** 38°52'02.8"N 76°37'06.8"W (38.867430, -76.618561)

I grow **20 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS...**  
Make **ROUND BALES...**  
Harvest **BOTH FALL & SPRING...**  
Bale 70 5'x4' net-wrapped bales of switchgrass, several times a year...  
Planting more acres... looking for buyers

### Ben Chaffee (Chautauqua County, New York)

7247 North Hill Road  
Sinclairville NY 14782  
814-688-5276  
[Bgchaffee@gmail.com](mailto:Bgchaffee@gmail.com)

**GPS Location:** 42°19'03.4"N 79°14'20.9"W (42.317606, -79.239144)

I grow about **75 ACRES** in **HAY MIXED GRASS ...**  
Make **ROUND BALES & SMALL SQUARE BALES ...**  
Harvest in **BOTH FALL & SPRING**

## Grass Producers, Other States, Marketing In Pennsylvania (continued)

**Ian Paddock** (St. Lawrence County, New York)

227 County Route 6  
Hammond NY 13646  
315-751-4727  
[ian@farm4energy.com](mailto:ian@farm4energy.com)

**GPS Location:** 44°27'05.1"N 75°41'01.2"W (44.451428, -75.683669)

I grow about **1 ACRE** of **SWITCHGRASS** ...  
Also grow about **40 ACRES** of **HAY** ...  
**(TIMOTHY, BROME GRASS, CANARY GRASS)** ...  
Make **SMALL SQUARE BALES**







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