

# Managing Pastures Towards Improved Profit and Soil Health



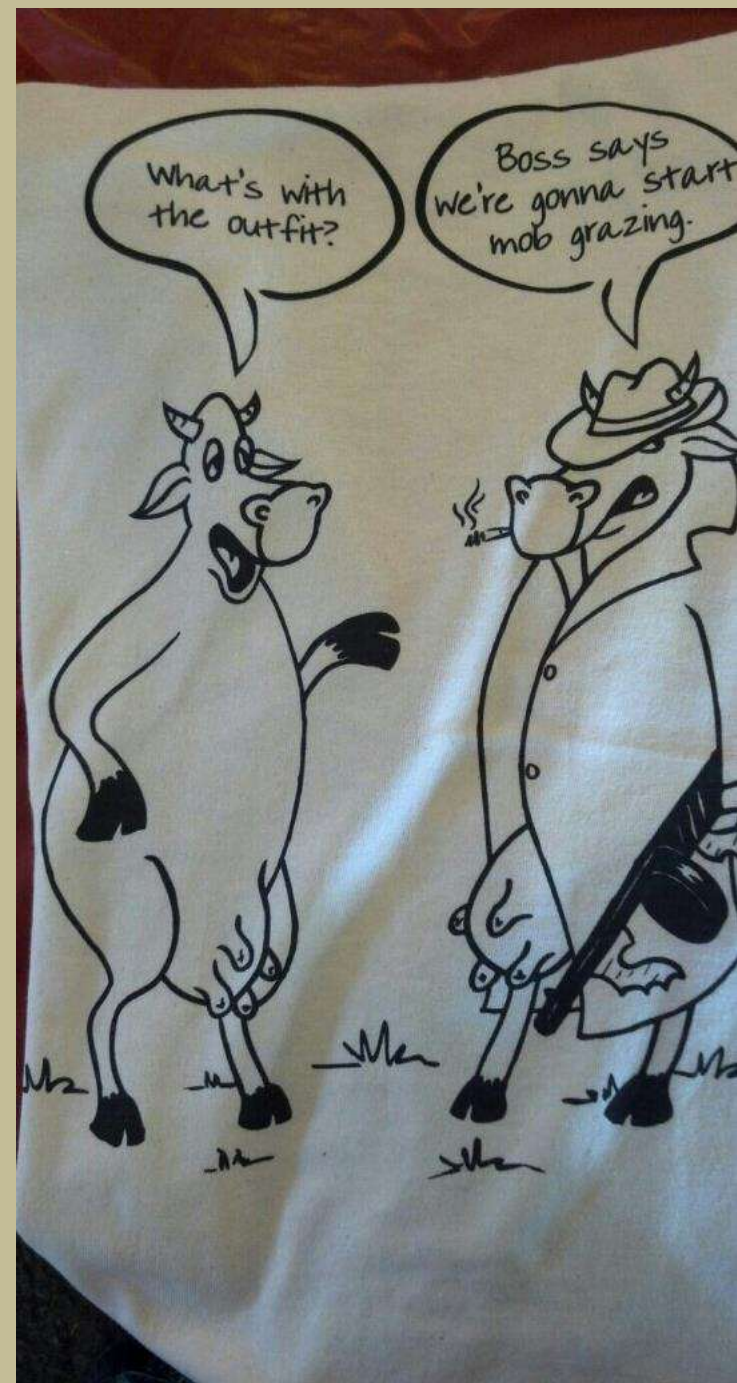
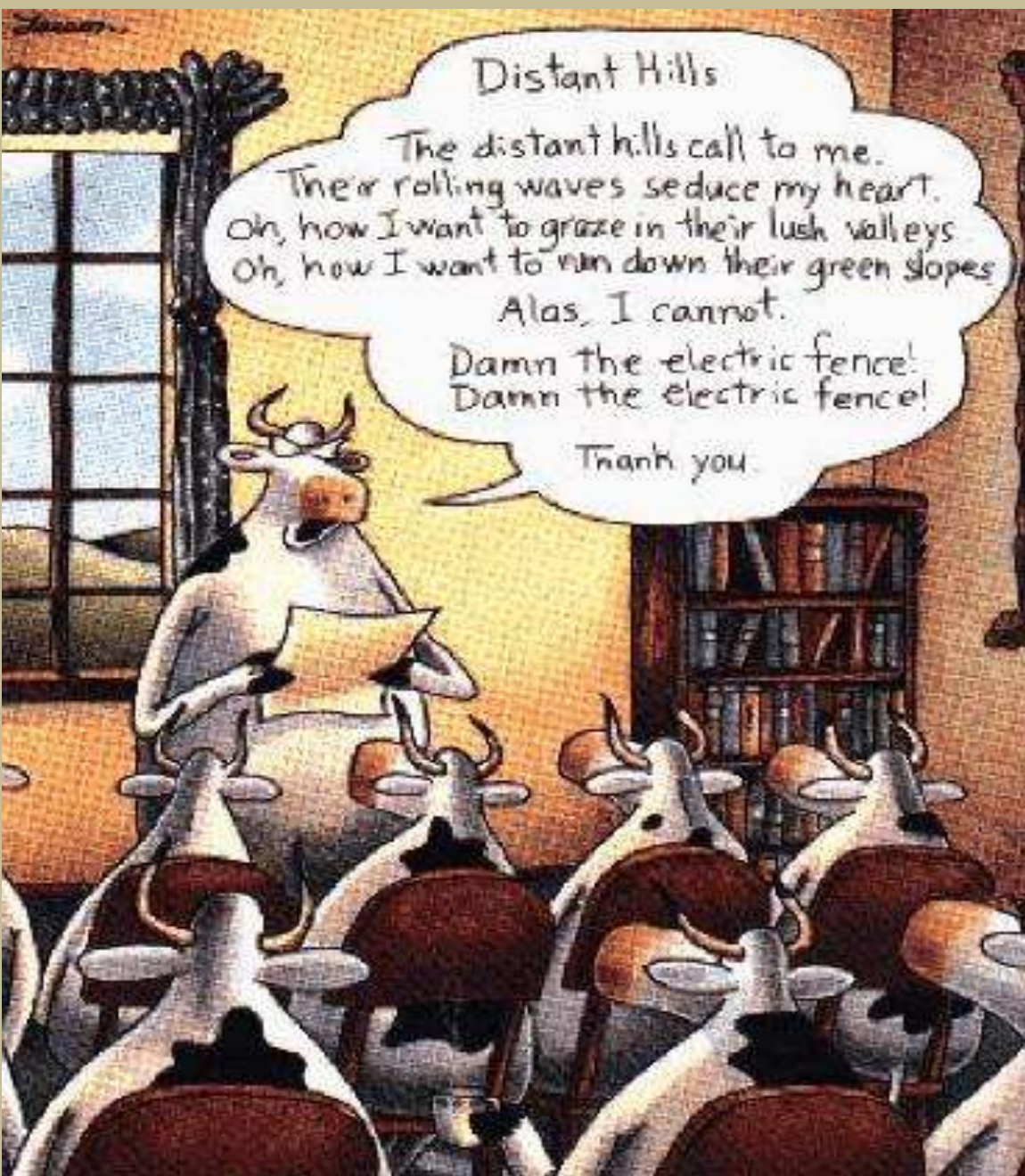
**2013 Forage & Grazing Management Seminar**  
**Morrisville State College Equine Rehabilitation Center**  
by

Troy Bishopp

Grass Farmer and Grazing Specialist for the Madison County Soil and Water  
Conservation District and The Upper Susquehanna Coalition

[Troy-Bishopp@verizon.net](mailto:Troy-Bishopp@verizon.net) (315) 824-9849 [www.Grasswhisperer.com](http://www.Grasswhisperer.com)







**We Gotta Do a Better Job**





# Feedlots or pastures?





# Pasture Management Does Matter



**DARE TO BE DIFFERENT**



**Take care of your grass and it will take  
care of you!!**





**Now this is what  
I'm talking about!**



# GRAZING PLANNING: WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS?





How goal setting relates to me on my farm.

- ❖ Think in wholes not in pieces and parts
- ❖ I'm always questioning my actions against the goals
- ❖ Avoid decisions that can lead to unintended consequences
- ❖ Plan and implement towards your goals (Financial, Environmental and Family) not at the expense of any one of them
- ❖ Find Balance in life and farm
- ❖ Plan for what you want to create and can control
- ❖ Improve water retention
- ❖ Keep land covered with diverse plant and animal communities
- ❖ Focus on soil and biological health
- ❖ Improve Fertility Transfer
- ❖ Well-managed animals on the land critical for ecosystem to function
- ❖ Financial health (pay yourself first)
- ❖ Hone in on grazing management tools
- ❖ Monitor, Monitor, Monitor





# **The Initial Questions from the Grass Whisperer**

**What do you want?**

**What are the weak links?**

**Spending too much money?**

**What kind of horses (animals), nutritional and exercise needs?**

**Can you limit graze?**

**How will you manage?**

**Change orientation and size of sacrifice paddocks?**

**How much money for fencing infrastructure?**

**How many horses in the future?**

**Where does all the manure go?**

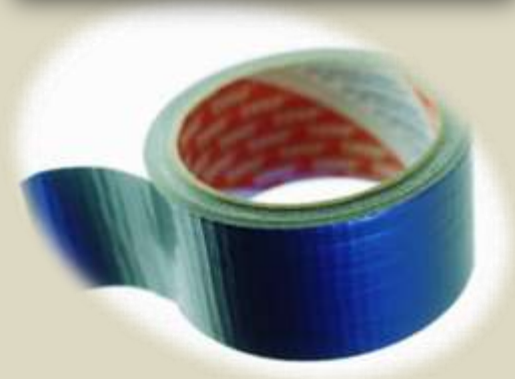
**Grass species selection?**



# TOOLS TO CREATE WHAT YOU WANT

- Your Mind
- Financial Resources
- Land Capacity
- Infrastructure
- Soil Fertility
- Biological Life
- Plants
- Animals and Impact
- Rest
- Plans
- Maps
- Grazing Strategies
- Equipment
- Time Management
- Etc.

**GOALS**





# RIGHT SIZING

Finding Balance

**RIGHT SIZING**

Finding Balance

**RIGHT SIZING**

# Can we graze this farm?



Horse Boarding & Riding  
lesson Operation

17 Animals  
-12 Adult Horses  
-5 Ponies

25 Acres of hay available  
for mechanical harvesting  
at another site

Currently feeding nine 45lb  
bales a day

Currently about 2-3 acres  
are "grazed"

Less than 10% of animal  
forage requirements are met  
by grazing at this time

10 Acres of land available  
for grazing, with the  
possability of a maximum  
of 2 more acres available  
on site.

All animals are housed at  
barn and sacrifice area  
during winter months.

Will need water source to  
paddocks

\*\* The #1 priority for the  
district at this site is water  
quality improvements\*\*

## Legend

- MC Parcels
- Streams
- Grazing Land Available





# No Plan



# No Result

# Be a Grazing Thinker





Hope is a good breakfast but a poor supper

Hope is the essence of faith

Faith is the engagement.

Faith is knowing that it will happen

Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.~Psalm 37:3

When we believe him in such a way, then, like Abraham we operate in unwavering faith. Also like Abraham, we see the promises of God that are done and complete, called to manifest into the physical realm where we can interact with them.~ ( Romans 4:17 )

# Crosswinds Equestrian Center







113 acres

1220' elevation

Farmstead

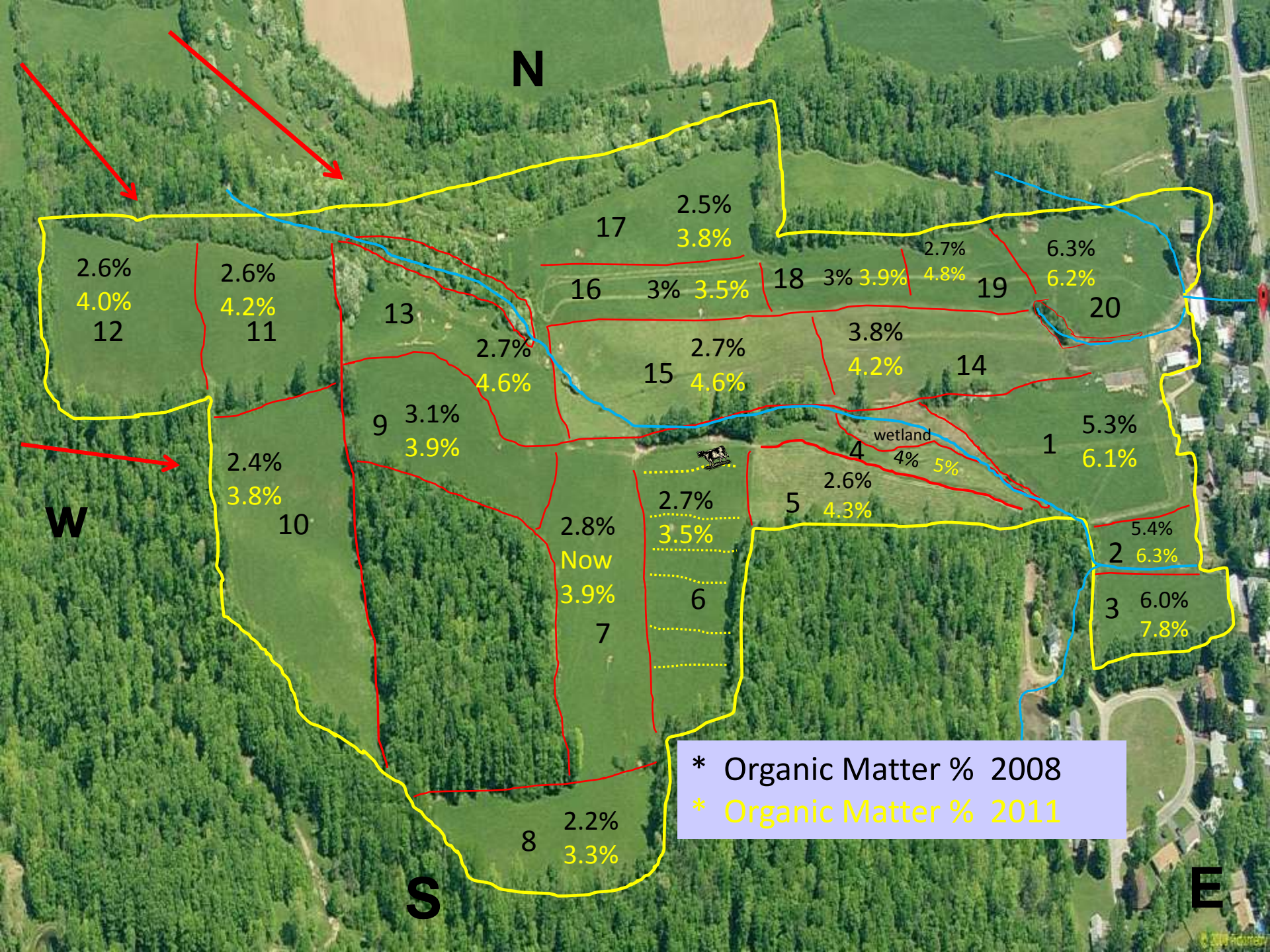
NORTH  
1507' elevation

Farm Map  
Example











# HAVE YOU SEEN THIS AND DO YOU USE THIS FOR FIGURING??

**DRAFT PLAN adapted and modified from** *NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE*  
*SYRACUSE, NEW YORK*

## **PRESCRIBED GRAZING MANAGEMENT PLANNING WORKSHEET**

LANDOWNERS NAME B Farm DATE 2012

### **STEP 1a. Estimate the Forage Demand:**

The forage demand is the amount of forage dry matter (DM) required to feed a group of livestock for one day. It is calculated based on the rule of thumb that grazing animals require an amount of forage DM equal to about 2.5 to 3.0% of their body weight per day. For lactating animals and growing stock use 3.0% of body weight. For all other classes of livestock use 2.5%.

$$\begin{array}{rcccl} 1800 \text{ lb. Organic Heifers} & \times & .025 \text{ or } .03 & = & 24 \\ \text{Average Weight/Animal} & & \text{Lbs DM/Head/Day} & & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{rcccl} & \times & 75 & = & 1800 \text{ DM} \\ & & \text{\# of Animals} & & \text{Forage Demand} \end{array}$$

$$2 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \times .025 \text{ or } .03 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \times \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Unadjusted Daily Forage Demand                       
Lbs/Dm/Day

### **Step 1b. Adjust Daily Forage Demand as a result of supplemental feed use by deducting the pounds of supplemental feeds from the daily forage demand.**

If supplemental forages are provided, they are substituted on a pound for pound basis. If supplemental grain is fed, the substitution rate is one pound of grain equals .5 pounds of forage.

$$\begin{array}{rcccl} \text{Unadjusted Daily Forage Demand} & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & - & \text{Lbs of supplemental feed} & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \\ \text{Lbs/DM/Day} & & & \text{Lbs/DM/Day} & \end{array}$$

Adjusted Daily Forage Demand                       
Lbs/DM/Day



# CONTINUED

## STEP 2. Estimate the Forage Supply:

This is the amount of forage dry matter that is estimated to be available for grazing after a 20-day growth period in the spring and a 30-day growth period in the summer and fall.

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** These values are for planning purposes only. They reflect average growing conditions, pastures that are in good condition, soil fertility maintained to soil test recommendations and pH not less than 5.8. Unless actual measured yields are available, use estimated yields from NRCS data, New York Agricultural Land Classification data or the Cornell University Forage Species Selection Tool located on the website [www.forages.org](http://www.forages.org). Use the following table to convert hay yields in Tons/DM/Acre/Year to Forage Availability in Lbs/DM/Acre/rotation.

### Forage Availability Estimates

Hay Yield Tons/DM/Acre/Year	5.5	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0
Forage Availability Lbs/DM/Acre/Rotation	2200	2000	1800	1600	1400	1200	1000	800
Soil Map Symbol	1 <u>HE</u>	2 _____	3 _____	4 _____				
Number of Acres	1 <u>90</u>	2 _____	3 _____	4 _____				
Forage Supply Lbs/DM/Acre/Rotation	1 <u>1400</u>	2 _____	3 _____	4 _____				

\* Depending on pasture conditions and forage density:

100-150lbs/DM/inch of forage (fair)

200-250lbs/DM/inch of forage (av.)

250-300lbs/DM/inch of forage (good)

300-400lbs/DM/inch of forage (Ex)

# Working with the future equine managers



**Estimating DM exercise**



none



150 DM/in/acre



200-250 DM/in/acre



300+  
DM/in  
/acre



# CONTINUED

## Step 3. Select Residency Period:

Residency Period 1  
Days

**Note\*\*** One half to 1-day residency periods are recommended for lactating dairy cows. Residency periods of 2 to 7 days may be used for all other livestock. To maximize harvest efficiency, use shorter residency periods.

## Step 4. Determine Paddock Size by Major Soil Type:

Paddock size is based on meeting the forage demand of the livestock for the designated residency period.

1	<u>1800</u>	÷	<u>1400</u>	=	<u>1.3 acres</u>	x	<u>1</u>	=	<u>1.3 acres</u>
	Forage Demand		Forage Supply		Acres Required/Day		Residency Period		Paddock Size (Ac)
2	<u>          </u>	÷	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>	x	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>
	Forage Demand		Forage Supply		Acres Required/Day		Residency Period		Paddock Size (Ac)
3	<u>          </u>	÷	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>	x	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>
	Forage Demand		Forage Supply		Acres Required/Day		Residency Period		Paddock Size (Ac)
4	<u>          </u>	÷	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>	x	<u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>
	Forage Demand		Forage Supply		Acres Required/Day		Residency Period		Paddock Size (Ac)

## Step 5. Determine the Number of Paddocks

20 days rest	÷ <u>1</u>	=	<u>          </u>	+ 1	=	<u>21</u>
	Residency Period					Number of Paddocks
30 days rest	÷ <u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>	+ 1	=	<u>31</u>
	Residency Period					Number of Paddocks
45 days rest	÷ <u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>	+ 1	=	<u>46</u>
	Residency Period					Number of Paddocks
60 days rest	÷ <u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>	+ 1	=	<u>61</u>
	Residency Period					Number of Paddocks
90 days rest	÷ <u>          </u>	=	<u>          </u>	+ 1	=	<u>91</u>
	Residency Period					Number of Paddocks



# CONTINUED

**Step 6. Estimate the Total Number of Acres Needed:** Use the average paddock size of the most prevalent soil types to estimate

1.3	X	21	=	27	
Paddock Size		Number of Paddocks		Acres Needed	for 20 days rest
1.3	X	31	=	40	
Paddock Size		Number of Paddocks		Acres Needed	for 30 days rest
1.3	X	46	=	60	
Paddock Size		Number of Paddocks		Acres Needed	for 45 days rest
1.3	X	61	=	80	
Paddock Size		Number of Paddocks		Acres Needed	for 60 days rest
1.3	X	91	=	118	
Paddock Size		Number of Paddocks		Acres Needed	for 90 days rest

**Note:** During spring and early summer, only about 40% to 60% of planned acres will be required for grazing. The remaining grazing acres could be mechanically harvested, planned to be grazed by another class/group of livestock, clipped, deferred for wildlife habitat or stockpiled for extended grazing depending on the goals of the family.

**Step 7. Determine the Number of Actual Acres Planned:**






Pad Size/	Ac. Needed/day	=	# Days available
1 3		=	2.3
2 2		=	1.5
3 2		=	1.5
4 5		=	3.5
5 4		=	3
6 5		=	3.5
7 5		=	3.5
8 4		=	3
9 5		=	3.5
10 7		=	5

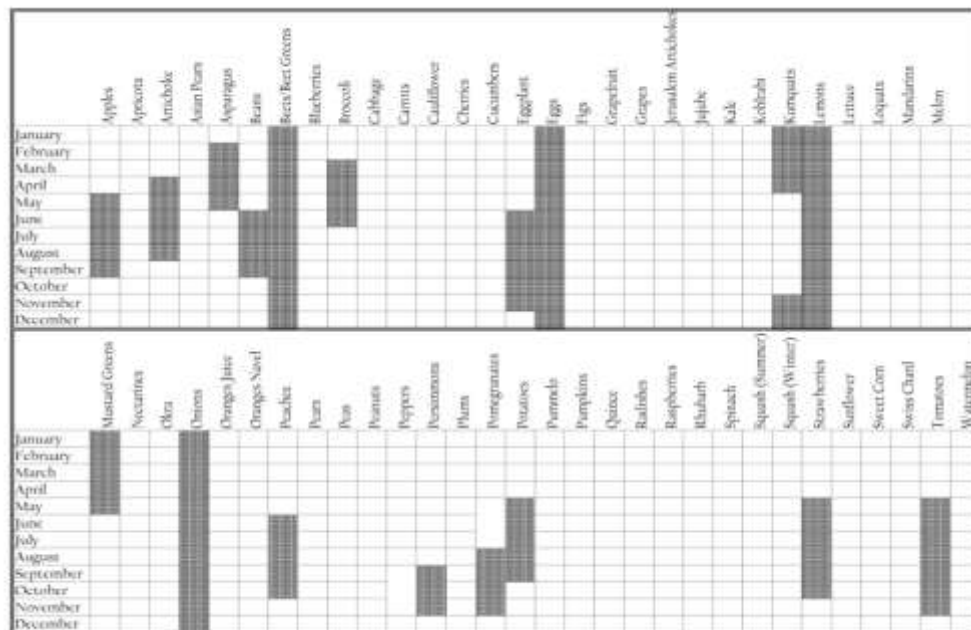
11 5		=	3.5
12 5		=	3.5
13 5		=	3.5
14 7		=	5
15 5		=	3.5
16 5		=	3.5
17 5		=	3.5
18 5		=	3.5
19 5		=	3.5
20 5		=	3.5

Total actual Acres **94**

Total # days rest **67**

*A useful, at a glance guide showing sowing and harvesting times for most popular vegetables.*

<b>Key:</b>		<i>Sow under cloche, cold frame, or in unheated greenhouse</i>
		<i>Plant out from under glass</i>
		<i>Sow outdoors</i>
		<i>Transplant outdoor sowings</i>
		<i>Harvest period</i>

[illegible][illegible]

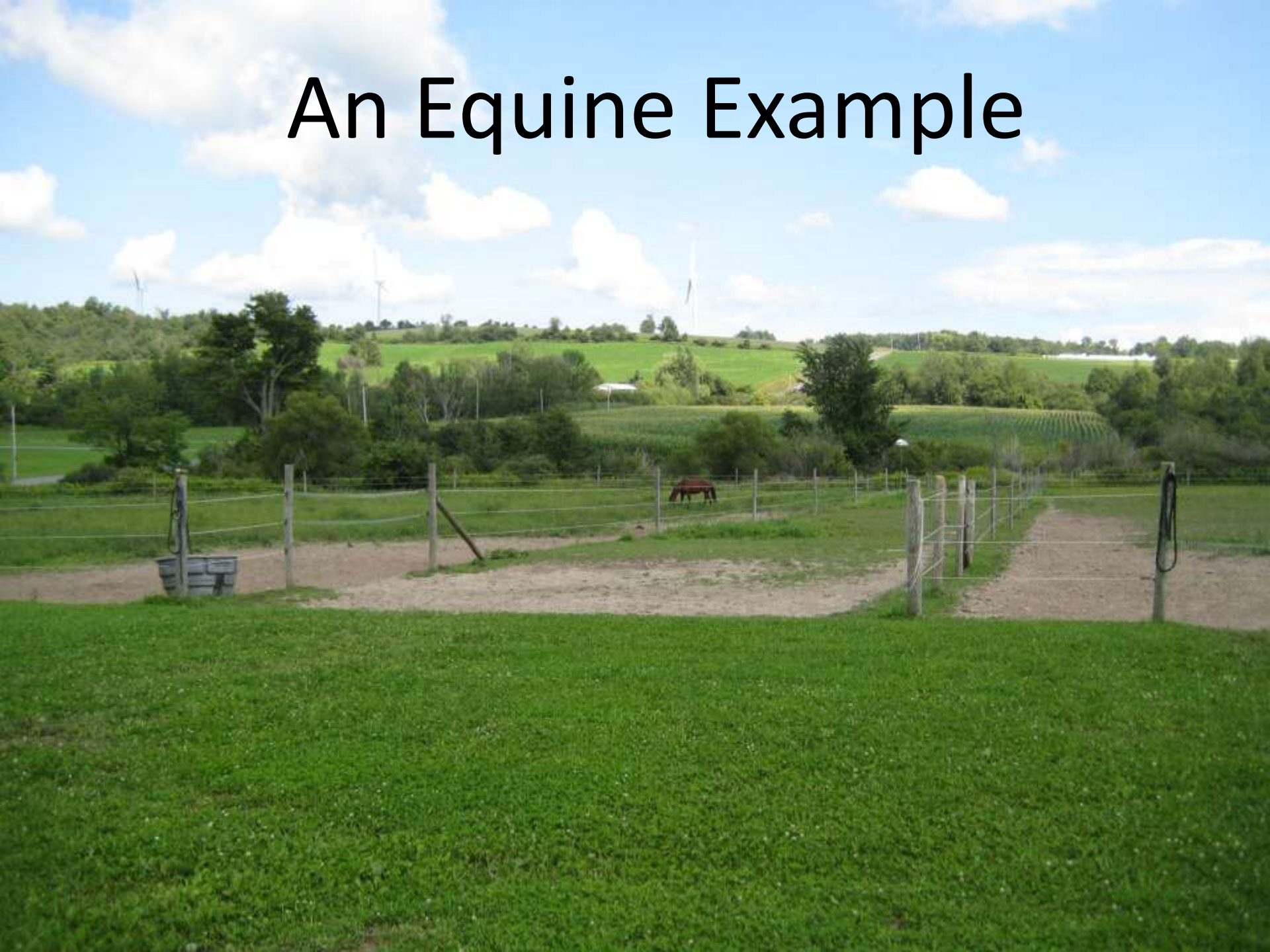


manure timing	Crop Fields			APRIL																														MAY																																																											
	Size	Name																																																																																											
November	1.2	Lake Bank	Hay																																																																																										
November	10.5	Gravel Bed	Corn																																																																																										
April	9.1	Camp Road	Corn																																																																																										
Feb-April	7.2	Corner Piece	Corn																																																																																										
November	5.7	Small Square	Corn																																																																																										
November	12.1	Across Gravel Bed	Corn																																																																																										
April	17.9	Across Road	Alf hay																																																																																										
November	18.1	By Jims	Hay																																																																																										
April	6.3	Mom & Dad west	Corn																																																																																										
April	13.7	Mom & Dad east	Corn																																																																																										
November	12.5	Big Piece hill	Oats																																																																																										
November	6.3	Little Piece hill	Corn																																																																																										
April	2.2	By Creek	Rye																																																																																										
November	2.2	Flat Creek	Hay																																																																																										
November	2	Flat End	Corn																																																																																										
November	7.5	Flat Gravel	Corn																																																																																										
November	24.7	Washburn north	Corn																																																																																										
November	22.2	Washburn South	Hay																																																																																										
April	5.1	Bono	Hay																																																																																										
Fall	8	power plant pasture																																																																																											
Fall	4	Heifer Pasture																																																																																											
Fall	6	Cow Pasture west																																																																																											
Fall	9	Cow Pasture east																																																																																											
		RAINFALL/ in																																																																																											
		SNOW/ in																																																																																											
Daily temps																																																																																													





# An Equine Example



# Conservation Plan Map

Date: 12/30/2009

Field Office: HAMILTON SERVICE CENTER

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Assisted By: Michael Gurecki



## Legend

### Practices (lines)

— <all other values>

### Practice name

— Fence

— Pipeline

— Consplan

— roads100k\_l\_ny053

..... Temporary fencing. This is approximately where subdivisions could go, the important thing is to divide and provide access to water and reach all corners of the fields. Also to provide adequate rest for the grass before following grazing.



150 0 150 300 450 600 Feet



# PRESCRIBED GRAZING MANAGEMENT PLANNING WORKSHEET

LANDOWNERS NAME \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ 2009 \_\_\_\_\_

## STEP 1a. Estimate the Forage Demand:

The forage demand is the amount of forage dry matter (DM) required to feed a group of livestock for one day. It is calculated based on the rule of thumb that grazing animals require an amount of forage DM equal to about 2.5 to 3.0% of their body weight per day. For lactating animals and growing stock use 3.0% of body weight. For all other classes of livestock use 2.5%.

$$1 \text{ } \underline{1300} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{5\%} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{65} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{6} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{390} \text{ DM}$$

Average Weight/Animal                      Lbs DM/Head/Day                      # of Animals                      Forage Demand

$$2 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{.025 \text{ or } .03} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Unadjusted Daily Forage Demand                      Lbs/Dm/Day

## Step 1b. Adjust Daily Forage Demand as a result of supplemental feed use by deducting the pounds of supplemental feeds from the daily forage demand.

If supplemental forages are provided, they are substituted on a pound for pound basis. If supplemental grain is fed, the substitution rate is one pound of grain equals .5 pounds of forage.

$$\text{Unadjusted Daily Forage Demand } \underline{390} \text{ - Lbs of supplemental feed } \underline{35} \text{ (5lbs hay \& 1lb grain/horse)}$$

Lbs/Dm/Day                      Lbs/Dm/Day

$$\text{Adjusted Daily Forage Demand } \underline{355}$$

Lbs/Dm/Day

## STEP 2. Estimate the Forage Supply:

This is the amount of forage dry matter that is estimated to be available for grazing after a 20-day growth period in the spring and a 30-day growth period in the summer and fall.

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** These values are for planning purposes only. They reflect average growing conditions, pastures that are in good condition, soil fertility maintained to soil test recommendations and pH not less than 5.8. Unless actual measured yields are available, use estimated yields from NRCS data, New York Agricultural Land Classification data or the Cornell University Forage Species Selection Tool located on the website [www.forages.org](http://www.forages.org). Use the following table to convert hay yields in Tons/DM/Acre/Year to Forage Availability in Lbs/DM/Acre/rotation.

Forage Availability Estimates

Hay Yield Tons/DM/Acre/Year	5.5	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0
Forage Availability Lbs/DM/Acre/Rotation	2200	2000	1800	1600	1400	1200	1000	800

Soil Map Symbol      1 HnB    2 1.20    3 AoA    4 \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Acres      1 12.9    2 1.20    3 .80    4 \_\_\_\_\_

Forage Supply      1 1000    2 1000    3 1000    4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Lbs/DM/Acre/Rotation

\* Depending on pasture conditions and forage density:

100-150lbs/DM/inch of forage (fair)

200-250lbs/DM/inch of forage (av.)

250-300lbs/DM/inch of forage (good)

300-400lbs/DM/inch of forage (Ex)

## Step 3. Select Residency Period:

Residency Period 3  
Days

## Step 4. Determine Paddock Size by Major Soil Type:

Paddock size is based on meeting the forage demand of the livestock for the designated residency period.

$$\begin{array}{l} 1 \text{ } \underline{355} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{1000} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{.35} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{3} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{1.2} \text{ acres} \\ \text{Forage Demand} \quad \text{Forage Supply} \quad \text{Acres Required/Day} \quad \text{Residency Period} \quad \text{Paddock Size (Ac)} \\ 2 \text{ } \underline{355} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{1000} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{3} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \text{Forage Demand} \quad \text{Forage Supply} \quad \text{Acres Required/Day} \quad \text{Residency Period} \quad \text{Paddock Size (Ac)} \\ 3 \text{ } \underline{355} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{1000} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{3} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \text{Forage Demand} \quad \text{Forage Supply} \quad \text{Acres Required/Day} \quad \text{Residency Period} \quad \text{Paddock Size (Ac)} \\ 4 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \text{Forage Demand} \quad \text{Forage Supply} \quad \text{Acres Required/Day} \quad \text{Residency Period} \quad \text{Paddock Size (Ac)} \end{array}$$

## Step 5. Determine the Number of Paddocks

$$\begin{array}{l} 20 \text{ days rest } \div \text{ } \underline{3} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{7} \text{ } + 1 \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{8} \text{ } \\ \text{Residency Period} \quad \text{Number of Paddocks} \\ 30 \text{ days rest } \div \text{ } \underline{3} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{10} \text{ } + 1 \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{11} \text{ } \\ \text{Residency Period} \quad \text{Number of Paddocks} \end{array}$$

## Step 6. Estimate the Total Number of Acres Needed: Use the average paddock size of the most prevalent soil types to estimate

$$\begin{array}{l} \underline{1.2} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{8} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{9.6} \text{ } \\ \text{Paddock Size} \quad \text{Number of Paddocks} \quad \text{Acres Needed for 20 days rest} \\ \underline{1.2} \text{ } \times \text{ } \underline{11} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{13.2} \text{ } \\ \text{Paddock Size} \quad \text{Number of Paddocks} \quad \text{Acres Needed for 30 days rest} \end{array}$$

**Note:** During spring and early summer, only about 40% to 60% of planned acres will be required for grazing. The remaining grazing acres could be mechanically harvested, planned to be grazed by another class/group of livestock, clipped, deferred for wildlife habitat or stockpiled for extended grazing depending on the goals of the family.

## Step 7. Determine the Number of Actual Acres Planned:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Pad Size/} \quad \text{Ac. Needed/day} \quad = \quad \text{\# Days available} \\ 1 \text{ } \underline{1.1} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{1.2} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{3} \text{ } \\ 2 \text{ } \underline{1.5} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{1.2} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{3} \text{ } \\ 3 \text{ } \underline{5.9} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{1.2} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{15} \text{ } \\ 4 \text{ } \underline{4.2} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{1.2} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{10.5} \text{ } \\ 5 \text{ } \underline{3.6} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{1.2} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{9} \text{ } \\ 6 \text{ } \underline{3.6} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{1.2} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{9} \text{ } \\ 7 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 8 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 9 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 10 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 11 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 12 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 13 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 14 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 15 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 16 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 17 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 18 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 19 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \\ 20 \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \div \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } = \text{ } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ } \end{array}$$

Total actual Acres 19.9 acres                      Total # days rest 49 days





# MADISON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

USDA Service Center, 6503 Wes Road, Hamilton, NY 13346

Telephone: 315-824-9849

Fax: 315-824-9629

Big Paddock

1	Fence Estimate	
2160'	6 Acre piece - 3 rolls HT wire	315
	72 line posts	180
	24 End Brace posts	60
	12 8' Treated Brace rails	120
	12 Quick Brace (tensure) + tension Tool	100
	16 strainers	56
	32 wraparounds	35
	insulators 1 3/4" staples	50
	25 Brace pins long + short each	38
	2 bottles crimps	36
	gates ??	<u>990</u>



Soil & Water Conservation With Local Initiative














An aerial photograph of a baseball field. The infield is a light brown color, and the outfield is green grass. A large white object, possibly a tent or a large piece of equipment, is visible in the upper right corner of the field. The text "What Do you think?" is overlaid in yellow.

**What Do you think?**

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Google earth









?



# OVERGRAZING DANGER!

- **Overgrazing is not just grazing a plant severely!**
- **Overgrazing happens when a plant that is growing from carbohydrate reserves is grazed. “Grazing the roots.”**
- **Overgrazing happens when we stay too long, come back too soon and.....**
- ***Graze too soon after dormancy.***



4/19/2012



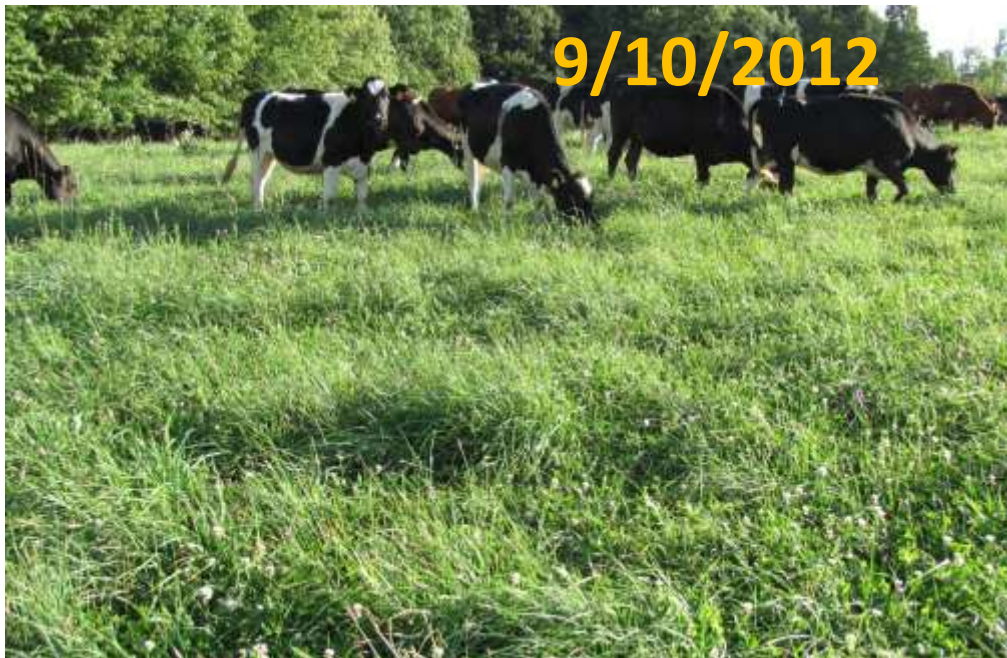
5/26/2012



7/23/2012



9/10/2012



11/6/2012







FORAGE TESTING LABORATORY  
DAIRY ONE, INC.  
730 WARREN ROAD  
ITHACA, NEW YORK 14850  
607-257-1272 (fax 607-257-1350)

Sampled Recvd Printed ST|CO|  
04/04/11|04/11/11|

STOCK PILED GRASS FIELD 10  
TROY BISHOPP  
2809 RT 12-B  
DEANSBORO, NY 13328

ENERGY TABLE - NRC 2001

	Mcal/Lb	Mcal/Kg
DE, 1X	1.17	2.58
ME, 1X	0.98	2.16
NEL, 3X	0.55	1.21
NEM, 3X	0.57	1.26
NEG, 3X	0.31	0.69
TDN1X, %	58	

COMMENTS:  
1. THIS SAMPLE WAS TESTED TWICE  
FOR PHOSPHORUS TO CONFIRM THE  
VALUE LISTED.

Sample Description	Farm Code	Sample
MMG PASTURE	012	16436790
Analysis Results		
Components	As Fed	DM
% Moisture	48.3	
% Dry Matter	51.7	
% Crude Protein	7.2	13.9
% Available Protein	6.1	11.8
% ADICP	1.1	2.2
% Adjusted Crude Protein	6.6	12.8
Soluble Protein % CP		36
Degradable Protein %CP		64
% NDICP	2.3	4.4
% Acid Detergent Fiber	17.9	34.7
% Neutral Detergent Fiber	33.1	64.1
% Lignin	2.5	4.9
% NFC	8.0	15.5
% Starch	1.4	2.7
% WSC (Water Sol. Carbs.)	4.3	8.4
% ESC (Simple Sugars)	4.2	8.2
% Crude Fat	1.6	3.0
% Ash	4.07	7.86
% TDN	30	58
NEL, Mcal/Lb	.26	.50
NEM, Mcal/Lb	.27	.52
NEG, Mcal/Lb	.14	.26
Relative Feed Value		90
% Calcium	.30	.57
% Phosphorus	.07	.14
% Magnesium	.10	.19
% Potassium	.61	1.18
% Sodium	.011	.022
PPM Iron	335	648
PPM Zinc	12	24
PPM Copper	5	9
PPM Manganese	115	223
PPM Molybdenum	.4	.8
% Sulfur	.22	.43
% Chloride Ion	.28	.54
% Lysine	.28	.54
% Methionine	.10	.19
Horse DE, Mcal/Lb	.47	.91



6-27





Sampled	Recvd	Printed	ST	CO
	06/29/11	07/01/11		

ENERGY TABLE - NRC 2001

	Mcal/Lb	Mcal/Kg
DE, 1X	1.40	3.09
ME, 1X	1.21	2.67
NEL, 3X	0.70	1.55
NEM, 3X	0.74	1.63
NEG, 3X	0.47	1.03
TDN1X, %	67	

Sample Description	Farm Code	Sample
MMG PASTURE	012	16719920
Analysis Results		
Components	As Fed	DM
% Moisture	76.1	
% Dry Matter	23.9	
% Crude Protein	5.4	22.5
% Available Protein	4.9	20.5
% ADICP	.5	2.0
% Adjusted Crude Protein	5.2	21.5
Soluble Protein % CP		37
Degradable Protein %CP		71
% NDICP	1.8	7.7
% Acid Detergent Fiber	6.0	25.2
% Neutral Detergent Fiber	9.0	37.6
% Lignin	1.4	6.0
% NFC	8.7	36.2
% Starch	2.0	8.5
% WSC (Water Sol. Carbs.)	2.1	8.8
% ESC (Simple Sugars)	2.6	10.8
% Crude Fat	.9	3.9
% Ash	1.80	7.54
% TDN	16	67
NEL, Mcal/Lb	.17	.71
NEM, Mcal/Lb	.17	.69
NEG, Mcal/Lb	.10	.42
Relative Feed Value		171
% Calcium	.27	1.11
% Phosphorus	.08	.35
% Magnesium	.08	.35
% Potassium	.52	2.16
% Sodium	.004	.016
PPM Iron	36	148
PPM Zinc	7	28
PPM Copper	2	10
PPM Manganese	8	32
PPM Molybdenum	.6	2.4
% Sulfur	.06	.23
% Chloride Ion	.02	.10
% Lysine	.21	.88
% Methionine	.07	.31
Horse DE, Mcal/Lb	.29	1.21



# November 30th



FORAGE TESTING LABORATORY  
DAIRY ONE, INC.  
730 WARREN ROAD  
ITHACA, NEW YORK 14850  
607-257-1272 (fax 607-257-1350)

Sampled	Recvd	Printed	ST	CO
	12/01/10	12/03/10		

FIELD #7 SAMPLE 11/30/10  
TROY BISHOPP  
2809 RT 12-B  
DEANSBORO, NY 13328

## ENERGY TABLE - NRC 2001

	Mcal/Lb	Mcal/Kg
DE, 1X	1.25	2.75
ME, 1X	1.06	2.33
NEL, 3X	0.60	1.33
NEM, 3X	0.63	1.39
NEG, 3X	0.37	0.81
TDN1X, %	61	

## COMMENTS:

- PLEASE CHECK OUR CURRENT PRICE LIST AND ENCLOSE \$2.00 WITH YOUR NEXT SAMPLE TO COVER UNPAID CHARGES ON THIS SAMPLE.

\*FORAGE LAB HOLIDAY CLOSINGS\*  
\*NOVEMBER 25TH AND 26TH\*  
\*DECEMBER 24TH\*

Sample Description	Farm/Code	Sample
FR MMG FORAGE	202	16018160
Analysis Results		
Components	As Fed	DM
% Moisture	58.8	
% Dry Matter	41.2	
% Crude Protein	6.3	15.2
% Available Protein	5.7	13.9
% ADICP	.5	1.3
% Adjusted Crude Protein	6.3	15.2
Soluble Protein % CP		38
Degradable Protein %CP		65
% NDICP	1.9	4.6
% Acid Detergent Fiber	13.0	31.5
% Neutral Detergent Fiber	23.8	57.6
% Lignin	1.9	4.7
% NFC	7.9	19.2
% Starch	1.7	4.1
% WSC (Water Sol. Carbs.)	4.5	10.8
% ESC (Simple Sugars)	3.5	8.5
% Crude Fat	1.6	3.9
% Ash	3.57	8.66
% TDN	25	61
NEL, Mcal/Lb	.24	.57
NEM, Mcal/Lb	.24	.58
NEG, Mcal/Lb	.13	.32
Relative Feed Value		104
% Calcium	.33	.80
% Phosphorus	.09	.22
% Magnesium	.08	.21
% Potassium	.62	1.50
% Sodium	.006	.014
PPM Iron	131	317
PPM Zinc	12	29
PPM Copper	3	8
PPM Manganese	61	149
PPM Molybdenum	.4	.9
% Sulfur	.11	.27
% Chloride Ion	.12	.28
% Lysine	.24	.59
% Methionine	.09	.21
Horse DE, Mcal/Lb	.40	.98

# Why Biological Monitor??

Moving towards your goals

To see if your management is working

Check the 4 ecosystem processes

- Water Cycle
- Mineral Cycle
- Energy Flow
- Community Dynamics

Pick up on subtle changes and trends

Helps with financial, animal & crop performance decisions

Establishes baseline data

Practicality in use

Cause its FUN





# It's a Party



## Pasture Monitoring

Farm		Bishopp Farm					Field 1,2,3 behind house					Transect # & Description										Date															
At Dart Entry Point							6" Circle Around Point										Describe Nearest Perennial																				
What Dart Hit: Must Check One						✓	Soil Surface: Must Check One					Evidence of: "Yes"			Check if		What It Is? Must check One					Soil Habitat			Plant Age			Plant Condition			Plant Species if Known						
Throw #	Bare Soil	Litter 1 (laying on ground)	Litter 2 (litter looks like soil)	Rock	Plant	Canopy (shading by tall plants)	Mature Capping (moss)	Immature Capping	Recent Capping	Broken Surface	Covered Surface	earthworm activity	Insect (spider, beetle, etc)	Animals (hoof action)	Manure within 3'	Manure within 6'	Annuals Present	Erosion (splash points, rills)	Grass	Legume	Broadleaf (forb)	Sedge or Reed	MOSS	woody plant	Dry	Middle	Wet	Seedling	Young	Mature	Decadent	Resprout	Normal	Over-grazed	Over-rested	Dying/Dead	
1					1	1					1	1	1		1					1										1							wh/clover
2					1	1					1	1		1	1						1									1							plantain
3		1				1					1	1				1				1										1							red clover
4					1	1					1	1		1		1				1										1							red clover
5			1			1					1	1	1		1	1			1										1								orchard
6					1	1					1	1	1		1					1										1							wh/clover
7					1	1					1	1	1		1				1												1						orchard
8		1									1	1	1	1	1						1									1							dandelion
9		1				1					1	1	1			1			1												1						orchard
10					1	1					1	1	1		1					1										1							red clover
11					1	1					1	1			1	1				1										1							red clover
12		1				1					1	1	1		1					1										1							wh/clover
13					1						1	1		1		1			1											1							ryegrass
14					1						1	1		1	1					1										1							wh/clover
15			1								1	1	1	1					1											1							timothy
16		1									1	1			1	1			1											1							orchard
17					1						1	1			1	1					1										1						knapweed
18		1									1	1							1											1							orchard
19		1									1	1			1				1											1							ryegrass
20			1								1	1		1							1									1							bedstraw
21		1									1	1			1	1			1											1							ryegrass
22					1						1	1	1	1					1												1						orchard
23					1						1	1				1			1													1					orchard
24			1								1	1		1						1										1							clover
25	1									1		1							1											1							orchard
Totals		1	8	4	0	12		0	0	0	1	24	25	10	9	14	10	0	0	12	9	4	0	0		0	0	0	9	11	4	1	0	0	0	0	
Percent		4%	32%	16%	0%	48%	0%	0%	0%	4%	96%	###	40%	36%	56%	40%	0%	0%	48%	36%	16%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	36%	44%	16%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	

COMMENTS:



Soil Surface is the  
Key



















**25 worms/sq. ft.  
=100 tons  
castings  
acre/year**

**1 worm lifetime  
(7 years) =  
1.2 million  
offspring**







**Litter 1**





# Litter 2









## The Weaver Example

2009





2010



**2011**





# Nathan Weaver Biological Monitoring % around dart point 2009-2011

CARY FIELD	2009	2010	2011
Bare soil	44%	16%	8%
Litter 1	16%	36%	8%
Litter 2	4%	0	8%
Plant	32%	48%	76%
-----			
Capping	8%	12%	0
Broken Surface	68%	12%	16%
Covered Surface	24%	76%	84%
-----			
Earthworms	84%	96%	100%
Insects	8%	56%	75%
Animals (hoof action)	8%	16%	16%
Manure w/3'	8%	40%	25%
Manure w/6'	0	0	50%
-----			
Grass	20%	32%	42%
Legume	16%	16%	16%
Forbs	64%	48%	42%
Sedge	0	4%	0
Moss	0	0	0
-----			
Seedling	20%	36%	25%
Young	28%	44%	50%
Mature	12%	12%	25%
Decadent	20%	8%	0
Resprout			
-----			

