

MSU Wellbeing Study Recruitment

Start of Block: Introduction

Q1

Thanks for your interesting in participating in our study on the wellbeing of beef cattle producers in Michigan!

As a reminder, MSU is starting a new project that will study the economic, social, and ecological wellbeing of 45 beef producers using a range of grazing management strategies. This study will help producers and stakeholders like MSU Extension and the Michigan Cattleman's Association understand what assistance to offer beef producers to improve the quality of their land, their profitability, and their happiness.

This survey asks a few questions to all potential participants to help us learn more about your farm. We will then follow up by phone or email with you. Completing these questions does not guarantee participation in the project, but will allow us to select a group that covers a range of grazing strategies and locations in Michigan.



Q2 Does your operation graze beef cattle?

Yes (1)

No (2)

End of Block: Introduction

Start of Block: Contact Information

Q3 We are excited to learn more about you and your operation! Please answer the questions below.



Q4 Please enter your contact information. We require this to follow up with you afterwards but all responses will be confidential and only viewed by the research team.

	(1)
Name (First and Last) (1)	
Email (2)	
Phone Number (3)	



Q5 Are you one of the primary decision makers of the beef cattle operation? If not, please explain your role in the operation.

Yes (1)

No (2) _____

End of Block: Contact Information

Start of Block: Operation Characteristics

Q6 Please enter the county and state of your primary beef operation. E.g., Ingham County, Michigan.



Q7 How many years has your beef cattle operation been established?

- Less than 5 years (1)
 - 5 to 10 years (2)
 - 11 to 30 years (3)
 - More than 30 years (4)
-



Q8 Approximately how many years have you been the primary decision maker (or has the primary decision maker been in charge)?

- Less than 5 years (1)
 - 5 to 10 years (2)
 - 11 to 30 years (3)
 - More than 30 years (4)
-

Page Break



Q9 Which of the following beef cattle enterprises are represented on your operation? Please select all that apply.

- Seedstock (1)
 - Cow-calf (2)
 - Backgrounding/Stocker (3)
 - Feedlot (4)
 - Grass finished/fattened (5)
 - Other (please describe): (6)
-

Q10 Besides the beef cattle enterprises described above, what other enterprises (e.g. corn, hay, hogs, etc.) are on your operation?

By enterprise we mean all on-farm activities that lead to products created on the farm, not necessarily just those that lead to sales.

Q11 What proportion of your operation is based around the beef cattle enterprises? This can be based on land, income, effort - whatever makes most sense to you.



Q12 In an average year, how many head of beef cattle are on your operation in each of these groups?

(Please add 0 to any categories that are not applicable)

	Head (1)
Calves (less than 1 year) (1)	
Yearlings (backgrounding/stockers) (2)	
Replacement heifers (9)	
Brood Cows (5)	
Bulls (6)	
Finished Cattle: Feedlot (3)	
Finished Cattle: Grass-fed (7)	
Other: Please describe (8)	

Page Break



Q13 How many total acres do you operate? (including owned and rented acres)



Q14 How many acres on your operation are used for grazing beef cattle (including owned and rented) across these three types of land use?

(Please add 0 to any categories that are not applicable)

	Number of acres (1)
Rangeland (native plant species) (4)	
Pastureland (adapted, domesticated forage plants) (5)	
Cropland (7)	

Q15 Please describe your financial record keeping system. For example, do you use a notebook, spreadsheet, Quickbooks, or TelFarm? Do you have the ability to generate balance sheets and income statements?

End of Block: Operation Characteristics

Start of Block: Grazing Questions

Page Break

X→

Q16 Which grazing style is most similar to how you graze your beef cattle?

- The cattle have access to all available pasture(s) throughout the year. (1)
- The cattle are moved between different pastures throughout the grazing season based on time. (2)
- The cattle are moved between different pastures throughout the grazing season based on forage health and recovery. (3)

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Q17 How many years have you been grazing beef cattle using this approach?

Display This Question:

If Which grazing style is most similar to how you graze your beef cattle? != The cattle have access to all available pasture(s) throughout the year.

X→

Q18 In a fairly average rain year, how often are the cattle moved during the grazing season?

- Every 2-3 months (1)
 - Once a month (2)
 - Twice a month (3)
 - Once a week (4)
 - Two or three times a week (5)
 - Every day (6)
 - Multiple times each day (7)
 - Other (Please Specify) (8)
-



Q19 On average, once cattle are moved to a particular grazing unit (i.e., paddock), **how long are they there for?**

We know this may vary, but appreciate an estimate - you can add more context in the accompanying text box if you'd like.

- All season (1) _____
- A few months but not the whole season (2)

- Around a month (3) _____
- Multiple weeks but less than a month (4)

- A week (5) _____
- Multiple days but less than a week (6)

- A day (7) _____
- Less than a day (8) _____
- Other (Please Specify) (9)

Skip To: Q20 If On average, once cattle are moved to a particular grazing unit (i.e., paddock), how long are they... = All season



Q20 Do you use an adaptive and/or regenerative approach (i.e. holistic management, adaptive multi-paddock grazing, management intensive grazing etc.)?

- No (1) _____
- No, but I would like to (2)

- Yes (3) _____

