



NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY

## **Hear Ranchers' Real World Experiences With Integrating Livestock**

### **Integrated Livestock and Field Crops Q&A Session**

**Monday, November 23, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. MST**

Join us for this question-and-answer session that is a follow-up to a webinar NCAT hosted about integrated crop-livestock systems. Such systems may provide sustainable alternatives to terminate cover crops, reduce fertilizer, and improve the water cycle.

Featured in this session are Montana grain producer Korey Fauque, Montana rancher Tyrel Obrecht, and Montana State University (MSU) research associate Devon Ragen. Korey and Tyrel will talk about their experiences on their own land and Devon will discuss MSU research on integrating sheep on dryland cropping systems.

NCAT sustainable agriculture specialist Dave Scott will serve as moderator.

Korey and Tyrel have prepared videos about their work on their lands, which should be watched prior to the session. You can view Tyrel's at <https://youtu.be/-qrlXaNvMz4>.

Korey has two videos: Part 1: [https://youtu.be/6eWRC\\_1SDJE](https://youtu.be/6eWRC_1SDJE)

Part 2: <https://youtu.be/jG0IhBn0Fc>.

Registration is required. [Click here](#) to reserve your place.

For more information, contact Dave Scott at [daves@ncat.org](mailto:daves@ncat.org) or 406-490-7596 or Devon Ragen at 406-579-1539.

These sessions are made possible through funding from Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (WSARE).

About the Presenters:

**Korey Fauque** and his wife Wendy farm 4,500 acres of dryland ground in northern Montana where there is a 10" to 12" average rainfall. They grow spring wheat, winter wheat, barley, canola, mustard, yellow peas, chickpeas, and cover crops. They run 70 head of Moderator cattle (Aberdeen Angus crossed with Angus) and 70 yearlings on 1,000 acres of grassland that is intensive-grazed. The cattle also graze cover crop and crop aftermath. The yearling steers are finished on grass and sold as grass-finished beef. Korey and Wendy are reducing inputs through crop rotations and a focus on soil health, which has allowed them to drastically reduce spending on fertilizer and chemical applications.



**Tyrel Obrecht** is the 5th generation rancher operating Louie Petrie Ranch, a commercial Black Angus cow/calf operation in northern Montana. He and his family have been retaining and breeding their own cattle for over 60 years. The last two years they have partnered with Jones Bros. Farms to use livestock to terminate cover crops. This allows Louis Petrie ranch to retain more heifers, reduce feed intake throughout winter, and shorten the breeding season. All of these practices are allowing them to push their replacements and to cull harder as yearlings, selecting for hardiness and fertility.



**Devon Ragen** is a Research Associate in the MSU Animal and Range Sciences Department in Bozeman, MT. She received both her bachelor's and master's degrees in animal science from MSU. Devon has been conducting research to investigate the sustainability of integrated crop-livestock production systems. She has participated in research incorporating animal science,



agronomy, soil science, entomology, and weed ecology.

**Dave Scott** has over 35 years of experience with adaptive multi-paddock grazing, first with dairy cows and the last 17 years with sheep. He and his wife operate Montana Highland Lamb with 180 ewes and close to 300 lambs on 32 acres of irrigated pasture in southwest Montana. They direct market lamb and are transitioning to regenerative grazing, which has yielded more ewe grazing days while reducing inorganic N-fertilizer inputs. At NCAT, Scott contributes practical “how-to” publications, podcasts, and videos for the sustainable farmer and rancher.



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