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Dear Great Lakes Grazier,

Today is officially the first day of summer and the longest day of the year. I had intentions on getting this newsletter out last month, but that did not happen. It is all for good reasons though, I have been fortunate to attend workshop and classes where I taught, coordinated, and visited with many great people around this Great State that we live in. I have also been on some good farm visits, which is probably what I enjoy most about this career.

Pasture walk season is upon us, and as you will see from this newsletter, we are going to have some good events. It's a great time to get out and connect with old friends, meet new ones, learn something, and share some of your knowledge. Please see the flyers attached and do reach out to me if you have questions.

I hope to see you at one or more of the events listed in this newsletter. Happy Grazing!

Sincerely,

Kable Thurlow
 MSUE Beef & Grazing Educator

“Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect.”
 Mark Twain

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Michigan Forage Council's Summer Forage Tour Thursday, June 30, 2022

Summer Forage Tour

Join **MSU Extension, Michigan Forage Council,**
and other forage enthusiasts.

Two farms in the Thumb of Michigan will be showcasing what and how they make their forage crop.

- ◆ **Strieter Hay Farms** - Learn about the latest improvements in drying hay and making storage investments.

8334 Campbell Rd, Bay Port, MI 48720

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

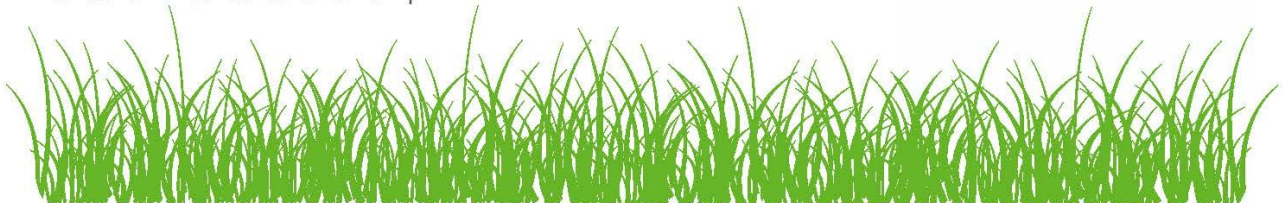
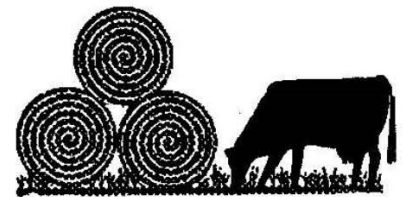
**Lunch will be provided, courtesy of
Michigan Forage Council**

- ◆ **Aquila Farms** - Learn how this innovative dairy farm has been using pure alfalfa that is harvested daily as a tool to increase their profitability.

3201 W Soper Rd, Bad Axe, MI 48413

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

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UNIVERSITY



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2022 National Forage Week – Press Release and Announcement

June 19 – June 25, 2022

“Focus on Forages”

The American Forage and Grassland Council is excited to celebrate the 8th Annual National Forage week on June 19-25, 2022 as an effort to raise awareness on the importance of forages and grassland agriculture’s role in society.

What are forages and why are they important to society?

Forages are crops used to support livestock production and are located in almost every county within every state in the US. Pastures and hayfields are more than part of our everyday landscape. They support animal agriculture and provide a host of other benefits to society. The American Forage and Grassland Council is celebrating the role of forages in our daily lives during June 19 through June 25 as part of National Forage Week with the theme of “Focus on Forages.”

Focus on Forages and Their Role In Creating and Supporting:

· Healthy Soils

o Forages promote soil health by providing ground cover, reducing erosion, and improving water infiltration and retention in pasture systems. Livestock also recycle nutrients back to the pasture which can help with forage regrowth and promote healthy soils. It is a system that gives back and keeps going with management.

o Forages make up the majority of the daily diet of grazing livestock. Ruminant animals, such as cattle, sheep and goats, have a specialized digestive tract which allows them to digest forages. Forages are primarily grown on lands that are unsuitable for other types of crop production. Instead of being a land resource that we cannot use, grazing livestock can convert forages into high-quality milk or protein for human consumption.

· Healthy People

o Forages support the production of animal and dairy products that we know and enjoy as consumers. These resources are part of a balanced diet, and represent a direct link between the consumer, the farmer, and the role of forage agriculture.

· Healthy Planet

o Forages provide ecosystem services to society, which support a health planet. Ecosystem services are secondary services provided by the system outside of the main objective of supporting food production. Services include adding aesthetic value to the landscape, greenhouse gas mitigation, biological nitrogen



National Forage Week
June 19-25, 2022

**Forages and grazinglands store up to
1 ton of carbon dioxide per acre annually.**





RANCHER'S THURSDAY LUNCHTIME SERIES

Reducing Costs in a Cow/Calf Operation

- ▶ **June 23, 2022 | 12 p.m.**
Minimizing cost in a cow/calf enterprise
- Dave Delaney, King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management
- ▶ **June 30, 2022 | 12 p.m.**
Meeting vitamin and mineral needs of the cow herd
- Jason Banta and David Lalman, Extension Specialists for Beef Cattle
- ▶ **July 7, 2022 | 12 p.m.**
Managing fescue and bermudagrass pastures to extend fall and winter grazing
- Brian Pugh, Northeast Area Agronomy Specialist
- ▶ **July 14, 2022 | 12 p.m.**
Fall seeding legumes to reduce fertilizer inputs
- Mike Trammell, Pottawatomie County Ag Educator | Regional Agronomist
- ▶ **July 21, 2022 | 12 p.m.**
Should I deworm cows? How do I know? What products?
- John Gilliam, Veterinary Clinical Sciences Professor
- ▶ **July 28, 2022 | 12 p.m.**
Protein sources; what are the options to reduce cost?
- Paul Beck, Extension Specialist for Beef Nutrition
- ▶ **August 4, 2022 | 12 p.m.**
Tax strategies for the cow/calf enterprise
- JC Hobbs, Agricultural Economics Extension Specialist
- ▶ **August 11, 2022 | 12 p.m.**
Controlling brush while increasing revenue with goats
- JJ Jones, Ada Area Agricultural Economics Specialist
- ▶ **August 18, 2022 | 12 p.m.**
Minimizing winter supplement cost
- David Lalman, Extension Specialist for Beef Cattle

ABOUT

Join our Beef Cattle Extension team, experienced ranchers and scientists to learn and share beef cattle production, management and marketing tips. These free Zoom webinar sessions are scheduled for Thursdays at noon.

LIVE WEBINARS

- ▶ **Register Online:**
dasnr.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN__OALH-FY9T965cgSO_swRUQ



CONTACT

- ▶ **David Lalman**
Extension Specialist
for Beef Cattle
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405-744-6060

Visit us at extension.okstate.edu

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodation need to contact David Lalman at david.lalman@okstate.edu or 405-744-6060 at least two weeks prior to the event.

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August 25, 2022
9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Free lunch will be provided

Field demonstration includes:

- Saturated buffer installation
- Installation of a water control structure
- Demonstration of Water-Gate valve

Speaker session include:

- Soil health, Cover crops
- Nutrient placement
- Saturated buffer
- Controlled drainage

Learn how to improve soil health and reduce phosphorus loss from subsurface-drained farms

Registration required at:

events.anr.msu.edu/drain2022

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FREE
Event

2022 Tile Drainage Field Day

Linking Soil Health, Nutrient Management, and Water Management for Improved Water Quality



Located at: 13000 Bird lake Rd Camden, MI 49232

Host: Michigan State University Extension

Partners and Sponsors:

Michigan Land Improvement Contractors Association
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
Creek Valley Farm

CCA credits available

For questions, contact Ehsan Ghane: 517-343-4458 or ghane@msu.edu

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MSU-E PASTURE WALK



Red Leg Farms

**Nick & Annie
Rodgers**

**10327 Wilson
Road**

**Montrose, MI
48457**

Date:

**Thursday July
21, 2022**

Time:

**6:00 p.m.- 8:00
p.m.**

Just us for an evening pasture walk on the
Red Leg Farm.

You will be able to participate in discussions
surrounding the following topics:

- Stock Densities
- Making hay when the grass gets away
- Parasites and Fecal egg count testing
- Fencing and Water projects
- Working with Agencies (NRCS, MSUE, MAEAP)
- Reclaiming row crop fields by unrolling hay

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Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting *Beronica Conner* at MSUE Gladwin County , (989) 426-7741 or pfen20@anr.msu.edu by *July 18, 2022* to make ar-rangements. Requests received after this date will be fulfilled when possible.