

# Pasture-Based Farming Research and Demonstration Needs

This concluded our technical sessions. After a mid-morning break, we began our **Pasture-Based Farming Research and Demonstration Needs Discussion Concurrent Sessions**. This was held from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Due to the lower than usual turnout of participants this year, we decided to have our private sector and public sector people participate in the discussions together. We had pre-arranged to have several researchable topics listed for discussion. They were:

- Riparian Pasture Grazing Management to protect water quality
- Orchardgrass Die-Off Investigation Action Plan
- Supplementation of Dairy Cows to enhance omega-3 content in milk
- New Forage Crops & Varieties to enhance and extend pasture productivity
- Energy Audits on Grazing Farms using the Self-Audit Form
- Promoting Dung Beetle Activity in Pastures
- Goat and sheep parasitology progress on pastures

Participants were to discuss progress, funding initiatives, demonstration projects, coordination efforts, collaboration opportunities, and explore new directions in doing research and demonstration work. Below are the list of topics and the people assigned to them to discuss research and demonstration needs based on their stated interests on the conference registration form.

## **Riparian Pasture Grazing Management to protect water quality**

Leader - Peter Kleinman, USDA, ARS

### First Hour Participants:

Jenn Colby - University of Vermont, Pasture Network

James Cropper - Northeast Pasture Consortium

Michael Morris - West Virginia Farm Bureau

Al Rotz - USDA, ARS

Howard Skinner - USDA, ARS & NEPC Ex. Committee

Lawrason Sayer - MD Farmer

### Second Hour Participants:

Fay Benson - Cornell University

Ken Miller - MA farmer & NEPC Ex. Committee

Peter Miller - CROPP-Organic Valley

Kevin Ogles - USDA, NRCS

Susan Parry - USDA, NRCS & NEPC Ex. Committee

Les Vough - University of Maryland & NEPC Ex. Committee

## **Orchardgrass Die-Off Investigation Action Plan**

Leader - Geoff Brink, USDA, ARS

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First Hour Participants:

Sid Bosworth - University of Vermont & NEPC Principal Investigator  
Joe Hatton - WV Farmer & USDA, NRCS & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Gordon Jones - Virginia Tech  
Ed Rayburn - West Virginia University & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Les Vough - University of Maryland & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Don Wild - NY Farmer & King's AgriSeed

Second Hour Participants:

Sid Bosworth - University of Vermont & NEPC Principal Investigator  
Jim Cropper - Northeast Pasture Consortium  
Joe Hatton - WV Farmer & USDA, NRCS & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Gordon Jones - Virginia Tech  
Michael Morris - West Virginia Farm Bureau  
Tracy Neff - King's AgriSeed  
Ed Rayburn - West Virginia University & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Howard Skinner - USDA, ARS & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Genevieve Slocum - King's AgriSeed  
Richard Swartzentruber - DE Farmer

**Promoting Dung Beetle Activity in Pastures - 10:00 - 11:00 AM**

Leader: Tom Griggs, West Virginia University

Participants:

Fay Benson - Cornell University  
Matt Bertone - North Carolina State University  
Jasmine Dillon - Penn State University  
Kimberly Hagen - UVM, Pasture Network  
Jana Malot - PA Farmer  
Kevin Ogles - USDA, NRCS  
Susan Parry - USDA, NRCS & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Diane Schivera - ME farmer & Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Wes Watson - North Carolina State University

**Supplementation of Dairy Cows to enhance omega-3 content in milk - 10:00 - 11:00 AM**

Leader: Andre Brito, University of New Hampshire

Participants:

Duane Hertzler - PA Farmer & PA Grazing Lands Coalition  
Ken Miller - MA farmer & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Peter Miller - CROPP-Organic Valley  
Kathy Soder - USDA, ARS

**New Forage Crops & Varieties to enhance and extend pasture productivity - 10:00 - 11:00 AM**

Leader: Eric Noel, VT Farmer & NEPC Stakeholder Action Committee Chairman

Participants:

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Tracy Neff - King's AgriSeed  
Genevieve Slocum - King's AgriSeed  
Richard Swartzentruber - DE Farmer

**Goat and Sheep Parasitology progress on pastures - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Leader: Scott Bowdridge, West Virginia University

Participants:

Matt Bertone - North Carolina State University  
Tom Griggs - West Virginia University  
Kimberly Hagen - UVM, Pasture Network  
Diane Schivera - ME farmer & Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association & NEPC Ex. Committee  
Kathy Soder - USDA, ARS  
Wes Watson - North Carolina State University

**Energy Audits on Grazing Farms using the Self-Audit Form - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Leader: Jennifer Colby

Participants:

Jasmine Dillon - Penn State University  
Jana Malot - PA Farmer  
Eric Noel - VT Farmer & NEPC Stakeholder Action Committee Chairman  
Al Rotz - USDA, ARS

Reports were prepared for each session and these were presented in the afternoon of March 12 during the Reports Session.

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