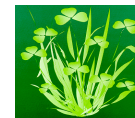


Northeast Pasture Consortium News Update November 2013

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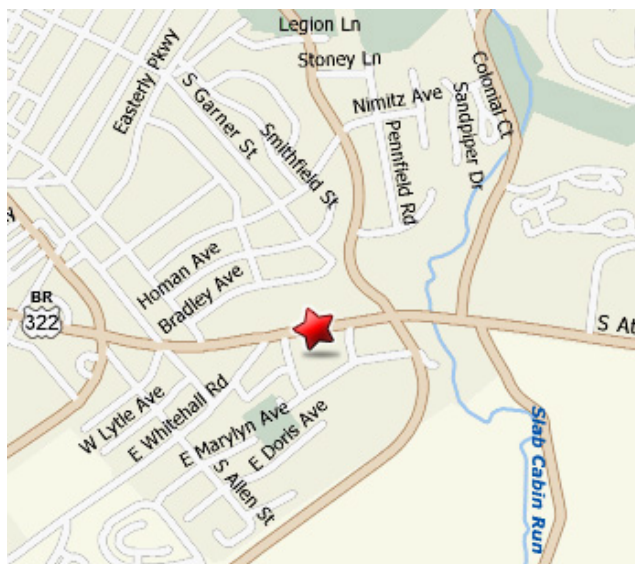
<http://www.grazingguide.net>

James Cropper, Executive Director & Editor



2014 Northeast Pasture Consortium Annual Conference & Meeting

Our annual conference and meeting is returning to State College in 2014 at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center on February 4-5. It precedes the Pennsylvania Association of Sustainable Agriculture (PASA) Workshop & Conference on February 5-8. The Ramada Inn and Conference Center is located at 1450 South Atherton Street (Business Route 322) within 2 miles of the Penn State University Campus near the intersection of University Drive and South Atherton Street.



Ramada Inn & Conference Center Location on South Atherton, State College, PA

To make **room reservations** use the following contact information: **Ramada Conference Center**, 1450 South Atherton, State College, PA 16801; phone number: 814-238-3001; internet: ramadasc.com. The room rate is \$64.00 per night, plus taxes. **Each attendee needing a hotel room please make these room reservations by January 03, 2014 to hold this rate. Say you are staying there to attend the NE Pasture Consortium Conference.** It is very important for those needing a hotel room to make

reservations at the Ramada Inn. This will allow us to have the use of the conference facilities for free by meeting the minimum guarantee of booked overnight stays. Reservations received after January 3rd will be accepted on a space available basis. The charge for the room includes a breakfast buffet served from 6:30 AM to 10:00 AM at the P. J. Harrigan's Restaurant in the Ramada.



The **registration fee** for the annual conference is **\$175**. This includes the cost of lunch and breaks for each of the two days of the meeting and evening dinner on February 4. **Register by January 24, 2014** by contacting Heather Grimes at: HLGrimes@mail.wvu.edu or postal address: West Virginia University Extension, 2074 Ag. Science Building, PO Box 6108, Morgantown, WV, 26506, or by phone: 304-816-0663. **Be sure to use the NE Pasture Consortium annual conference registration form on the back page of this newsletter.**

Driving Directions:

From the East

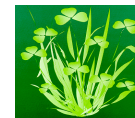
From I-80 to Exit 161 (Bellefonte) follow PA Route 26 South. Route 26 South turns into Route 220 South/I-99. Stay on 220 South/I-99 for 13 miles, take exit 74 to the left side. You will then be on Park Avenue. Stay on Park Ave until you pass Beaver Stadium on your left. Then turn left onto University Drive. Stay on University Drive until it intersects with Atherton St. (Business Rt. 322). Turn right at the red light and the Ramada

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Inn is approximately 1/4 mile on the left.

From the West

- * From I-80 take US322E to I-99
- * Exit I-99 at 322 Business/Atherton Street.
- Hotel is 6 miles down Atherton.

From Harrisburg

- * Follow signs to Route 22/322 West, stay on 322 past Lewistown
- * Proceed to the Boalsburg exit (Business Route 322)
- * Go approximately four miles, Ramada Inn is located on the left side of the street past the University Drive intersection.

From Pittsburgh

- * Follow Route 22 to Duncansville
- * Take Route US220/I-99 North
- * Exit on Business Route 322/North Atherton Street
- * Go approximately five miles, Ramada Inn is located on the right side of the street

From University Park Airport

Courtesy Car Info: Complimentary Airport Transportation (Arrangements must be made prior to arrival.)

If driving a rental car, exit airport and take left on Fox Hollow Road. Follow Fox Hollow to Park Ave. Make right hand turn at Park Ave. and take next left onto University Drive. Follow University Drive to Atherton Street, turn right, and hotel is 1/2 block ahead on left hand side of street.

Harrisburg Airport: It is a two-hour drive to State College through a very scenic Ridge and Valley landscape. Tuscarora Mountain, Juniata River Gap, and Seven Mountains are particularly impressive. The Juniata River Gap is no longer a bottleneck to traffic as it has expanded to 4 lanes.

2014 Northeast Pasture Consortium Annual Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, February 4

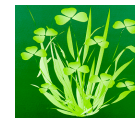
Time	Activity
8:00 AM	Welcome & Introduction of Participants - Jim Cropper, Executive Director (Certified Forage & Grassland Professional) presiding, Grand Ballroom
8:30 AM	Session 1 – Managing Pastures in Riparian Areas for Water Quality and Forage Utilization - Moderator: Les Vough, Grand Ballroom Speakers: David Butler, Assistant Professor Plant Sciences, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN <i>Topic: Ground Cover Impacts on Nitrogen, Sediment, and Phosphorus Export from Manured Riparian Pasture under Rotational Grazing</i> Dwight Dotterer, Administrator of the Nutrient Management Program, Maryland Department of Agriculture, Annapolis, MD. <i>Topic: Maryland Revised Nutrient Management Regulations as they Relate to Riparian Pastures</i> Eric Hines, USDA-NRCS, Westminster, MD. <i>Topic: Conservation Practice Options for Riparian Pastures</i>
10:15 AM	Break - Chairman's Room
10:30 AM	Session 2 – Northeast Region Pasture-Based Research & On-Farm Demonstration Update (Quick Overview of current or planned research) - Moderator: Andre Brito, Grand Ballroom Speakers: Sarah Goslee, Ecologist, USDA-ARS, Pasture Systems & Watershed Management Research Unit, University Park, PA. <i>Topic: Northeast Ryegrass Cultivar Trials</i> Alison Grantham, Doctoral Candidate, Ecology and Biogeochemistry, Penn State University, University Park, PA. <i>Topic: Pasture Annuals Trials - Environmental Responses</i> Denyse Schrenker, Graduate Student, Penn State University, University Park, PA. <i>Topic: Pasture Annuals Trials - Agronomics</i> Kathy Soder, Animal Scientist, USDA-ARS, Pasture Systems & Watershed Management Research Unit, University Park, PA. <i>Topic: Mob Grazing</i> Les Vough, Associate Professor Emeritus & Extension Specialist, Forage Systems Management, University of Maryland, College Park, MD. <i>Topic: Growing Bermudagrass in the Mid-Atlantic States</i> Andre Brito, Assistant Professor, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH. <i>Topic: Flaxseed Supplementation of Organic Dairy Cow Rations Update</i>
11:45 AM	Producer Session - Pasture-Based Farming Research Needs Determination <i>Moderator, Bob Richardson, Chairman's Room</i> <i>Recorder, Diane Schivera</i> Public Session - <i>Moderator, Tom Akin, Grand Ballroom</i> <i>Recorder, Les Vough</i> Topics: Public sector views on pasture research direction helpful to educators and technicians. Current events of interest in providing grazing lands technical and education assistance.
12:30 PM	Lunch - Atrium A

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Time Activity

- 1:30 PM **Session 3 - Pastureland National Resource Inventory - Description of Data Collection & Its Goals - Moderator, Rob DeClue, Grand Ballroom**
Speakers:
 Sid Brantly, National Range and Grazing Land Ecologist, USDA-NRCS, Washington, DC *Topic: National Perspective*
 Kevin Ogles, Grazing Lands Specialist, USDA-NRCS, Greensboro, NC *Topic: Regional Perspective*
 Susan Parry, State Grassland Specialist, USDA-NRCS, Harrisburg, PA *Topic: State and Data Collector Perspective*
- 3:00 PM **Poster Break** – (authors present) Chairman's Room
- 3:45 PM **Session 4 – Birdsfoot Trefoil and Other Alternative Forages - Moderator, Don Wild, Grand Ballroom**
Speakers:
 Ed Rayburn, Extension Specialist-Agronomy, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV. *Topic: Birdsfoot Trefoil as a Pasture Legume, Forage Characteristics and Tannins*
 Don Wild, Wild Acres Family Acres and King's AgriSeeds, Inc. Dealer, Great Valley, NY. *Topic: History of Birdsfoot Trefoil Seed Production in the Hudson Valley and Alternative Forages to Consider for Pasture*
- 5:00 PM **Afternoon Adjournment**
- 5:45 PM **Dinner** – Atrium A
- 7:00 PM- **Evening Session - Producer Showcase - Moderator, Kathy Soder, Grand Ballroom**
Speakers:
 Melanie Barkley, Maple Hollow Farm, Manns Choice, PA *Topic: Maple Hollow Farm Polled Dorset and Tunis Sheep Farm Speaker transitioning to organic (to be announced)*

February 5

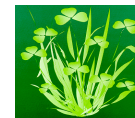
- 8:00 AM **Pasture-Based Farming Research Needs Discussion Session ("Fish Bowl" room arrangement) - Grand Ballroom**
Private Sector – *Coordinator, Joe Hatton, Recorder, Diane Schiviera*
- 9:15 AM **Poster Break** – (authors present) Chairman's Room
- 10:00 AM **Session 5 – Control of Parasites in Pastured Livestock through Integrated Use of Pasture Management, Botanicals, and Pharmaceuticals - Moderator, Diane Schiviera, Grand Ballroom**
Speakers:
 Jerry Brunetti, Soil and Crop Consultant, Agri-Dynamics, Martins Creek, PA. *Topic: Use of Vermo-Tox to control Haemonchus contortus in Goats, report from UCChico*
 Katherine Petersson, Assistant Professor of Animal & Veterinary Science, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI. *Topic: Organic Methods of Parasite Control in Pastured Livestock*
 Tatiana Stanton, Cornell Small Ruminant Extension Specialist, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. *Topic: Basics of Parasite Management of Pastured Livestock*
- 12:00 PM **Lunch** – Atrium A
- 1:00 PM **Sector and USDA Agency Reports - Jim Cropper, Executive Director presiding, Grand Ballroom**

Time Activity

- Private Sector report – *Joe Hatton, Co-Chair*
 Public Sector report – *Tom Akin, Co-Chair*
 ARS report – *Mark Boggess, Washington, DC*
 NIFA report – *Jim Dobrowolski, Washington, DC (via phone)*
 NRCS Report – *Sid Brantly, Washington, DC*
- 3:15 PM **Break** – Chairman's Room
- 3:45 PM **Business Meeting** – Ken Miller, *Public Sector Co-Chair Elect and Andre Brito, Private Sector Co-Chair Elect, Presiding*
 Grand Ballroom
- Election of Private Sector and Public Sector members-at-large to serve on the Executive Committee of the NE Pasture Consortium
- Other business to come to the Floor, such as resolutions and changes to Consortium research, education, and financial & technical assistance priorities.
- Jim Cropper, Executive Director:* Thank you to the outgoing Executive Committee members (Bob Richardson & Rob DeClue), Welcome to the new Executive Committee members, and Announcement of the 2013 Public and Private Sector Co-Chairs (Ken Miller & Andre Brito)
- 5:00 PM **Adjourn**

Conference Overview

During the Pasture-Based Farming Research Needs Session at our 2013 Northeast Pasture Consortium Conference, a concern was raised by one of our Maryland farmer members that livestock exclusionary fencing was being mandated in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed on both sides of all streams that ran through pastures. It also appeared this fencing would have to be built to USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service standards. The concern was that it might entail permanent fencing using several strands of non-electrified wire. If the stream had any sizeable floodplain associated with it where out-of-bank flow could occur, it would cause recurrent damage to the fence requiring repeated maintenance. The expense and hassle would likely cause many farmers to row crop these riparian pastures rather than continue to graze livestock on them, a very dubious landuse change from a water quality benefit standpoint. Therefore, we are kicking off our 2014 Conference with the a session



entitled: *Managing Pastures in Riparian Areas for Water Quality and Forage Utilization*.

An option that appears to be overlooked is managing riparian pastures by short duration rotational stocking of livestock with portable water troughs. Using this management technique, the livestock are only on stream-side paddocks for a few hours or days before being moved to another paddock and returning 2-4 weeks later (or longer if need be) to regraze these paddocks. This greatly reduces the time that these animals have access to the stream. In fact, they may avoid stream bed and bank altogether if a proper forage allowance is given them so they disregard grazing streambanks in lieu of easier places to graze and an alternate cleaner source of water. This session seeks to facilitate a rational discussion of riparian pasture conservation practices that truly enhance water quality and save taxpayers and pasture-based farmers money.



Exclusionary fencing of stream, constructed stream crossing, & two polyethylene water troughs in an otherwise unmanaged pasture.

After much expense and time, the pasture pictured above is still not receiving grazing management. Little has been gained to improve water quality since the fence is just at the top of streambank. Runoff will be high in the pasture since vegetal retardance is nil in the grazed grass

and undoubtedly surface soil compaction will be high. Low infiltration of rain water and little vegetation to slow its movement down slope towards the stream means there will be little to show for the cost-share dollars that went into this project. Crossing has gates, but both are open.

Relative Benefits of Grassy Versus Woody Riparian Vegetation for Small Streams in Grassland/Savannah Areas of Central North America.

Management Aspect	Grassy Vegetation	Woody Vegetation
Bank Stability, Channel Morphology; and Erosion	Less bank erosion; greater trapping of suspended sediment; narrower channels, more undercut banks and pools	Better stabilization of severely eroding banks; wider channels, more diverse substrates
Cover for Fish	More undercut banks, overhanging vegetation, aquatic macrophytes	More large woody debris
Terrestrial Runoff and Subsurface Inputs	Better assimilation of phosphorus	Better assimilation of nitrogen; uptake of nutrients from deeper subsurface waters
Hydrology	Less local flooding; higher base flows	Reduced downstream flooding
Water Temperature	Unknown; more studies needed. Stream width and orientation and spacing of base flow inflows matter greatly.	Less variable and lower summer temperatures
Organic Matter and Primary Production	Greater primary production; more algae, macrophytes	Greater organic matter inputs; less chance of excessive primary production
Macroinvertebrates	Higher per-unit-area abundance and biomass, more herbivores	Greater overall abundance (?), more shredders and detritivores
Fish	Better habitat in some cases, with higher trout abundance; fewer beaver; easier fishing in spring and fall	Better habitat if high summer temperatures or excessive primary production are problems

A Wisconsin study reported in 2000 that grassy riparian buffers and intensive rotational grazing (short duration stocking) appear similarly effective for rehabilitating degraded streams that had been in continuously grazed pastures. The table above compares grassy vegetation to woody vegetation for eight important stream indicators.

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The second session will showcase current pasture research being conducted in the Northeast. Six researchers will give a quick synopsis on a research topic they are involved with. Sarah Goslee is reporting on perennial ryegrass trials being performed in the Region. Alison Grantham and Denyse Schrenker will be reporting on two different facets of research trials being conducted on annual pasture forages. Kathy Soder will be updating us on mob grazing with dairy cows. Les Vough will introduce us to growing more winter hardy bermudagrass in the Mid-Atlantic states. A warm season grass that grows best when our cool season grasses decide to take a summer vacation from growing. Andre Brito will round out the session with an update on how the flaxseed supplementation of the organic dairy cow feed ration is working.

The second session is then followed with the Private Sector and Public Sector splitting off in separate rooms to deliberate on the direction new or continued pasture-based research should head.

In the afternoon of February 4, the third session will bring everyone up-to-date on the Pastureland National Resource Inventory. The current inventory is the most exhaustive that NRCS or the former SCS has ever done on pastures. Pasture plant species composition is inventoried on each randomly selected pasture that is visited. This along with other vital measurements will tell us more about the condition of our pasturelands nation-wide. Many of our pastures are naturalized forage stands, not monocultures, as many have imagined since we often give them single species names as a short hand way of labeling them by naming the predominant species or the showiest one.

Our first poster paper session follows session 3. This is an opportunity to see how other research projects are progressing or seeing how that

research is used to improve to improve the sustainability and economic viability of pasture-based farms in the Northeast as farmers work with educators and technicians to apply best management practices to their pastures. Or, it may be a poster paper that shows how the products produced on pasture are processed and marketed locally for their wholesomeness and safety.

The fourth session wraps up the daytime program looking at alternative pasture forage species. Ed Rayburn will update us on the use of the legume, birdsfoot trefoil, in pastures while Don Wild will introduce us to some other promising pasture forage species.

Our evening session is called the Producer Showcase. Kathy Soder is the moderator of this session. Melanie Barkley will start this session off talking about her and her husband's farm, Maple Hollow Farm. They raise Polled Dorset and Tunis sheep. Our second speaker will be a transitioning-to-organic farmer. We are awaiting confirmation of who that will be at the time of publication of this newsletter. For those of you considering to go organic do not miss this one. We will update the newsletter as we near the conference start with whom the speaker will be and the type of livestock enterprise.



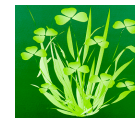
Maple Hollow Farm sheep on lush fall pasture

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The following morning, February 5, we begin by bringing the Private Sector before the Public Sector and let them describe what new directions pasture-based research should take to assist livestock farmers achieve their goals.

This is followed by the last poster paper session. Then our last technical session, Control of Parasites in Pastured Livestock through Integrated Use of Pasture Management, Botanicals, and Pharmaceuticals rounds out the conference technical sessions. We have three speakers lined up for this session, who will cover the waterfront on this important issue, especially for small ruminants. Many of the older parasite controls are not working very well as the parasites have become resistant to them. This will bring you up-to-date on what is working now.

In the afternoon, we wrap up the conference with a Reports Session and the business meeting. See agenda for all those details.

POSTER PAPER SESSIONS FOR THE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

Jim Cropper is again coordinating the poster paper sessions. These will be held on the afternoon of February 4th and morning of February 5th. This allows researchers and others a chance to show us what they are doing in support of pasture-based farms in Northeast and elsewhere. These are often wide-ranging efforts from papers that support the session topics of the current annual meeting to papers following up on previous meetings' session topics to papers addressing new issues of importance to pasture-based farmers and the society that they support with food, fiber, and scenic green open spaces.

Be sure to let Jim know that you plan to present a paper so that we have adequate wall space to display them. **Deadline for submission of poster paper title and authors is January 3, 2014.**

Submit the title by email to Jim Cropper. Email address is: jbcropper@yahoo.com

For the Northeast Pasture Consortium members doing a poster paper for the annual meeting only, use the guidance below. For those members reprising a poster paper that they have used at other conferences or meetings, there is no need to conform to every specification below. However, keep in mind the target audience is primarily to inform our livestock and pasture farmer members. In the results and summary sections be sure to emphasize how the research findings in the poster paper are or could be relevant to their operations. In previous years, we have had posters sessions on Economics, Carbon Sequestration and the Environment, Pasture Plants and Management and Pasture-Based Product Quality.



Troy Bishop at his poster paper

Introduction

A major purpose of the annual meeting is a 2-way exchange of information. Remember that your paper must be carefully planned, clear and concise, oriented to transfer information effectively, hold the attention of the audience, and have a take-home message.

Planning

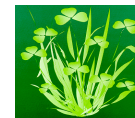
Include: an **introduction, methods, results and**

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discussion, summary, and references. Use metric and English units (in parenthesis) for **weights and measures**, or English units only. Use Power Point (or other computer graphic software) or make a small-scale layout of your poster on ordinary letter paper (8 1/2 by 11 inches). Emphasize the points you want to stress in your poster. Think of headlines, text, charts, graphs, illustrations, and photos, and incorporate these ideas into your layout. Once you are satisfied with the initial layout, finalize poster. **Poster size:** Full poster - approx. 42 X 84 inches, or half poster - approx. 42 X 42 inches. **Send abstract and poster size dimensions to Jim Cropper, by January 17th, 2014.**

Organization

Your poster starts in the upper left hand corner. From here the poster should flow from left to right and top to bottom. The title - author(s) - sponsoring institution heading for your poster must be at the top of the poster paper. Use letters, numbers, or arrows to indicate the proper flow to the audience.

Simplicity

Don't crowd too much information into the presentation; concentrate on two or three main points. Highlight trends and comparisons with **simplified** charts, graphs, and diagrams. Make key points in the legend of the figure or table. Use text sparingly, and make sure it is easily understood by the audience. **Outline important points with bulleted text.** Use abbreviations and acronyms sparingly. Avoid overwhelming your audience with too many numbers, words, and/or complicated graphs or tables. Remember, a lot of people will read or study your poster while you are away or talking to another person about the content of the poster; keep the message clear and simple. Choose one background color for your poster paper. Use contrasting colors where appropriate in charts, graphs, and diagrams.

Headings

For the **title**, use a finished font that is at least 1 inch high when the poster is printed out to full size. The lettering for authors' names, sponsoring institution, and address should be at least 3/4 inch high. **For section heads and subheads, use a type font** at least 25% larger than the text font (1/4 inch tall when poster is printed at full size). All type must be easily read from a distance of six feet. Use a bold typeface for headings and labels.

Text Type

Keep your text in short, concise, legible statements; minimize complete sentences and paragraphs. A few summary statements are encouraged. Use a word processor to prepare your text copy. Set your word processor for 1.5 lines of space between each line of type. Text in upper and lower case letters is more readable than all capitals. Lettering for subheads and figure captions should be larger than text type, but smaller than type used for a main heading. This type should also be bold. Text type should be at least 1/4-inch tall and readable from a distance of 6 feet. Choose a plain font type such as Arial.

Mounting

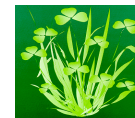
The best procedure is to use large glossy paper that is on a spool of a plotter used to capture the image from Power Point or similar software. Bring along the necessary items to put up your poster. As before at the Ramada Conference Center, we will use the walls to hang the posters up. You will be given an assigned place to hang your poster. There is poster (blue) tape that is safe to use on walls. Bring a supply of business cards to hand out at your poster session. This is a quick way of distributing your name and address to interested attendees. Have a sign-up pad available for people to list their names and addresses who want more information. You may also want to have a supply of handouts available for interested people.

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Pennsylvania Association of Sustainable Agriculture's 23rd Annual Farming for the Future Conference

As we have done in the past, we have scheduled our conference at a place and time where you can attend two conferences in one trip. So, you may want to stick around for the Farming For the Future Conference hosted by the Pennsylvania Association of Sustainable Agriculture. This conference is being held at the Penn Stater across I-99 off of Park Avenue east of the Penn State Campus. The agenda for the conference is follows. Pasture-related talks are shown in bold.

Wednesday, February 5

(Walk-In Registration Not Available)

7:00am-8:00pm Registration Open

8:00am *Light Morning Snacks & Beverages Available*

9:00am- 5:00pm Pre-Conference Tracks

Track 1: Tractor, Machinery & Facilities Safety

Track 2: Food Safety for Farmers & Food Hubs;

Lunch as scheduled by track

Thursday, February 6

(Walk-In Registration Not Available)

7:00am-7:30pm Registration Open

7:00am Continental Breakfast

9:00am- 5:00pm Pre-Conference Tracks

Track 3: **Food Safety & Quality Control for Cheesemakers**

Track 4: Biodynamic Agriculture

Track 5: Financing Your Food Based Business

Track 6: The Resilient Farm & Homestead

Track 7: Rebuilding a Local & Regional Grains Food System

Track 8: **Take Your Grass-Based Enterprise to the Next Level**

Track 9: Diversifying Poultry

Track 10: Glyphosate & Genetically Modified Crops

Youth in Farming Track (Middle & High School Students Only); *Lunch as scheduled by track*

5:00pm Sustainable Social Hour, Trade Show & Benefit Auction Open

5:30pm Cheese Tasting, Young & Beginning Farmer Mixer

6:30pm Winter Picnic (*ticketed event*)

8:00pm Live Music

Friday, February 7

(A \$40 Walk-In Fee Will be Added to All Registrations)

7:00am-7:30pm Registration Open

7:00am *Continental Breakfast, TriYoga® Sessions, Knitting Circle & Seed Swap Social*

8:30am Workshops
Water Before Soil: Design & Management for Drought & Flood, Resilience for the Long Haul
Ben Falk, Whole Systems Design, LLC

Finding Your Right Livelihood Growing Herbs
Beth Lambert, Herbalist & Alchemist

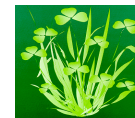
Improving Soil Health with Cover Crops
Charlie White, Penn State Extension

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Nature as Mentor: Outdoor Pigs

Craig Haney, Stone Barns Educational Center

The Business of Farming: Crowd funding 101 -
Understanding the Many Forms of Fund raising
from the Masses

Elizabeth Ü, Finance for Food

Super Organism: The Life of a Honeybee Colony

*Grai St. Clair Rice & Chris Harp,
HoneybeeLives*

Organic Pest Management for Wheat Production
& Storage

*Greg Roth, Penn State U. & Elizabeth Dyck,
OGRIN*

Current Research: Residential Proximity to High-
density Livestock Production & MRSA Infection

Joan Casey, Johns Hopkins University

The Business of Farming: Successful Farm
Internship Programs, A View from Both Sides

*Johnny Parker, Dean Martin & Megan
Gallagher, Edible Earth Farm*

Services Available to Migratory Farm Workers in
Pennsylvania

*Jorge Perez-Rico, Brenda Reyes-Lua, Michael
Hannum & Suzanne Benchoff, Lincoln
Intermediate Unit #12; Mary Englerth, Keystone
Migrant Health*

Growing Quality Vegetables Biodynamically

Mac Mead, Pfeiffer Center

Homeopathic Methodology for Plants

Nazirahk Amen, Purple Mountain Organics

From Milk to Mold: Developing & Refining Cheese Recipes

*Peter Dixon, Dairy Foods Consulting & Parish
Hill Creamery*

Selecting & Training Disease Resistant Apple
Varieties for Organic Production

*Rob Crassweller, Penn State U. & Jim Travis,
Apple Tree Vineyard & Farm*

Earthen Building with Practical Uses

*Rusty Orner, Quiet Creek Herb Farm & School
of Country Living*

Animal-Powered Farming: The Path to Draft

*Todd Newlin & Mary Wildefluer, Sankanac CSA
Kimberton*

Food Safety Update

Final Topic & Speakers TBD

10:15am Opening Session with Address by Dr.
Daphne Miller

12:15pm Box Lunch (*ticketed event*)

1:15pm Workshops

Weed Management in the Orchard

Clair Kauffman, Kauffman's Fruit Farm

Utilizing Tests to Evaluate Physical, Chemical & Biological Changes in the Soil

*Dan Dostie, National Resources Conservation
Services*

Q & A Session

Daphne Miller, WholefamilyMD

Goods from the Woods: Foraging, Growing &
Marketing Edible Forest Produce

*Eric Burkhardt, Shaver's Creek Environmental
Center*

Why Natural Beekeeping Matters

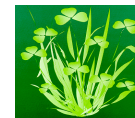
*Grai St. Clair Rice & Chris Harp,
HoneybeeLives*

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Cheese Rind Microbes: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly

Peter Dixon, Dairy Foods Consulting & Parish Hill Creamery

Integrating Organic Seed Production into Your Diversified Farm: Is It Right for You?

Ira Wallace, Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

Finding Success in the Market: Selling to Retailers

Justin Pizzella & Evan Diamond, East End Food Cooperative

Cold Hardy Winter Vegetables

Pam Dawling, Twin Oaks Community

The Business of Farming: Feasibility Studies & Business Plans 101

Rebecca Thistlewaite, Sustain Consulting

A Conversation on Milling

Robert Beauchemin, Les Moulins de Soulanges Inc

City Farming: Farming for Social Change - A Different Kind of Bottom Line

Sophia Buggs, Lady Buggs' Farm & Greg Bowman, Goodness Grows

Quality Management Systems & Group Gap Certification for Food Hub Managers

Steve Warshawer, The Wallace Center/Mesa Top Farm & Others TBD

Raising Sheep: Farmer, Butcher, Chef & Consumer Considerations

Sukey & John Jamison, Jamison Farms

Raising Your Own Turkey Poults

Val Vetter, Piney Woods Ranch & APPPA

2:45pm Discussion Sessions

4:10pm Workshops

The FSMA Response: Forging Alliances & Building Persuasion

A Panel of Experts TBD

Turkeys for Two Seasons: Pastured Turkey Production

Craig Haney, Stone Barns Educational Center

Habitat is Home: Creating Spaces for Pollinators, Predators & Parasitoids

Dave Mortensen & John Tooker, Penn State University

Finding Success in the Market: Marketing on a Shoestring

George Latella, St. Joseph's University

City Farming: Urban Beekeeping Connects the Dots

Grai St. Clair Rice & Chris Harp, HoneybeeLives

Got Dirt? Get Soil!

Howard Vlieger, Verity Farms

Team Raw Milk: A Case Study of Collaboration & Cooperation

Ernest Hovingh, Penn State University; Edwin Shank, The Family Cow; Lydia Johnson, PDA's Director of Food Safety

Orchards as an Enterprise - Method, Economics, Holism

Hugh Williams, Threshold Farm

Everything You Need to Know About Hiring Migrant Workers

Jon Weirether, PA Department of Labor & Industry

Starting from Scratch on Leased Land with No Infrastructure, No Equipment & No Skills

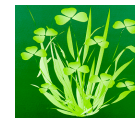
Linda Shanahan & Eric Van der Hyde, Barefoot

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Gardens

Finding Success in the Market: Marketing Meat - Understanding Yields, Pricing & Selecting Marketing Channels

Matt LeRoux, Cornell University & Brian Moyer, Penn State University

Building Farm Resilience to Pests & Climate Change

Miguel Altieri, UC Berkeley

Producing Asian Greens for Market or at Home

Pam Dawling, Twin Oaks Community

Multi-species Planned Rotational Grazing

Will Harris, White Oak Pastures & APPPA

5:30pm Sustainable Socializing

6:30pm Banquet (ticketed event)

7:30pm Live Auction

8:30pm PASA Theater Movie Screenings

Saturday, February 8

(A \$40 Walk-In Fee Will be Added to All Registrations)

7:00am- 5:00pm Registration Open

7:00am Continental Breakfast, TriYoga® Sessions, Knitting Circle & Seed Swap Social

8:30am Workshops

City Farming: The State of Urban Farming & Potential for Profitability

Carolyn Dimitri, New York University & A Representative from Garden Dreams Urban Farm

Producing Herbs for the Commercial Market

Beth Lambert, Herbalist & Alchemist

Modifying/Making & Using Your Own Equipment

Eric Van der Hyde, Barefoot Gardens

Farm Bill 2014

Final Topic & Speakers TBD

Let's Do It Together: Encouraging Honeybee Health in the Agricultural Community

Grai St. Clair Rice & Chris Harp, HoneybeeLives

Meat Processor Panel

Greg Gunthorp, Gunthorp Family Farm & APPPA; Will Harris, White Oak Pastures & APPPA; Ridge Shinn, Summerfield Farms

Animal-Powered Farming: Successful Draft Horse Methods for Market Gardening

*Jelmer Albada, Biodynamic Farmer & Teamster The Mighty Microbiome
Jerry Brunetti, Agri-Dynamics*

Cows, Grass, Soil, Microbes, Sunlight, Rain...How Good Cheese Happens

Jonathan White, Bobolink Dairy & Bakehouse

Getting Started in Value-Added Dairy

Kerry Kaylegian, Penn State University

Finding Success in the Market: Co-marketing Strategies for Working with a Retailer

Mark Mulcahy, CDS Consulting Co-op & Justin Pizzella, East End Food Cooperative

The Business of Farming: Setting up A Family-Run Small Business

Michael McGrann, St. Joseph's University

Backyard Poultry Basics: Common Questions & Pitfalls

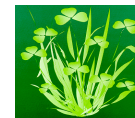
Mike Badger, Badger's Millside Farm & APPPA

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Effective Communication Between Butchers, Farmers & Consumers

Panel of Experts TBD

The Business of Farming: Make It Or Break It - Scaling Up Successfully

Rebecca Thistlewaite, Sustain Consulting

Garbage to Gardening - Worm Composting

Rusty Orner, Quiet Creek Herb Farm & School of Country Living

Growing Organic Apples 101

Sara Baldwin, Oyler's Organic Farms

10:15am PASAbilities Plenary with Address by Miguel Altieri

11:45am Box Lunch (ticketed event)

1:30pm Workshops

The State of Fracking in Pennsylvania

Adam Garber, Penn Environment

The Business of Farming: Farm Credit Resources to Gain Access to Capital & Education

Bill Kitsch, Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit

Methods & Recipes for Fresh Cured & Smoked Poultry

Chef John Kapusta, IUP Academy of Culinary Arts

Gunthorp Farms: Four Generations of Pastured Hogs

Greg Gunthorp, Gunthorp Family Farm & APPPA

How "Better Cheese for Pittsburgh" is Changing the Cheesescape of Western Pennsylvania

Lori Sollenberger, Hidden Hills Dairy

City Farming: Considerations, Challenges & Best Practices for Growing Healthy Urban Soils

Hannah Shayler, Cornell Waste Management Institute

Year-Round Bounty for the Home Garden

Ira Wallace, Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

The Business of Farming: Farm Record Keeping 2.0

Joe Bozzelli, Five Elements Farm & Jeff Froikin-Gordon, AgSquared

Specialty Herb Propagation

Lloyd Traven, Peace Tree Farm

Finding Success in the Market:

Merchandising Your Product

Mark Mulcahy, CDS Consulting Co-op

Q & A Session

Miguel Altieri, UC Berkeley

Transitioning a Backyard Flock into a Market Flock

Mike Badger, Badger's Millside Farm & APPPA

Shiitake Mushroom Cultivation

Paul Goland, Hardscrabble Enterprises

So, You Want to Be A Grass Farmer?

Ridge Shinn, Summerfield Farms

Integrated Pest Management in the Natural Orchard

Sara Baldwin, Oyler's Organic Farms & Ben Wenk, Three Springs Fruit Farm

Homeopathy & Natural Healthcare: Tools for the Farm & Family

Susan Beal, PASA

3:10pm Workshops

City Farming: Lowering Risks & Increasing Profits

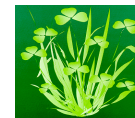
Andy Pressman, National Center for Appropriate

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Technology

Traditional & Innovative Techniques for Meat Preservation

Brooks Miller, North Mountain Pastures

Testing Cover Crop Mixtures on the Farm

Charlie White, Penn State University; Wade Esbenshade, Summit Valley Farm; Dan DeTurk, Dan-De Farm; Abram Bucky Ziegler, Paradise Valley Organic Farm

Backyard Herbalism for the Medicine & Kitchen Cabinets

Grace Lefever, Sonnewald Farm & Faye Burtch, Burtch Body Works

Wastewater Management with Constructed Wetlands for Small Processors

Greg Gunthorp, Gunthorp Family Farm & APPPA

Food Waste: Today's Problems, Tomorrow's Solutions

Leanne Mazurick, AmpleHarvest.org

Low-Cost Hacks: Mobile Pens, Hoop house Rain Water Irrigation Systems & More

Homer Walden & Dru Peters, Sunnyside Acres

Remediation Results: Vital Biology, Vibrant Soils

Howard Vlieger, Verity Farms

Growing Great Garlic & Perennial Onions

Ira Wallace, Southern Exposure Seed Exchange

Biodynamic Agriculture: Stories & Experiences
Jelmer Albada, Biodynamic Farmer & Teamster & Others TBD

The Business of Farming: \$100K+ on a Small Vegetable Farm

Johnny Parker, Edible Earth Farm

The Business of Farming: Succession Planning for the Farm Business

Michael McGrann, St. Joseph's University

How to Stage a BioBlitz & What You Might Learn About Land Conservation & Agricultural Biodynamics

Steve Schwartz, Delaware Valley Ramps; Sarah Chamberlain, Riparia at Penn State; Gary Bloss, Josie Porter Farm

Natural Animal Health for Dams & Young Stock

Susan Beal, PASA

**The 2nd Northeast Silvopasture Conference: Creating Profitable, Practical Silvopastures for your Farm
Thursday, January 30, 2014 & Winter Green-Up Grass-Fed Grazing Conference, Friday and Saturday, January 31 and February 1, 2014**

Just prior to our conference, two more grazing conferences at one site are being offered at the Century House in Latham, NY. As you may recall we held our 2012 conference just before the 2012 Winter Green-Up Grass-Fed Conference at the same place. Both programs have a lot to offer. Agendas are given below.

**2nd Northeast Silvopasture Conference
Thursday, January 30**

9:00 am **A Case for Expanding Silvo-**
- 10:15 am **pasturing in the Northeast**

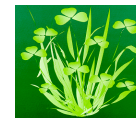
Roy Brubaker will discuss the historical context of the forested landscape, and why a paradigm shift from “keep animals out of the woods!” to putting them back in is increasingly justified. He will present some compelling reasons for ex-

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panded silvopasture management in the Northeast, and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

10:15 am **Break**

- 10:30 am

10:30 am **Sustainably Growing Quality
- 12:00 pm Timber and Forages – On the
Same Land**

Peter Smallidge will cover: The “pasture into trees” approach to creating silvopastures, focusing on: thinning methods and strategies to increase solar energy at the ground level in “3-D” pastures; the importance of good tree selection; and, tips for working with foresters to accomplish silvopasture management objectives. Brett Chedzoy will cover: The “trees into pastures” approach, including: choosing the right trees; site preparation and care through the establishment phase; protection and pest control; the economics of planting trees in pasture environments; and a comparison of artificial vs. natural regeneration.

12:00 pm **Lunch**

- 1:00 pm

1:00 pm **Managing Livestock in
- 1:45 pm Silvopastures**

Troy Bishopp will cover: Adapting fencing and water systems to work well in silvopastures; planning to successfully incorporate silvopasture areas into existing grazing systems; creating sufficient animal impact to address different vegetative situations; measuring available feed in silvopastures and converting it to stocking rates; Best Management Practices to protect sensitive areas and water quality; and, when is it appropriate to manage forest riparian buffers as dual-purpose silvopastures?

1:45 pm **Forage Establishment and**

- 2:30 pm **Management in Silvopastures**

Joe Orefice will cover: Establishment methods, forage species, and grazing management tips to promote the growth and persistence of desirable plants in silvopastures (while controlling undesirable vegetation). Joe will also share the results to-date of his NE SARE project focused on forage establishment in silvopastures.

2:30 pm **Break**

- 2:45 pm

2:45 pm **Silvopasture: From Theory to
- 4:00 pm Reality on Two Farms**

Ross Hackerson and consulting forester Jeff Jourdain will discuss the reasoning behind creating silvopastures at Ross’s farm in Massachusetts, and their trials and errors to date. Dan Carr will give an overview of silvopasture projects at the Stone Barns Center in the Lower Hudson Valley using pigs, sheep, cattle and poultry.

4:30 pm **Group Discussion** (all presenters,
- 5:30 pm with audience)



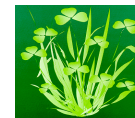
A fat and sassy grass-fed steer - Who needs corn-fed?

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Winter Green-Up Grass-Fed Grazing Conference

Friday, January 31

8:30 am **Registration, coffee, visit**
- 9:30 am **vendors**

9:30 am - 10:30 am

Doug Peterson, State Soil Health Conservationist, USDA—Natural Resources Conservation Service, Gallatin, MO

Doug will share his insights to increasing soil health and farm viability through innovative grazing practices that work in the Northeast.

10:30 am **Break, visit with other participants and vendors**
-10:45 am

10:45 am - 11:30 am

Doug Peterson continues his discussion on using livestock as a tool to build soils and increase profitability.

11:30 am - Noon

Hay and Pasture Crop Insurance for New York and presentations from other vendors

Noon **Lunch, visit with other participants and vendors**
-1:30 pm

1:30 pm - 3:15 pm

Brian Reaser and Drew Lewis are two graziers from the southern tier of NY with collective backgrounds in agronomy, agriculture engineering, soil science, civil engineering and low-input dairy and beef production having worked in New Zealand and South Africa.

Drew and Brian will share their experiences with custom grazing and marketing replacement dairy heifers, beef cattle and sheep, as well as their transitions to being full-time graziers.

3:15 pm **Stretch, break**
- 3:30 pm

3:30 pm - 4:45 pm

Doug Peterson will talk about his cow/calf and contract grazing operation where they run about 450 cows. He will explain how he has eliminated the need for purchased fertilizer and how he has limited his winter hay needs to one bale per cow.

5:00 pm **Social Time & Networking**
- 6:30 pm

6:30 pm **A local foods banquet**
- 8:00 pm **Featuring grass-fed beef**

Saturday, February 1, 2014

7:30 am **Vendor booths open, coffee**
- 8:30 am

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Allen Williams, PhD, is a founding partner of Grass Fed Beef, LLC, and President of LMC, LLC, an agriculture and food consulting firm.

Allen will give us an update on the grass-fed industry and how it relates to the beef industry as a whole. He will also present data on actual gain and carcass performance based on genetics coupled with financial data.

10:00 am **Break visit with vendors**
- 10:15 am

10:15 am - Noon

Jeff Moyer, Farm Director at the Rodale Institute, is an expert in organic crop production systems.

Jeff will discuss research and applied practices undertaken at the Institute that focus on soil health and maintenance and how these practices impact pasture and crop production. He will also discuss animal impact and no-till seeding.

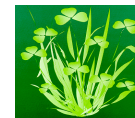
Noon **Lunch and visit with vendors**
- 1:30 pm

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1:30 pm **Auction and discussion of David**
- 2:00 pm **Huse Education Fund**

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Allen Williams, PhD, will discuss soil health, forage brix, forage and grazing management and actual gain performance. He will finish out the day discussing market opportunities and how to access desirable markets.



Organic dairy cow pasture near the shore of Lake Champlain

USDA's Agricultural Research Service Launches Its Redesigned Website

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) unveiled its redesigned public website (www.ars.usda.gov) recently. The new site features a "photo carousel" spotlighting recent news and events.

"Popular Topics" helps consumers find things quickly and is based on data indicating frequently accessed ARS Web pages. Among those is Agricultural Research magazine, ARS's on-line science magazine, published 10 times a year, which features the agency's latest research findings covering crop and animal production and protection, human nutrition and food safety, and natural resources and sustainable agriculture.

Other popular consumer topics and tools from ARS's site include information on honey bee health, climate change, and the ARS Image Gallery. Topics will change from time to time based on interest and relevance to ARS customers and stakeholders.

One of the most popular value-added tools that is now easier for site visitors to find is ARS's National Nutrient Database, the authoritative source for nutrient content of more than 8,500 foods. The database is listed in "Popular Topics" and "Trending Research Topics." It is the foundation of most food and nutrition databases in the United States and is used in food policy (like the United States' food labeling system, Dietary Guidelines for Americans, and USDA's MyPlate), research and nutrition monitoring.

As USDA's chief intramural research agency, ARS plays a vital role in developing new scientific information and knowledge to improve the production, quality, and quantity of food, feed, fiber and fuel for Americans and people around the world. Through its workforce of more than 8,000 employees, including more than 2,000 scientists and post-doctoral researchers, ARS is adept at responding to and finding solutions to high-priority agriculture-related problems that affect the United States.

The new website look and feel is a gateway into the organization and offers a wealth of reliable, scientifically-based information and resources that benefits all Americans. Some of ARS' groundbreaking research accomplishments can be found in the new section called "Scientific Achievements," which highlights scientists' honors. Another section, "ARS Research Success Stories," showcases ARS research that is the basis of many consumer products on the market today.

Other new site changes that makes it easier for consumers and stakeholders to find what they need more quickly include prominently featured "Scientific Journals," "Key Research Offices and Locations," "ARS Timeline," "Quick Links" and the "Science Today Blog."

Learn more about ARS at www.ars.usda.gov.

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2014 NORTHEAST PASTURE CONSORTIUM ANNUAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

FULL REGISTRATION FEES

Paid on or before 01/24/14 \$175.00

Paid after 01/24/14 \$225.00

Single-Day Registration fee \$90.00

If paying by check, make check payable to West Virginia University.

REQUIRED REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name _____

Full Registration ☐

Single Day Reservation ☐ 02/04/14 or ☐ 02/05/14

Organization/Farm _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone Number _____

If paying by credit card,

Credit Card Type _____

Credit Card # _____

Three Digit Security Code # _____

Credit Card Expiration Date _____

PAYMENT ADDRESS

Send completed registration form, and if paying by check,

payment check to: West Virginia University
ATTN: Heather Grimes
WVU Extension Service
2074 Ag. Science Building
P.O. Box 6108
Morgantown, WV 26506-6108.

QUESTIONS

If you have registration questions, you may contact Heather Grimes from WVU Extension Service at (304) 816-0663 or HLGrimes@mail.wvu.edu

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations must be received on or before **January 31, 2014.**