



Great Lakes Grazing Newsletter

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Extension

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Volume 4, Issue 1

February 2015

Dear Northwest Michigan Crop Farmer,

Dear Great Lakes Grazier,

The days are getting longer and spring green grass is more of a closer reality than a distant memory! Enclosed are some upcoming educational events to prepare you for the upcoming grazing season.

Jerry Lindquist,

MSU Extension Grazing & Field Crop Educator

Pasture Management for Horses, Sheep, Goats, and Beef

Many people in our area are the proud owners of livestock. This workshop is designed to enable you to provide quality pasture for your animals. Jerry Lindquist of MSU Extension will be the featured speaker. He will cover topics such as pasture fertilization, weed control, inter-seeding cover crops and forage varieties both old and new.

Wednesday, February 18; 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

Held in the community room at the Conservation District office on 34 (Boon) Rd. , Cadillac, MI.

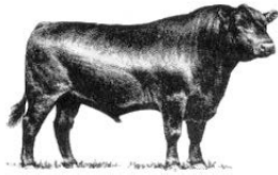
Fee is \$10. Please call 231-775-7681, extension 3 to register.

Sponsored by the Wexford County Soil Conservation District.



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2015 Michigan Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Clinics

The MSU Beef Extension Team will once again be organizing regional Bull Breeding Soundness Exam Clinics. Last year, the program tested over 300 bulls for 110 different operations. By identifying these potential male fertility problems, producers were able to reduce the risk of a less than optimum breeding season. The MSUE Beef Team encourages you to have BSE conducted on your breeding bulls every year. Contact your veterinarian or take advantage of the following Breeding Soundness Exam Clinics organized by MSUE. Cost is \$55 per bull when done at one of the MSUE clinics. **To schedule an appointment at one of these BSE clinics, please call the appropriate contact person as soon as possible.** All Clinics start at 9:00 AM. In addition, the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine regularly schedules in house appointments for BSE's. To schedule an appointment contact the MSU CVM Large Animal Clinic at 517-353-9710.

Location: **Gary Voogt Farm, 2831 Hayes St, Marne MI**
Date: Friday, March 27th, 2015
Contact: Kevin Gould @ 616-527-5357 or Gary Voogt @ 616-677-3680

Location: **Matt Miller Farm, 2685 E. Bellvue Rd, Charlotte MI**
Date: Saturday, March 28th, 2015
Contact: Beedle Lake Veterinary Clinic @ 269-441-9233

Location: **Kevin Wernette, 9144 50TH Ave, Remus MI**
Date: Saturday, April 11th, 2015
Contact: Kevin Gould @ 616-527-5357 or Dr. KevinTodd @ 231-832-3680

Location: **Breault Beef Farm, 868 Hoffman Road, Gladwin MI**
Date: Thursday April 16th, 2015
Contact: Kable Thurlow @ 989-802-3384

Location: **MSU Lake City Research Center, 5401 W. Jennings Road, Lake City MI**
Date: Friday, April 17th, 2015
Contact: Kable Thurlow @ 989-802-3384 or Doug Carmichael @ 231-839-4608

Location: **Chuck Preston Farm, 4780 County Line Road, Prescott MI**
Date: Saturday, April 25th, 2015
Contact: Phil Durst @ 989-387-5346 or Chuck Preston @ 989-873-4164

Location: **Upper Peninsula of Michigan**
Date: May 4-8, 2015
Contact: Frank Wardynski @ 906-884-4386

Riding a Bull Market

Maximizing profits in unprecedented beef markets



Feb. 23, Escanaba, MI.

Feb. 24, Atlanta, MI.

Feb. 25, East Lansing, MI.

Feb. 26, Harrison, MI.

6:30—9:00 P.M. each night

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This educational program is provided by Michigan State University Extension with financial support from



The Science of Healthier Animals™

For more information on this educational event contact any of the MSU Beef Team members participating in this program:

- Dr. Dan Buskirk at 517-432-0400
- Phil Durst at 989-387-5346
- Kevin Gould at 616 527-5357
- Jerry Lindquist at 231-832-6139
- Kable Thurlow at 989-426-7741
- Frank Wardynski at 906 884-4386

“Managing the Beef Herd to Sustain Higher Profits”

The Michigan cow/calf industry has entered a profitable period. Now is the time to capitalize and make up for the negative cash flow years. Join the MSU Extension Beef Team and Industry Leaders for a focus on methods of optimizing profits during these golden years.

Program each night 6:30 – 9:00 P.M. EST

- **Where is the Beef Industry Going from Here?**—*Dr. Dan Buskirk, MSU Beef Cattle Specialist & Kevin Gould, MSU Extension Beef Educator*
With cattle prices at record highs how long can these prices last where does it go from here? A look at the cattle inventory, beef & grain prices, and alternative protein sources.
- **Issues With Beef Quality**—*Kable Thurlow, MSU Extension Beef Educator or Frank Wardynski, MSU Beef Educator*
Our beef product is more valuable than ever but still our industry has problems with off label drug use, drug record keeping, drug withdrawal times, in-proper injection sites, bruising, etc. If we expect the consumer to continue to pay more we must produce an even better product. Learn the latest Beef Quality Audit results and what to do about it.

A pie and ice cream break will be provided by Merck Animal Health during the program.

Program continued....

- **Vaccinations Pay—But Make Sure They Work**—*Jeff Leininger, Merck Animal Health*
At these cattle prices the industry is paying premiums for vaccinated calves. Make sure you are providing the best environment to make vaccines work. A look at vaccination management including the relationship between cattle parasites and vaccines.
- **Is Creeping Feeding Economical Again**—*Phil Durst, MSU Extension Beef Team or Jerry Lindquist, MSU Extension Beef Team*
Lower grain prices and historically high calf prices beg the question—what about creep feeding? What are the economics and management recommendations if it is utilized?

Locations

(Content will be the same at each location, register only for one location)

Bay College
Heirman Center
2001 N Lincoln Rd, Escanaba
Monday, February 23, 6:30-9:00 P.M.

Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development Center,
16860 M-32 East Atlanta, MI 49709
Tuesday, February 24, 6:30-9:00 P.M.

MSU Pavilion
4301 Farm Lane
East Lansing, MI 48910
Wednesday, February 25, 6:30—9:00 P.M.

Mid Michigan Community College
Michigan Room
1375 South Clare Avenue, Harrison, MI 48625
Thursday, February 26, 6:30—9:00 P.M.

“Managing the Beef Herd to Sustain Higher Profits”

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
County: _____
Email Address: _____

Registration Fee (please check)

- Registration for 1 night \$20
 Registration for additional family/farm member \$10
Additional \$5 fee will be charged at the door if not pre-registered and pre-paid

Location Attending (circle one)

Escanaba, MI—Feb. 23rd
Atlanta, MI—Feb 24th
East Lansing, MI—Feb 25th
Harrison, MI—Feb 26th

Pre Registration \$20 for the first farm representative; \$10 for each additional family or farm member. Registrations at the door add \$5 additional

Complete and return this form with payment in the form of a check made payable to:
Michigan State University Extension

And mail check with registration to:
MSU Extension
301 West Upton Ave.
Reed City, MI. 49677

OR

To register and pay online go to MSU Events Management at:

<http://events.anr.msu.edu/bullmarket5/>

Restricted Use Pesticide Review and Exam

WHEN: Thursday, March 19, 2015

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Pesticide Update & Exam Review offered by MSU Extension
(pesticide re-certification credits have been requested)

1:00 p.m. - Restricted Use Pesticide Exam offered by Michigan Department of Agriculture
and Rural Development

WHERE: Wexford County MSU Extension, 401 N. Lake St., Cadillac, MI. 49601

The review is for those wishing to receive final training before the exam or for those wishing to receive pesticide re-certification credits (credits have been requested for this event). You do not have to attend the review to take the exam. The exam is for those wishing to become certified to purchase restricted use pesticides or who need to re-certify.

For the exam: You must bring a photo ID (driver's license).

- Bring a #2 pencil and an ink pen.
- Bring your registration paperwork received in the mail from Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) if renewing.
- Make check/money orders payable to "State of Michigan". Cash or credit/debit cards are not accepted.
- If retaking an exam that you failed you must bring receipt of payment from the previous exam session.
- Calculators if needed will be available from the exam proctor. Personal calculators or cell phone calculators are not allowed.

Cost: Review - \$10/person payable at the door to MSU (cash or check); Exam -\$50 for private applicators (farmers); \$75 for commercial applicators (cash is not accepted).

Registration: Please register for these two events by either:

1.) Contacting Jerry Lindquist 231-832-6139 or at lindquis@anr.msu.edu or Jill O'Donnell 231-779-9480 or at odonne10@anr.msu.edu

or

2.) You may register on-line for the exam at www.michigan.gov/pestexam

Join forage producers, graziers, custom forage harvesters, Agribusinesses, MSU Extension Specialists and Educators for this annual conference and trade show.

Sponsored by the Michigan Forage Council, NC SARE and Michigan State University Extension.



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Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling the local extension office one week prior to the event to ensure sufficient time to make arrangements.

Improving Forages
With Healthy Soils

Great Lakes
Forage &
Grazing
Conference

Thursday
March 12, 2015

MSU Kellogg Hotel &
Conference Center
219 S Harrison Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823
9:00 A.M. -- 4:00 P.M.

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To register or pay online
by credit card go to:
MSU Events Management
[http://events.anr.msu.edu/
GLFGC2015/](http://events.anr.msu.edu/GLFGC2015/)

For more information contact:

Lapeer MSU Extension
1800 Imlay City Rd.

Lapeer, MI 48446

Phone: 810-667-0341

Fax: 810-667-0355

Attention: Tina House

Email: houset@anr.msu.edu

**Keynote Speaker:
Doug Peterson**

Doug Peterson has been an NRCS employee for over 25 years. He started his career as a Soil Scientist. He has been a District Conservationist in both a grassland based county in south Missouri and a large cropland county in north Missouri. Currently he is the State Soil Health Conservationist teaching NRCS staff and producers around the state about soil health, how it impacts virtually all natural resource processes, and what type of management it will take to effectively improve our soils health.

He attended college at Missouri Western State University graduating in 1986 with a B.S. degree in Agriculture with an emphasis in Economics and Agronomy.

He grew up on a crop and livestock farm near Newtown in north Missouri. Today he operates a cow/calf and contract grazing operation with his father, Steve. Currently they run about 350 cows. They utilize Management-intensive Grazing and Holistic High Density Grazing to improve soil health, eliminate the need for most purchased fertilizer and limit hay needs to about one bale per cow per winter.

Doug's NRCS training coupled with his real world hands on experience make him a unique speaker that is relatable to both agency personnel and producers.

He has been married to his wife Diane for 22 years and they have three children.

Conference Agenda:

9:00 - 10:00 Registration

Doug Peterson
"The Building Blocks of Grassland Soil Health"

Forage Spokesperson Contest
A showcase of Michigan forage producers vying for the opportunity to represent Michigan at the 2016 AFGC Conference.

Betsy Dierberger, MI NRCS
"2014 Farm Bill and Forage Production"

Lunch

Michigan Forage Council Annual Meeting

Afternoon Concurrent Sessions:

Doug Peterson
"What Does Soil Health Have to Do with Livestock Production?"

Dr. Lisa Tiemann, MSU Soil Biologist
"Building Soil Fertility with Cover Crops in Forage-based Systems"

Dr. Jason Rowntree, MSU
"MSU Grass-fed Beef Research Update"

Jerry Lindquist, MSU Extension
"Forage Tissue Sampling Analysis"
Vendor Break

Dr. Ben & Denise Bartlett
"You, Livestock, Grass, & Soil... Working Together for Profitability"

Dr. Kim Cassida, MSU Forages
"What's New in Alfalfa Variety Management"

Bob Barrons, MI UP Dairy Producer
"If You Can Graze It Here, You Can Graze It Anywhere"

Phil Kaatz, MSU Extension
"Dairy Production in the Ukraine"

To register or pay online go to:

MSU Events Management

<http://events.anr.msu.edu/GLFGC2015/>

Early registration deadline:

Friday, March 6, 2015

Cut here

Registration Information:

MFC members: \$45 _____ Non-members: \$55 _____

Total \$ enclosed \$ _____

Pre-registration (deadline March 6, 2015) (covers speakers, lunch, and breaks)

At the door registration (9:00-10:00 AM) ADD \$10.00. (Lunch not guaranteed)

Your Name: _____ County: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Telephone number: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Special dietary needs? _____

Return this form and check made out to MSU to: Lapeer County MSU Extension, Attention: Tina House, 1800 Imlay City Rd., Lapeer, MI 48446 or email: housset@anr.msu.edu. Phone: 810-667-0341