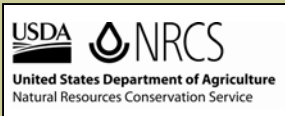


MARYLAND GRAZERS' NETWORK NEWS & NOTABLES

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS:



MD Grazers' Network Holds Spring Field Day

Come Learn about the FREE Grazing Resources Network Offered to Farmers

Grazing Field Day
Thursday April 22, 2010
(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Washington County
(Williamsport, MD)

Long DeLight Farm, 16136 Spielman Road, Williamsport, MD 21795, is an eighth generation Dairy Farm.

They have converted crop land to improved pasture and have moved to a pastured based dairy. They are not seasonal but calve in sort of two windows fall and spring. They recently put in manure storage (mainly for winter) for when the cows are not out on pasture due to winter or weather conditions.

The Field day will include funding



Photo by Jeff Semler

options available for pasture conversion, manure storage and other cost share opportunities for grazing systems. Lunch will be provided.

Please contact Jeff Semler at jsemler@umd.edu or 301-791-1304 if you would like to attend to ensure enough food and parking are provided.

Cost Share Programs – Sign-Up NOW!

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University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens without regard to race, color, gender, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital or parental status, or national origin.

Are you considering constructing a winter feeding area with a solar powered pump and cistern to feed a portable water trough? These are a few of the "new" practices available to assist Grazers through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program, better know as "EQIP," for 2010.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced that a total of \$6.7 million dollars will be available in financial assistance to Maryland farmers in 2010 through



Photo by Natural Resources Conservation Service

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2010 PASTURE WALK SCHEDULE

(FREDERICK & WASHINGTON COUNTIES)

APRIL 22

(10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)

LONG DELITE FARM

(Galen and Brooks Long)
16136 Spielman Road
Williamsport, MD

The Longs are the 2010 Maryland Young Farmer Achievement Award winners and they have 60 dairy cows.

This will also be a meeting of the Maryland Grazers Network so after the walk, participants are invited to stay around for lunch and discussion. (10:00 AM until 2:00 PM)

Directions: From I-81, take exit 1. Head east on MD Route 68 to first traffic light. Turn right onto Spielman Road (MD Route 63). Farm is second farm on left past railroad tracks.

MAY 13

(10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

ANDREW TOMS

3949 Urbana Pike
Frederick, MD

75 dairy cows. Grazing of small grains, new grass seedings.

Directions: From Frederick, go south on Market Street/MD 355. After crossing the Monocacy River, go about 1.5 miles to farm on left.

JUNE 10

(10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTRAL MARYLAND RESEARCH & EDUCATION CENTER (CMREC)

4240 Folly Quarter Road
Ellicott City, MD

This will be the second season of a grazing study with bred heifers.

Directions: From Frederick, travel east on I-70 to US 40 east Exit 82 toward Ellicott City. Go 1.1 miles and turn right onto Marriottsville Rd. Go 0.5 mi and turn left onto Frederick Rd/MD-144. Go 0.5 mile and turn right onto Folly Quarter Rd. Go 2.9 miles to farm on the right.

JULY 8

(10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

HOLTERHOLM FARMS

(Ron and Kathy Holter)
5903 Holter Road
Jefferson, MD.

100-cow seasonal, organic dairy. This is their 3rd year of feeding no grain, 2nd year of using nurse cows to raise calves, and they are experimenting this year with holistic high-density grazing.

Directions: From Jefferson, take Holter Road. Go two miles to farm on the right. From Middletown, go south on Route 17 to immediate left on Franklin Street/Holter Road. Go three miles to farm on the left.

AUGUST 12

(10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

GUY-DELL FARM

(Lance Guyton)
1802 Arnoldstown Road
Jefferson, MD

40 milk cows, 2nd year of grazing, new grass seedings, new fencing.

Directions: From Jefferson, go 0.8 miles west on MD 180. Turn right onto Broad Run Rd/MD 383 and go 2.4 miles. Turn right to stay on MD-383/Broad Run Rd. and go 1.8 miles. Stay straight to go onto Picnic Woods Rd and go 1.4 miles. Turn left onto Arnoldstown Rd. Go 0.3 miles to farm on the right.

Cost Share continued from page 1

EQIP. The goal of this program is to provide cost share assistance "to producers to install and maintain conservation practices that enhance soil, water, and related natural resources (including grazing lands, wetlands, and wildlife habitat) while sustaining production of food and fiber."

EQIP is an ideal funding source to help producers make changes and improve grazing land management systems, including fencing, water systems and pasture improvements. This program typically pays 75% of the costs incurred and, for beginning farmers, will pay up to 90% of these costs.

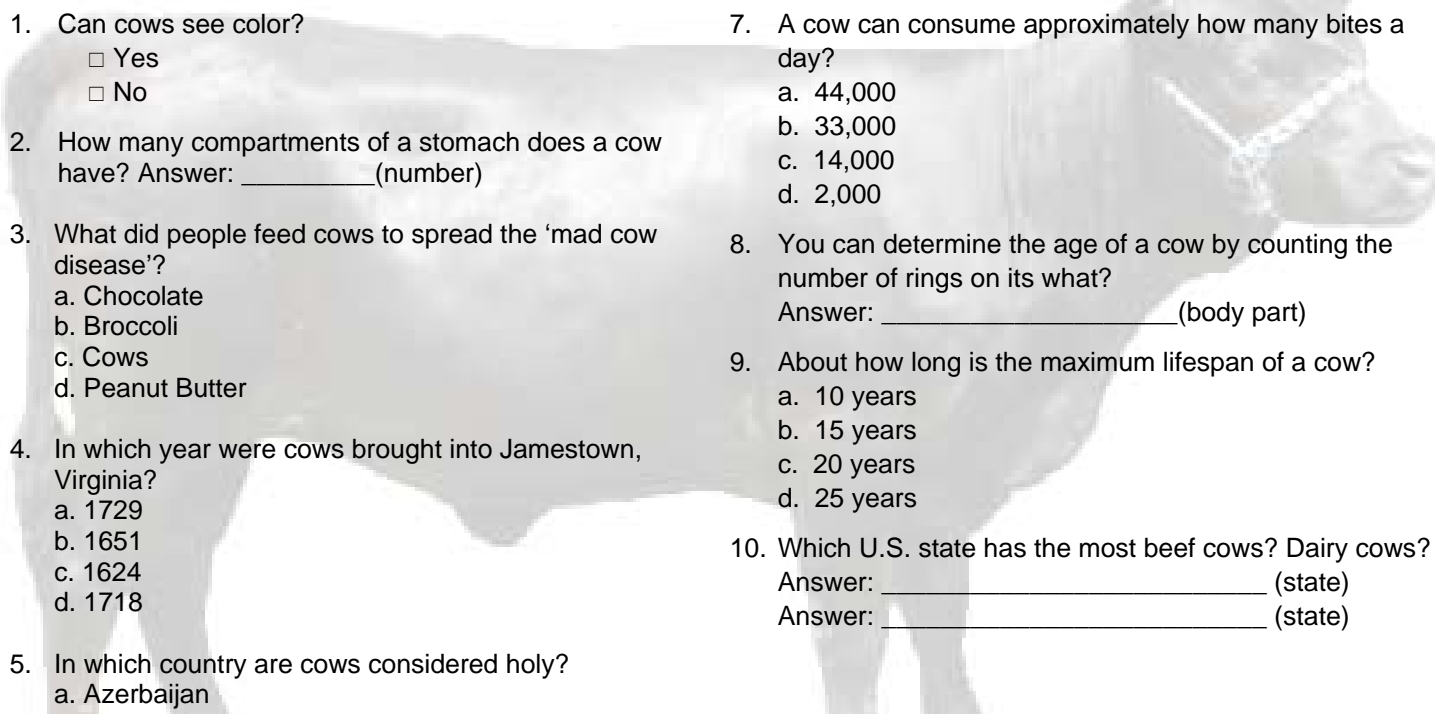
A beginning farmer is defined as a producer who "has not operated a farm or ranch for more than 10 consecutive years" and has filed a "schedule F" (which basically means having an income of \$1,000 or more through farming). The program also pays for pasture establishment or supplemental seeding as well as liming. The program takes an ecological approach by providing incentives for increasing soil organic content through the planting of cover crops and not harvesting, as well as providing pollinator plantings along field borders to increase pasture productivity.

Now is the time to meet with your local soil conservation district staff and sign up for these programs. For more information contact your local SCD or contact Rob Schnabel with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation at 443-482-2175 or rschnabel@cbf.org.

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Cow Quiz

Reprinted from The Journal - Spring 2010 Volume 5, No 1.
Purebred Dexter Cattle Association www.purebreddextercattle.org

- 
1. Can cows see color?
 Yes
 No
 2. How many compartments of a stomach does a cow have? Answer: _____(number)
 3. What did people feed cows to spread the 'mad cow disease'?
a. Chocolate
b. Broccoli
c. Cows
d. Peanut Butter
 4. In which year were cows brought into Jamestown, Virginia?
a. 1729
b. 1651
c. 1624
d. 1718
 5. In which country are cows considered holy?
a. Azerbaijan
b. India
c. Laos
d. China
 6. What is it in the cow-pie that gives it that distinctive odor?
a. Methane
b. Thiols
c. Oxygen
d. Carbon dioxide
 7. A cow can consume approximately how many bites a day?
a. 44,000
b. 33,000
c. 14,000
d. 2,000
 8. You can determine the age of a cow by counting the number of rings on its what?
Answer: _____(body part)
 9. About how long is the maximum lifespan of a cow?
a. 10 years
b. 15 years
c. 20 years
d. 25 years
 10. Which U.S. state has the most beef cows? Dairy cows?
Answer: _____(state)
Answer: _____(state)

Answers

1. Yes - Cows see color
2. Four (rumen, reticulum, omasum, abomasum)
3. (c) They were fellow cows!
4. (c) 1624
5. (b) India
6. (b) The sulfur (thiols) compounds in cow pies give them their smell.
7. (b) 33,000 bites
8. Horns
9. (d) 25 years
10. Texas has the most beef cattle
California has the most dairy cattle

2010 Pasture Walk Schedule continued from page 2

SEPTEMBER 9

(10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

LULL-LAND FARM

(Chad and Vivian McCuller)
10570 Fountain School Rd.
Union Bridge, MD

60 Holstein cows. This will be their first full year of grazing.

Directions: From Libertytown, go north on Rt. 31 0.7 miles, turn left onto Fountain School Rd. Go 3.2 miles to farm on left.

OCTOBER 14

(10:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

STONEY POINT FARM

(John and Julie Mayer)
12128 Taneytown Pike
Taneytown, MD

50 Jersey cows.

Directions: From Route 15, go east on Taneytown Pike (Route 140) four miles. Turn left onto farm lane. From Taneytown, go west on Taneytown Pike. After crossing the Monocacy River, go 0.2 mile to farm lane on the right.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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THE GRAZERS' NETWORK PROJECT TEAM

Michael Heller	Project Coordinator, Clagett Farm	301-627-4393
Elmer Dengler	Assistant Project Coordinator, USDA-NRCS	443-482-2922
Ned Sayre	Beef Grazer, Deer Creek Beef	410-808-7615
Rob Schnabel	Chesapeake Bay Foundation	443-482-2175
Dale Johnson	University of Maryland Extension	301-432-2767 ext. 325
Ginger Myers	University of Maryland Extension	301-432-2767 ext. 338
Les Vough	Forage Crops Specialist Emeritus	301-405-1322

RESOURCES ON THE WEB

60 Ways Farmers Can Protect Surface Water - #10 Protect the Soil with Rotational Grazing

http://www.thisland.illinois.edu/60ways/60ways_10.html

Pdf publication that is part of a larger land use and sustainable farming educational outreach effort underway in Illinois.

Watch the Videos

[Strategies for Sustainable
Agriculture - Rotational Grazing](#)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExbBtcj_2BU

[Fred Greers' Cow - Calf Rotational
Grazing Operation](#)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7BSB1N32-dw>

MEET THE GRAZERS' NETWORK MENTORS

Ron Holter - Dairy	301-371-4255
Bobby Prigel - Dairy	410-592-6014
David Greene - Sheep	410-329-6241
Bill Poffenberger - Beef	301-432-8783
Ryan Bapst - Beef	301-874-0258
Myron Martin - Dairy	301-432-2974
Ned Sayre - Beef	410-808-7615
Glenn Shirley - Dairy	410-346-6604
Robin Way - Poultry Multi-Species	410-658-9731

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