

The Monthly Feedstuff - Planning for winter forage

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Tue 11/14/2023 12:50 PM

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Equipping farmers to build resilient farms and communities.



Grazing resources for the winter ahead

As the sun stays lower on the horizon, and temperatures finally start to cool off from a summer of record highs, it finally feels like fall is here. With the days for forage growth numbered, it's time to be thinking about winter feed plans. The University of Wisconsin Extension published a [**fact sheet and guide to bale grazing**](#). The slow forage regrowth due to drought this year has led many to feed bales for much of the summer and fall. Keeping livestock on pasture and

continuing to feed hay in a strategic and optimized system can decrease costs while benefitting soil health and fertility.

For additional resources, check out [this article](#) from PFI on grazing stockpiled forage and [this past farminar](#) on winter grazing by **Steve Kenyon**.

PROGRAM UPDATES

Video: "Grazing Cover Crops on a Vegetable Farm"



[In a recent episode of our Practical Cover Croppers video series](#), we explore how **Carmen Black** at Sundog Farm, a vegetable-focused farm in Solon, Iowa, is integrating cover crops with small ruminants and poultry.

Learn how they've fine-tuned their systems to ensure both compliance with food safety regulations and timely planting of their valuable vegetable crops.

Blog post: "Grazing Rates: What Is a Fair Payment?"

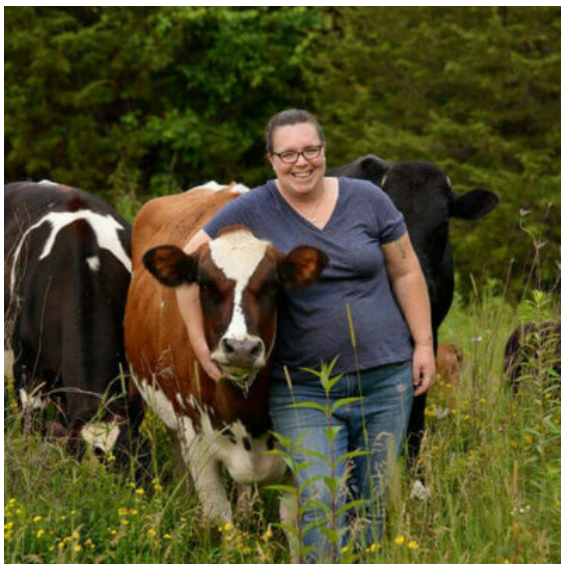


Contract grazing has many benefits: fostering rural community-building, creating opportunities for beginning farmers, reducing runoff and improving pastures over time.

With all this in mind, how can you go about creating an agreement and a rate that is mutually beneficial for both parties?

Learn what factors you should take into consideration when coming up with a fair rate for contract grazing on your land [on the blog](#).

Apply for PFI's Savings Incentive Program



Applications for the next **Savings Incentive Program** are now available!

Beginning farmers participating in this two-year program will receive help with creating a business plan and support for setting goals, plus have opportunities to learn from experienced farming mentors.

Participants will also invest savings into an account and are eligible to receive matching funds up to \$2,400. **Apply today.**

BEYOND THE GATE

Agroforestry Technical Service Provider available for consults



Are you interested in learning more about agroforestry and what it could look like in your livestock system?

Savanna Institute is now taking applications from Iowa landowners to continue putting 'the right tree, at the right place, at the right time' through agroforestry.

Learn more and sign up!

The Johnson County Food and Farm Grant program is now accepting applications



Applications are open for Johnson County's Community Food and Farm Grant! Applications are due Oct. 27.

Small food and farm businesses, nonprofits, and individuals who produce, process or distribute community-based food or enable these activities in Johnson County are eligible. [Learn more.](#)

New crop-livestock integration resources



Organic Farming Research Foundation has developed a [Crop-Livestock Integration series](#) based on interviews with highly experienced organic producers across the U.S. whose farms have benefited from integrated crop and livestock production.

The series includes four farmer stories, a video presentation and factsheets on key topics that include: The Benefits of Crop-Livestock Integration, Food Safety, Infrastructure, and Crop Rotations.

For more ideas on crop-livestock integration, check out [this PFI article exploring three tiers of integration.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friends of PFI events

All events listed in Central Time.

Oct. 19: Pasture Walk – [Managing Pasture and Feeding Strategies During Drought](#)

*Hosted by: Land Stewardship Project
Noon-1:30 p.m. | Lake City, MN*

Oct. 19: Pasture Walk – [Grazing Cover Crops at Bindl's Farm](#)

*Hosted by: Sauk County
5 p.m. | Spring Green, WI*

Oct. 23: Webinar – Making a Grazing Plan, and Mobile Technology for Business Management

Hosted by: The National Center for Appropriate Technology
10-11 a.m. | Online

Oct. 28: Webinar – From the Cell to the Rail: The science of meat quality and yield

Hosted by: Food Animal Concerns Trust
2 p.m. | Online

Oct. 26: Pasture Walk – Pasture walk with Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship

Hosted by: Sustainable Farming Association
11 a.m.-2 p.m. | La Crescent, MN

Nov. 1: Pasture Walk – Winter Grazing of Summer Annuals

Hosted by: Land Stewardship Project
1-2:30 p.m. | Dover, MN

[View our events calendar](#)

Contact our team

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