

Master Grazer Educational Program- 2012 Annual Report

Kentucky Grazing Schools

- 34 participants representing 26 KY counties and 3 Tennessee counties attended the spring grazing school held in Princeton, KY on April 10-11, 2012. Producers represented over 2,200 acres while industry representatives claimed to impact over 895, 840 acres.
- 51 participants representing 30 KY counties and 3 states attended the fall grazing school in Woodford County on August 11-12, 2012. Producers claimed to represent over 5,200 acres while industry representatives claimed to impact over 211,560 acres.
- When surveyed, all participants indicated that they planned to make changes to their farms or to promote new practices to improve their grazing systems and increase production and profitability as a result of attending the program.
- A spring Grazing School is planned for April 17-18, 2013 in Princeton, KY.



Dr. JD Green discusses weed control in pastures during the 2012 Advanced Grazing School.

Advanced Grazing School

- The first Advanced Grazing School was held on July 10, 2012 at the C. Oran Little Research Center in Versailles, KY. This one-day course was designed for those who had participated in a previous grazing program and was meant to be used as a refresher course and to go more in-depth on important forage and animal topics.
- 71 participants representing 4 states and over 30 KY counties attended this program. Many surveyed participants indicated intentions to make changes to their current forage and livestock operation as a result of the program. Common changes include improvements to water systems, use of summer annuals, stockpiling forages for winter feed, seeding novel endophyte infected tall fescue varieties, and improved techniques for weed control.



A group discusses ultra-high density grazing while walking through demonstration plots showing traditional grazing versus ultra-high density grazing.

Grazing Networks

- The Northern KY Network held a series of 5 pastures walks throughout the grazing season with an average of 25 producers attending. The series focused on the benefits of improved pastures.
- The Western KY Network held 3 successful pasture walks throughout the grazing season.
- The KY River Network started in 2012 with its first pasture walk at the beginning of the grazing season.

Grazing News Newsletter

- 11 issues of the monthly newsletter were published in 2012. This publication is distributed to all KY county agriculture and natural resource extension agents, over 130 individuals electronically, and mailed to 84 households.

Master Grazer Website (www2.ca.uky.edu/grazer)

- The Master Grazer website was designed and created in 2012. This site contains archives of all newsletter articles, the current newsletter, a sign-up to receive the newsletter electronically, informational video clips, upcoming events and programs, reports and accomplishments, links to other useful websites, and important contacts.

Master Grazer DVD Series

- The Master Grazer DVD 3-part series was completed and distributed to all county Agricultural agents.

