

Prescribed Grazing Inventory & Planning Sheet

1.) Name & Address:

Date: ____/____/____

2.) Property Description (Township, T-R, Sec.#, FSA Tract number):

Total Farm Ac. _____ Cropland Ac. _____ Woodland Ac. _____

Existing Structures (livestock buildings, corrals, pens, etc.) _____

Is a Pasturing System being used now? ____Y____N If so, what is used:

Continuous? Ac. _____ PG? Ac. _____ What plant height do you begin grazing? _____

Exit Height (stop grazing)? _____ Rest Period (Regrowth Interval in days) _____

Do you have any problems in your pastures? _____

3.) Prescribed Grazing Plan Worksheet Information:

Does the operator/manager understand and estimate the following now: (If not, show them the Michigan grazing stick)

Forage need or demand? ____Y ____N

Forage dry matter supply? ____Y ____N

The concepts of length of grazing time in a paddock (residency period) & paddock rest or recovery between grazing (regrowth interval)? ____Y____N

Calculate the number of paddocks needed? ____Y____N (If not use 528A Conservation Sheet)

Estimate the size (acres) needed for each paddock? ____Y____N

4.) Livestock to be Grazed:

Type _____ Breed _____ # of Head Now _____ Planned _____ Weight _____

Type _____ Breed _____ # of Head Now _____ Planned _____ Weight _____

Type _____ Breed _____ # of Head Now _____ Planned _____ Weight _____

5.) Farmer Objectives: (Check, underline or circle parts that apply)

- Increase grass-forage production/yield, quality, and diversity and grass-forage feeding with minimal effort and cost.**
- Reduce soil loss, gully erosion, improve overall soil health and condition.**
- Better distribute grazing throughout grazing season.**
- Provide land sustainability and lower cost of production.**
- Improve gains and/or production per acre per head.**
- Improve, protect, and/or control access to riparian areas.**
- Estimate, monitor, and/or record available pasture yield (forage dry matter) throughout the grazing season.**
- Use less hay and/or silage in the summer and/or winter.**
- Explore and/or incorporate an overwintering program.**
- Improve existing lanes or establish lanes.**
- Use and maintain a permanent fence & water system on existing and/or future pastures.**
- Reduce the farm labor and make farming easier.**
- Begin and maintain a natural grass and/or organic operation.**
- Supplemental feed will be used when needed to reach the maximum possible profit.**
- Feed a ____ cow dairy herd, milking year-round and its replacements with quality forage from pasture for the entire grass/forage-growing season.**
- Feed a seasonal milking ____ cow dairy herd and its replacements with quality forage from pasture for the entire grass/forage-growing season.**
- Supplemental feed will be used when necessary to achieve a _____ lb. of milk herd average and maintain the highest profit practicable.**
- Give the dairy herd more exercise, improve their feet and leg health, and reduce the herd's SCC.**
- Support as many head of a cow-calf beef operation as possible at the least cost.**
- Ensure optimum beef calf growth by applying an intensive rotational grazing system.**
- Ensure optimum beef stocker growth by with an intensive rotational grazing system.**

- Attain enough farm profit to hire some off farm labor.
 - To explore new marketing opportunities such as value added or direct marketing to increase profits.
 - Start another livestock operation.
 - To explore the next generation on this farm with the whole farm in grass.
 - Other:
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6.) Feed Management

Is a feed consultant used? ___Y___N Dairy - Is a TMR fed? ___Y___N What is being

fed? _____ Is a grain supplement used? ___Y___N

How much grain is fed per head per day? _____

7.) Livestock Management:

Do you AI? _____Y _____N

When do the bulls/rams run with the ewes/cows/heifers? _____

How many herds/flocks do you have? _____

When do you like to calve, lamb, or foal? _____ Wean? _____

Do you know your conception rate or is it a problem? _____

Do you keep animals for back-grounding/stockers, to slaughter wt.? _____

8.) Soils: Understanding of slope orientation? ___Y___N

Are their special soil problem sites like wetness or droughty areas? ___Y___N

Where? _____ Do you know what your soil types are? ___Y___N

Do you soil test? ___Y___N Do you lime and fertilize according to soil test levels? ___Y___N

When was the last time the soil was tested? _____ What is your overall pH level? _____.

Do you soil test for micro-nutrients ___Y___N; Do you apply commercial fertilizers?

___Y___N? If yes, what was the rate and time of year applications are made: _____

9.) Existing Vegetative Cover

Grasses:

_____ Bluegrass

_____ Fescue

_____ Festulolium

_____ Orchardgrass

_____ Annual or
Perennial
Ryegrass

_____ Quackgrass

_____ Reed Canary

_____ Smooth Brome

_____ Timothy

_____ Warm Season
(State type)

_____ Other

Clovers:

_____ Alsike

_____ Dutch/ White

_____ Ladino

_____ Sweet

_____ Red

_____ Other

Other legumes:

_____ Alfalfa

_____ Trefoil

Annuals or Other:

_____ Chicory

_____ Brassica

_____ Cereal Grains
Rye, Wheat, etc.

a.) Are you planning changes or additions in vegetative cover? ___Y___N If so, what?

10.) Paddock Layout and Design:

A.) Fencing: Electric-Is an earth return system used? ___Y___N If No, Why? _____

How many joules is the energizer rated at? _____ When was the fence last tested? _____

How many volts? _____ Do you have lightning protection installed? ___Y___N Using Non-electric?

___Y___N What type? Perimeter fence needed in feet _____

Semi permanent Interior fences needed in feet _____

Other fence features or temporary fence where special planning is needed _____

B.) Water System: Water source _____

Does the operator/manager think the water is safe for livestock? ___Y___N

What type of system (delivery) is currently being used? _____

How deep is the water in the well? _____ Waterline(Pipe) size _____ Flow rate(s) in

(GPM) _____ What are the common working water pressures? _____

Any planned changes? If so, what? _____

Does the operator/manager know the water pressures? ____Y ____N

Can the operator/manager estimate livestock water needs? ____Y ____N

Does the present water system consider nutrient distribution & management? ____Y ____N

C.) Are there any problems with pasture lanes or areas from where livestock maybe housed?

____Y ____N If so, what are they? _____

11.) Operation and Maintenance Review: (Check all that apply)

- Harvest excess grass-forage for future feeding.
- Stock will be moved when average forage height is 3 inches for cool season grass and legumes.
- Clip pastures as necessary.
- Seed will be added as needed by manager.
- Make available supplemental feed when considered necessary.
- Use a leader-follower grazing system.
- Adjust residency period, regrowth interval and paddock size as needed according to forage growth.
- Make available a planned sacrifice area for drought and excess water conditions.
- Woodlot is only available during critical weather periods if needed.
- Test soils, accumulated manure, plant tissues and correct major soil fertility and pH problems.
- Subdivide the pasture into as many paddocks as required to get the recovery periods needed.
- Stay patient. Allow the pasture ecosystem time to improve from the many years of non-grazing management or annual crops.
- Only flash graze stream banks.