

PLANTING IDEAS

February 2013
Volume 30, Issue 2

*A County Publication of the
Boone County Soil & Water Conservation District*



MANAGEMENT OF PASTURES AFTER DROUGHT

Kevin Monckton, SWCD Technician

After last year's drought, there are many questions which have arisen about pasture management. Many people are worried whether desirable plants have survived and should they reseed, interseed, or fertilize their pastures.

During the peak of the drought, we visited many farms throughout the drought assistance program area. The program addressed water availability, and we saw many ponds that were very low or dry. We also saw farms that had a lot of grass left and some that had already fed most of their hay supply.

The major difference that we observed between the farms that had grass and the ones that did not was the use of some type of pasture management. Not being overstocked was the major issue for pasture management in all cases. The second issue was having cross fences so there was pasture management that allowed plants to receive adequate rest periods. We saw pastures with minimal rotational systems all the way to the most intensive management systems. In all cases that we saw, managed systems had more grass than continuous grazing.

After the rain in the fall, the regrowth was tremendous on the grazing systems compared to continuous grazing. The reason for that was plants had a chance to grow to an adequate height during a rest period before they were eaten off. Some of the systems did have more grass than water because we never had enough rain to refill any ponds.

While the drought is fresh in our minds, this is the time to deal with the issues that we saw last summer. Many of the farms we looked at were noted for the same problems in 2007. Good quality water is very important for good livestock productivity, and good water distribution is just as important to make a grazing system work. As you work on water development, it is also the time to design and build a grazing system that includes a plan for water distribution and cross fencing. Reseeding or interseeding should also be considered but only if needed. Reseeding should only be a priority if there are a lot of bare areas. Interseeding is much easier to justify, but the pastures still must be managed to keep a stand and not be overgrazed.

If you are interested in pasture improvement after this dry spell, the workshop below will be a good place to get information and answer your questions about seeding and management after a drought.

SMALL GRAZING WORKSHOP

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

6:30 p.m.

Hallsville Community Center

Speaker: Mark Kennedy, NRCS State Grassland Conservationist

Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. with the speaker to follow.

Please call our office at 875-5540 ext. 3 by Friday, March 1st to RSVP.

2013 DISTRICT ELECTION NEWS

Boone County SWCD Open House & Election

March 12, 2013

We will be serving doughnuts, juice, and coffee from 7 to 11:00 a.m. and ham and beans/hotdogs from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Staff will be available to answer questions about federal and state programs and other technical assistance.

CANDIDATE PROFILES

Area 1 (Bourbon and Centralia Townships)

John Lorentzen III has lived in northern Boone County since 1979. John has a row-crop and cattle farming operation with his son, Zack, and his father, John Jr. (recently retired), in Boone, Randolph, and Audrain Counties. In the 30 years he has farmed, John has employed many conservation practices including waterways, terraces, and sediment retention structures to protect his own farms and rented ground. John is a graduate of Sturgeon High School and Moberly Junior College. John and his wife, Becky, have four children: Zack, Jake, Johnna, and Joe. John enjoys going to Centralia Young Farmer meetings and helping with the Lighted Christmas Parade. He also helps with the Sturgeon Beef Show and enjoys the 4-H and FFA programs. *"I'm willing to see that all farmers and cattlemen have the opportunity to save the land in conservation practices and programs, and I'm willing to help all of us save our most valuable resources."*

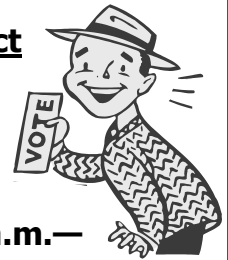
Darin Schnarre has lived in northern Boone County for 43 years. Darin, his wife, Christy, and their children, Brooke, Zach, and Blair, operate Schnarre Farms as a row-crop and cow/calf operation. Darin raises corn, soybeans, and wheat. He also has experience building and installing waterways and terraces. Darin has been the Missouri Farm Bureau Chairman of the Young Farmer Committee. Tractor pulling and collecting and restoring antique tractors are some of the things he does in his spare time. *"I am willing to serve as a Supervisor in order to preserve the resources that we have for future generations while maintaining and improving the value of the land."*

Area 3 (Rocky Fork and Columbia Townships)

Jeff DeShon and his wife, Glenda, have lived on their family farm in eastern Boone County for over 32 years. They have two married children and two grandchildren. Jeff is a graduate of the University of Missouri, College of Agriculture and is a Boone County Fair Board member. The farming operation consists of row crops, hay, and pastured meat goats utilizing Management Intensive Grazing. *Jeff believes that land-owners have a responsibility to protect and improve our soil and water resources for future generations by using good conservation practices.*

Write –In: Anyone interested in petitioning to be placed on the ballot from Area 3 should contact Cindy Bowne at 573-875-5540 ext. 3 by noon, February 25, 2013.

Soil & Water Conservation District Election



Tuesday
March 12, 2013
Polls Open 7:00 a.m.—
1:00 p.m.
USDA Service Center
Parkade Center, Ste. 213E
601 Bus. Loop 70W
Columbia, MO

Supervisors from Area 1 (Bourbon and Centralia Townships) and from Area 3 (Rocky Fork and Columbia Townships) will be elected to four-year terms. An eligible land representative of an SWCD (the owner, or representative authorized by power of attorney, of any farm (land that has been assigned an FSA farm number or land which has been assessed as agricultural land by the county assessor)) may vote in any SWCD supervisor election held within that particular SWCD. Only a land representative is eligible to cast a vote in SWCD supervisor elections. **If challenged, eligibility to vote must be demonstrated by the land representative.** Each farm shall be entitled to representation in SWCD supervisor elections, and a land representative shall be deemed as owning one farm and having one vote, regardless of the number of farms claimed by such person. A farm owned by a firm, LLC, or corporation may be represented by one vote cast by one land representative so authorized by the firm or corporation; a farm owned by a partnership or jointly by a husband and wife may be represented by two land representatives. A trust can be represented by its trustee or co-trustees. If it is impossible for the farm owner to personally appear, a Power of Attorney may be given to a taxpaying citizen of the county who may represent one owner.

**VOTE
MARCH 12th**





POND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Thursday, March 7, 2013

6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

MDC Central Regional Office

If you are interested in attending this free workshop, please call the MO Department of Conservation office at 573-815-7900.

PRESCRIBED BURN WORKSHOP

Saturday, March 9th

9 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Bradford Research Farm

Lunch will be provided. Call 815-7901 ext. 3483 by Wednesday, March 6th to register.



Calendar of Events

- March 5 SWCD Board Mtg., 12:30 p.m.
- March 5 Grazing Workshop, 6:30 p.m.
Hallsville Community Center
- March 7 Pond Workshop, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
MDC Central Regional Office
- March 9 Prescribed Burn Workshop
9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Bradford Research Farm
- March 12 Boone County SWCD and
Callahan Creek Watershed
Election/Open House
7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- March 19 Soil Health Workshop
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Luke Linnenbringer Farm
- March 20 Central Region Envirothon
Runge Nature Center
- April 2 SWCD Board Mtg., 12:30 p.m.
- May 7 SWCD Board Mtg., 9:00 a.m.

Don't forget to vote!
SWCD SUPERVISOR ELECTION
CALLAHAN WATERSHED TRUSTEE ELECTION
MARCH 12, 2013

FEBRUARY 2013 PLANTING IDEAS
Boone County Soil and Water Conservation District
Parkade Center, Suite 213E
601 Business Loop 70 West
Columbia, MO 65203
573-875-5540 ext. 3



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBIA, MO
PERMIT NO. 115



SOIL HEALTH WORKSHOP

TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH

8:30- 9:00 A.M. (registration) to 4:00 P.M.

LINNENBRINGER'S FARM

2950 STATE ROAD E

(Red barn located 1.5 miles east of Rt. DD on Rt. E west of Hatton)

SPEAKER: DOUG PETERSON, NRCS

Managing for soil health is one of the easiest and most effective ways for farmers to increase crop productivity and profitability while improving the environment.

RSVP by sending \$5.00 registration fee to: Callaway SWCD

4549 St. Rd. H

Fulton, MO 65251

573-592-1400 ext. 3

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

Registration deadline is March 12th but is open only to the first 50 participants.