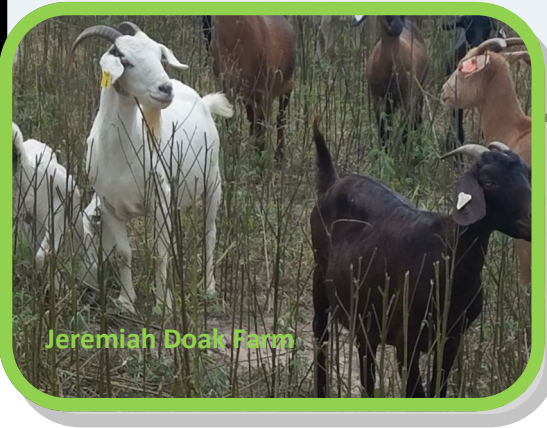


# Newsletter Summer 2017



## PARTNERS IN THE PASTURE FIELD DAY

**DATE:** TUES. EVE. SEPT. 26<sup>th</sup> 5:30 PM – Grilled Hamburgers & Fixings!! **RSVP by 9-19-17 to 723-8389. Rain or Shine. Shop on site.**

**LOCATION:** Jeremiah Doak's Farm on V. Hwy. From Crane go thru Galena on 176 another 4 mi. to V. Hwy on left. Go down V Hwy. 8/10mi. See a rd. sign on your right for a curve, just past that sign slow down & watch for our sign next to 4 mail boxes, turn right on chat road, go straight up hill thru the gate; there is a house on the right, go past. Come up to metal building.

**Stone Co. Soil & Water (723-8389) is hosting a fall field day. This educational outreach will highlight Jeremiah Doak's managed grazing system with multi- species grazing. With Focus on: Pasture Management, Live-stock Management, Weed & Brush Control.**

**Jeremiah Doak** - Jeremiah's multi-species grazing required him to install woven wire perimeter fence to hold in his herd in the areas he designated, while using 48" high tensile woven wire with 1 wire high tensile electric wire across the top. We divided approx. 155 ac. into the system ranging from 7 to 21 ac. in size to include a mix of open grass and wooded areas for both the goats and cattle. We provided cost share on the water well, 4600 ft. of buried pipeline, 6 permanent tanks and over 4700 ft. of cross fence.

**Robert Coffelt** – A landowner in Spokane who worked with the District in putting in a grazing system on part of his farm where he runs Corriente cattle, will be on hand to share a little about his operation. Robert did an excellent job as well putting in his system to turn it into a more manageable & productive system on this farm. There are approx. 100 ac. in this system with many more acres of woods that he excluded thru our woodland exclusion program. Cost share assisted with the well, 5,775 ft. pipeline & 5 tanks, all 7,180 ft. of interior cross fence and 8,200 ft. in total exclusion fence. Both operators participate in Pest and Nutrient Management Programs as well.

**Russ Vanskike** – RUSSHER INC. – Trenching Services out of Highlandville. Russ put in the water system at Jeremiah's farm & will be on hand to review the trenching process. (Russ has also been dabbling in Aquaponics if anyone is interested in visiting with him after on this)

**Tim Schnakenberg**, Agronomist with University of Mo. Extension will cover specifics of weed & brush control options for Stone Co. producers. How to deal with specific brush species and how to effectively make a herbicide spray pay and other non-spray options. (Both landowners have been controlling Serecia Lespedeza)

**Jennifer Lutes**, Ag Business Specialist based in McDonald Co. will address the economics of raising meat goats and discuss considerations for how to integrate goats into an existing beef operation. (Jeremiah too will share how he rotates his pastures using two species.)



### In This Issue:

Pg. 1– Stone Co. Field Day

Pg. 2– Land Owner Spotlight

Pg. 3– Weed Control

Pg. 4— Grazing Management

Pg. 5— 2017 Cost Share Program

Pg.6— Calendar

# Landowner Spotlight

In the spring of 2016 our District Technician Kevin Wray began working with Stone County landowner Robert Coffelt to design an efficient rotational grazing system on Robert and Ruth Coffelt's 300 acre farm in eastern Stone County. Both Robert and his wife had attended Grazing School in mid-September of 2015 with sincere interest in managing their farm in the best possible way; managing pastureland to prevent soil erosion and promote a healthy stand of grass increasing long term profitability. This goal goes right along with the managed grazing philosophy to "plant fence posts, then plant grass".

The system design on the Coffelt farm required installing a well, over 5700 feet buried pipeline, five permanent water facilities (tanks) and 7180 feet of electric cross fence to divide close to 100 acres of pasture land into 12 paddocks (fields) for the purpose of managing livestock grazing. Before installing the grazing system Robert took advantage of another Soil & Water District practice. Over 8200 feet of two wire electric fence was installed around all the forested area to exclude livestock from entering the steep woodlands. This Use Exclusion program is designed to protect soil and plant resources in the excluded area. Landowner's who have installed use exclusion fence have commented how they could keep a better eye on their herd especially during calving seasons, while keeping off the perimeter fence.

Robert had acquired some large equipment tires which he used to construct tire tanks for the livestock water facilities. He used quality brass float valves and successfully installed the five tire tanks to full operation.

By May of 2017 Robert and a hired hand or two had completed all the construction work themselves using Robert's own heavy equipment; and of course endured much sweat and many sore muscles. It must be said that there has not been a more cooperative landowner than Robert Coffelt as he always took time to take care of required paperwork and made every effort to complete all the work to standard and specs. We sure appreciate Robert for his diligence in meeting program deadlines, keeping record of items purchased and maintaining a great attitude as we worked together to accomplish his conservation goals. Our sincere thanks to Robert Coffelt for working with Soil & Water to put conservation on the ground; protecting and maintaining precious resources while enabling him to better manage and increase farm production.



# Brush Up On Weed Control

**Some weeds need sprayed or wiped as fall approaches!** Re-Printed with permission from Cattleman's News

Now that hay season is over, it's time to start thinking about getting pastures and hayfields into the best possible condition heading into fall. One management practice that should not be overlooked is weed control.

**Musk thistle** is a common weed that nearly everyone recognizes when it's in bloom this time of year. It's also the weed that extension specialists receive the most calls about, typically from individuals complaining that their neighbors are not doing anything to control the weed. Unfortunately, there's not a whole lot to be done about thistles when they are in bloom. Spraying at this time does not provide good control. Mowing might only spread the seed further. One option is to cut the flower heads off by hand and destroy them, but this is extremely time-consuming and inefficient. The best thing for this time of year is to hope that the musk thistle weevil is working on the plant. Musk thistle control is best achieved by spraying rosettes in the spring or fall.

Is **Johnson grass** a weed or isn't it? Early in the spring, when Johnson grass is young, it has a forage quality similar to that of tall fescue. As it matures, it becomes more of a problem. It is capable of accumulating high levels of nitrates on fields that have been heavily fertilized. In the fall, it can produce high levels of prussic acid when stressed due to freezing temperatures. It is also an aggressive spreader that can quickly take over large sections of pastures. Unfortunately, no selective herbicide options on cool-season grass pastures are available. Outrider is often mentioned as an option, but specific label restrictions exist regarding its use on certain forages. Glyphosate used as a spot spray or with a weed wiper is effective but has limited utility.

**Serecia lespedeza** is rapidly becoming a major problem throughout the region. A single plant has dozens of stems and each of those stems can produce up to 10,000 seeds, making a small problem this year a big problem in future years. Serecia lespedeza can be effectively controlled with herbicides at two specific times: when it 12 or more inches in height, usually in June, or when it is in the bud to flowering stages, typically in late August to early September. Serecia lespedeza should not be sprayed when the plant is under drought stress, as the herbicides will not be effective. Seed in the ground will make multiple years of spraying a necessity to achieving good control.

## Grass Works 12ft HD Weed Wiper

**Consider renting!!** This tool can help with all your weed elimination needs. The grass works weed wiper is a drift free implement that applies chemical directly to the plant at a height that you set. First come, first serve basis. Call, should you want to get rid of Johnson Grass, Ragweed, or Serecia Lespedeza without harming other plants.

Call: 417-612-0032 or 723-8389

Stop by: 108 Cortney Lane Ste. B, Crane

25 Gal. HD, STD 30/50 acres per tank

2" ball pull type, No drip, No drift

\$100 daily rental



**IF INTERESTED IN OWING YOUR OWN STONE CO. PLAT BOOK, SOIL & WATER IS LOOKING TO PUBLISH ONE. THE COMMISSION LAST PUT ONE OUT IN 2009 . EVEN THOUGH INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE NOW THRU INTEGRITY GIS—STONE CO., SOME STILL LIKE WHAT THE PLAT BOOKS OFFER. OFFERING AT LOW COST—APPROX. \$15-\$18 EA. GET YOUR NAME ON OUR LIST IF INTERESTED IN PURCHASING.**

# WHAT IF?

Printed with permission from BEEF MAGAZINE

Article: Burke Teichert ; consultant on strategic planning

**What if grazing** were managed to prevent overgrazing, reduce erosion and evaporation, increase water infiltration rates and soil moisture holding capability, improve distribution of livestock and uniformity of grazing, improve distribution of manure and urine, and allow plants to fully recover after each grazing period before being grazed again? More of the actual rainfall will become effective rainfall, thus resulting in more plant growth. Plants will be green during a greater portion of the year, meaning photosynthesis is doing its work longer. Roots will be getting deeper into the soil and thereby tapping into moisture and mineral reserves previously out of reach. Soils will tend to be covered; that, combined with living roots feeding soil microorganisms, will cause an increase in soil life. Organic matter will be increasing and your management will be building soil. These are just a few of the complex interactions in the soil that you can be improving.

**What if carrying capacity** were to double as a result of your grazing management? This may seem far-fetched, but I have seen a good number of examples of this happening. When you can do this, you have just bought another ranch for the price of fence and stock water development. One rancher has spent about \$50 per acre over a 20 year period for electric fencing materials (both permanent and portable) and stock water development. In the meantime, he has doubled his stocking rate in a location where land will cost at least \$500 per acre and probably more. Another rancher continues to develop water and fence and has doubled the normal carrying capacity for the area. He thinks he will add another 50%, which will be three times the original carrying capacity. His cost so far is about \$100 per acre in an area where land sells for over \$1,500 per acre.

**What if you** could cut overhead costs in half? The ranchers cited above added some overhead for fence and water, but all the other overheads, on a per cow basis, were cut in half because they didn't add people, facilities or equipment in the process.

**What if** you could graze year long? Most ranches in the U.S. spend several months each year feeding hay to their livestock. This is not necessary. Feeding hay is a very expensive way to feed cows. Good grazing with strategic supplementation and hay feeding only when absolutely necessary will get good, adapted cows through winter in good condition with significant cost saving. Any time you replace a day of feeding with a day of grazing, you have saved money. One of the grazers mentioned above feeds no hay. The other feeds very little—only in deep or crusted snow. There are good arguments for windrow or even bale grazing in certain situations. You will get more animal days per acre with windrow and bale grazing. The question you must answer is if the value of the additional days and additional quality of the feed will cover the machine cost.

## FARMERS ALMANAC

**AUGUST 2017:** temperature 74° (1° below avg.); precipitation 3" (2" below avg. north, 1" above south); **Aug. 1-4:** Showers, cool; **Aug 5-13:** Sunny, hot; **Aug 14-19:** T-storms, turning cool; **Aug 20-23:** Sunny, warm; **Aug 24-29:** T-storms, then sunny, cool; **Aug 30-31:** T-storms, warm.

**SEPTEMBER 2017:** temperature 69° (2° above avg.); precipitation 4.5" (1" above avg.); **Sep 1-7:** A few t-storms, warm; **Sep 8-12:** Sunny, hot; **Sep 13-16:** T-storms, then sunny, cool; **Sep 17-23:** T-storms, then sunny, cool; **Sep 24-30:** Scattered t-storms; warm, then cool.

## Southwest Research Field Day 2017

Saturday September 9th

9:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

Take a closer look at the Southwest Research Center, enjoy family-focused activities; including a pumpkin patch, grass maze, face painting, and learn from demonstrations given from agricultural experts!



# Cost Share Programs



Save Money While Improving Your Grazing System & Enhancing Forage Production

**\*\*Below is a system scenario. We will work with you to estimate and design your own system before implementation.\*\***

## DSP 3.1 System Water Development

**\$110 / acre Served maximum**

Example: Install Well to service 80 acres (average 500ft depth)

Maximum cost-share is  $80 \times \$110 = \$8,800$ .

Total system may include more acreage.

Water Well Components based on Average State Cost:

Well drilling \$8.00/ft. (500ft) Pressure Tank \$633.62

Well casing \$10.00/ft. (84ft) Well Misc. \$405.00

Submersible Pump \$2612.75 Well house \$750.00

Estimated State average cost of Well is \$9241.37

75% Cost-Share is \$6,931.02 (We are under the Max. of \$8,800. So you would receive the \$6931.02 for your well system.)

## DSP 3.2 Grazing System Water Distribution

**\$120 / acre Served Maximum**

Example: Water pipeline and tanks installed to service 80 acres.

Maximum cost-share is  $80 \times \$120 = \$9,600$ .

Total system may include more acreage

Water Distribution Components based on Average State Cost:

Trench and Backfill \$1.36 / foot

PVC 1 1/2' pipe & labor \$1.26 / foot

Freeze Proof Concrete Tank \$1139.34 /each

Freeze Proof Hydrant \$100.00 each

Example, Water Distribution: 3000 feet pipeline, 4 concrete tanks. ]Estimated cost: \$12,817.36 75% Cost-share is \$9,613.02 (You cap at \$9,600 in cost-share.)

*\*Your costs may vary depending upon labor, personal choice of vendors, and products.\**

## DSP 3.3: Fence

**\$70 / Acre Maximum**

Example: Hi-tensile electric fence installed per grazing system design on 80 acres pasture.

Maximum Cost-share is  $80 \times \$70 = \$5,600.00$

Fencing Components Average State Cost:

1 strand Hi-Tensile Wire \$0.70 / foot

Charger 10j \$265.00 ea.

Charger installation \$276.00 ea. (ground rods, parts, labor ,etc.)

Example: Install 6,500 feet of 1 strand Hi-Tensile cross-fence & 1 charger with ground system.

Estimated cost is \$5,091.00 75% cost-share = \$3,818.25

## DSP 3.4 One time Lime application

**\$50 / acre Maximum**

Available after completion of a Managed Grazing System.

Lime is applied per current soil test results.

Lime - Average State Cost: \$0.033 Cents per Pound

Example:

Lime 40 acres of pasture

Soil test recommendation 1000 lb. ENM / acre.

State avg. cost is .0357 cents per pound.

Estimated cost is: 40,000 lbs. ENM of lime X .0357 = \$1,320.00

75% cost-share = \$990.00 (\$24.75 per acre.)

## DSP 3.5 One time Inter-Seed

**\$40 / acre Maximum**

Available after completion of Managed Grazing System.

Landowner must bring Fertilizer needs up to Soil Test recommendations at their expense.

Inter-seed Legumes avg. cost= \$43.80 / acre

75% Cost-Share=\$32.85 / acre

# STONE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

108—B CORTNEY LANE  
 CRANE, MISSOURI 65633  
 PHONE: 417-723-8389

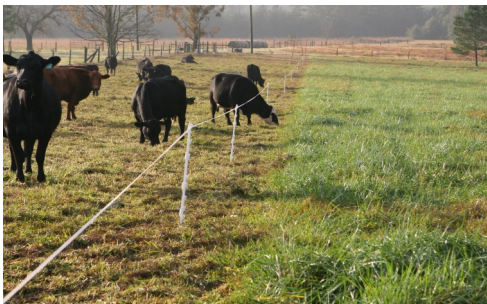
[www.swcd.mo.gov/stone](http://www.swcd.mo.gov/stone)

NONPROFIT  
 U.S. Postage  
 Crane, MO  
 Permit NO. 100

## Return service requested

Stone County SWCD and USDA are an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital or family status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



### What is a Management-Intensive Grazing System?

Also known as rotational grazing management. A system where grazing is managed for both the benefit of the livestock and forage. Livestock graze in each pasture long enough to harvest the forage, but removed before too much leaf area is consumed. A basic system may have four or five pastures, while a more management intensive system will have eight to ten. Funding is available, give us a call to start your planning.

## Upcoming Dates

|                            |                  |                                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Broiler Festival           | August 25—26     | Crane Park— Visit our Booth      |
| SWCD Field Day             | Sept. 26th       | Jeremiah Doak Farm; see Page 1   |
| Southwest Center Field Day | September 9      | Mount Vernon-Southwest Center    |
| Women in Ag Conference     | September 11– 13 | Old Kinderhook Resort, Camdenton |

## SW– MO. Regional Grazing Schools Schedule

|                |  |  |
|----------------|--|--|
| Marshfield, MO | September 19, 20, 21 (daytime)                                   | Webster County SWCD<br>417-468-4176<br>Jody.lawson@swcd.mo.gov |
| Stockton, MO   | October 3, 5, 10, 12 (evening)<br>October 14 Field day (daytime) | Cedar County SWCD<br>417-276-3388, ext. 3                      |
| Bois D'Ark, MO | October 18, 19, 20 (daytime)                                     | Greene County SWCD<br>417-831-5246 ext. 3                      |