



Grazing Resources

Looking for resources on grazing, nutrition, and soil health? Check out these ATTRA publications! They're available for download on the ATTRA website at www.attra.ncat.org, or by calling 800-346-9140.

Pasture, Rangeland, and Grazing Management

In a time of high-cost inputs, pasture-based livestock production systems can naturally maintain soil and plant integrity while growing healthy ruminants. This publication profiles the general types of pastures and rangelands and offers information about management and expected yields. Weed management strategies are also discussed and tips are offered to rehabilitate depleted land. Issues in grazing management, such as paddock development, plant selection, drought and plant toxicosis, are also discussed.

Building Healthy Pasture Soils

This publication, a supplement to ATTRA's Managed Grazing Tutorial lesson on Pasture Fertility, introduces properties of soil, discusses evaluation and monitoring of soil quality, and introduces grazing management principles and techniques that promote healthy soil.

Organic and Grass-finished Beef Cattle Production

Cattle producers recognize that grazing and pasture access can lower production costs, reduce animal stress, and boost the animal's immune system. This publication highlights the practices producers are using to provide customers with nutritious food from pasture- and rangeland-based farms and ranches.

Managed Grazing Tutorial

This tutorial features lessons taught by NCAT specialists who are also livestock producers. They share years of experience managing their own pastures to inspire you to start wherever you are and build or refine your own managed grazing systems. Detailed presentations and real-world examples will get you on the road to managed grazing. Find it online at attra.ncat.org/tutorials.



Photo: Robyn Metzger, NCAT

Grazing Calculator: Extended Cow Calf Pair

This calculator provides a simple and prompt means of analyzing your grazing program throughout the grazing season. It will make management decisions much easier and give you confidence that you are on track with your grazing plan.

Ruminant Nutrition for Graziers

Proper care of the land and its grazing animals requires a sound understanding of ruminant nutrition. This publication provides managers with tools to consider biological and climatological variables and make decisions that ensure the viability of a grass-based ruminant livestock operation.

No-Till Case Study, Brown's Ranch: Improving Soil Health Improves the Bottom Line

Attention to soil health through the use of no-till farming, diverse cover crops, and intensive rotational cattle grazing have allowed this North Dakota farm and ranch to become increasingly profitable. This publication relates details of a field tour with Gabe Brown, explaining his approach to soil management.

Assessing the Pasture Soil Resource

This technical note provides methods to determine biological activity of pasture soils and practical tips on improving the usefulness of typical soil and plant samples. Methods for using soil and plant samples strategically are also covered.

Integrating Livestock and Crops: Improving Soil, Solving Problems, Increasing Income

Incorporating livestock into a crop farm can benefit the soil organic matter and fertility, diversify the product base, provide new sources of income and farm resilience, and help with weed and pest control. This publication outlines some of the benefits and challenges of integrating livestock into a farm and offers tips and resources to ease the transition.

Nutrient Cycling in Pastures

This publication looks at the pathways and drivers that move nutrients into, out of, and within pasture systems. It provides a clear, holistic understanding of how nutrients cycle through pastures and what producers can do to enhance the processes to create productive, regenerative, and resilient farm and ranch systems.

Drought Resistant Soil

To minimize the impact of drought, soil needs to capture the rainwater that falls on it, store as much of that water as possible for future plant use, and allow for plant roots to penetrate and proliferate. Farmers can achieve these conditions through management of organic matter.

Soil Health Tutorial

This tutorial will give producers the tools they need to assess their soil health, understand the principles behind soil health management, and learn practices they can use to return soils to a healthy state. attra.ncat.org/tutorials

Beginning Farmer Business Planning; Marketing; and Sheep, Goat, and Poultry Resources

Are you a beginning farmer? Do you want to expand your markets? Do you want to add sheep, goats, or poultry to your operation? Visit attra.ncat.org/oasdf for information and worksheets that will help you set goals and develop a business and marketing plan.

Funded by USDA's Outreach and Assistance to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (OASDFR) program (Project # 2009-00705), part of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

ATTRA Grazing Planning Manual and Workbook

Use this manual to write your own grazing plan, monitor its efficacy, and adjust your management throughout the grazing season.

Pastures: Sustainable Management

Well-managed forage systems contribute significantly to the sustainability of a farm/ranch operation. This publication addresses numerous aspects of sustainable pasture integration, grazing rotation strategies, and management options. It covers grazing systems, pasture fertility, changes in the plant community through grazing, weed control, and pasture maintenance.

Videos and Webinars at attra.ncat.org/multimedia

- *Intensive Grazing: One Farm's Set-Up*
- *Soil Aggregate Stability: Visual Indicator of Soil Health*
- *Gabe Brown: Farming in Nature's Image*

- Friendly staff, knowledgeable about livestock, horticulture, agronomy, organic farming, marketing, farm energy, and other sustainable agriculture topics.
- Visit our website, mail a request to the address at right, or call today for publications, technical assistance, and customized research.
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