

Ohio Forage and Grassland Council

WINTER 2013

President's Article

About OFGC:

We represent a collective voice for issues affecting forage-animal agriculture.

We develop present and future leaders in the forage industry.

We encourage research, education, and service efforts to improve forage production, utilization, and marketing.

OFGC strives to provide a forum or means for the exchange of ideas, problems/opportunities, and solutions in forage-animal agriculture.

Our Mission:

The Ohio Forage and Grasslands Council, Inc. exists to enhance the profitability of Ohio farmers through the use of forage and grasslands resources, and to facilitate the opportunity for collective interaction between producers and other forage workers, both public and private.

As 2013 comes to a close I hope this newsletter finds you well. The board has been able to put in place some of the items that were mentioned in the previous newsletter. American Forage and Grasslands office is now assembling this newsletter and mailing it out for us. Membership renewals will come from the American Forage and Grasslands Office. Ohio Forage and Grasslands new web site (<http://www.afgc.org/affiliate/ohio.php>) is up and running and can be linked to from the AFGC's web site

(<http://www.afgc.org/>).

Also, you can register for the upcoming annual meeting on line at our new website.

The annual meeting is February 14th, 2014 in the Louis Bromfield Building located at the Ohio Department of Agriculture complex in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Mark your calendars. We think that we have a good line up of speakers and it will be well worth your time to attend.

In my twenty-five years of grazing dairy cattle I have seen a tremendous

amount of change. Today, more research is done on all types of forage crops. Never before, have we as livestock farmers and forage producers had such a selection of highly digestible forage crops to choose from. I believe that is because of the commitment of all of us to produce a quality product for our consumers.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Eric Grim
OFGC President

OFGC Annual Meeting

Submitted by: Gary Wilson, OFGC Board Member

The 2014 Annual Meeting of the Ohio Forage and Grassland Council (OFGC) is scheduled for February 14 at the Ohio Department of Agriculture located at 8995 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Registration and refreshments begin at 8:30 am with the program starting at 9:00 am. The keynote speaker for this year's program is Laura Paine, a Grazing and Organic Specialist with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture. Her two topics are entitled: Managing Pastures for Certified Organic Production and Managing Grazing to Benefit Stream Habitats.

Other speakers on the program include: Dr. Mark Sulc, OSU Forage Specialist, providing a Forage Research Update; Dr. Dave Barker, OSU Forage Specialist on Pasture Management; Chris Penrose, OSU Extension Ag Educator, speaking on Profitable Forage Utilization; and four producers to speak who are: Roger High on Sheep, Chris Hamn on Dairy, Phil Altsetter on Beef, and Austin Wipple on Commercial Hay Production.

There will also be a short business for OFGC and several Forage related Industry Awards presented.

Registration cost is \$30 for OFGC members and \$50 for non-members and is due Feb. 1, 2014. Registration can be done online at:

http://afgc.associationsonline.com/site_event_detail.cfm?pk_association_event=7971.

A registration flyer will be sent to all members and any questions can be directed to Gary Wilson at 419-348-3500.

OFGC Board of Directors

2013-2014 Officers:

President- Eric Grim

Vice President- Gene Debruin

Secretary/ Treasurer-Bob Hendershot

Past President- Perry Clutts

2013-2014 Directors:

Roger Baker

Philip Bauer

Jeff Bielek

Perry Clutts

Gene Debruin

Andy Fadorsen

Dan Fullenkamp

Eric Grim

Daryl Guggenbiller

Bob Hendershot

Val Jorgensen

Gary Wilson

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AFGC 2014 Annual Conference

January 12-14, 2014 in Memphis, TN. More information online at www.afgc.org.

North Central Ohio Dairy Grazing Conference January 23 and 24, 2014

North Central Ohio Dairy Grazing Conference will be January 23 and 24, 2014 at the Buckeye Event Center in Dalton, Ohio. Mervin Hershberger, dairy grazier from Winesburg, Ohio, will talk about "Walnut Acres Farm". Other speakers will be Doug Gunnink from Gunnink Forage Institute out of Minnesota, Pennsylvanian veterinarian Hue Karreman and Dr. Geoff Brink, agronomist, with US Dairy Forage Research Center in Madison, Wisconsin. Anthony Steffen and David Yutzy are Ohio dairy graziers who will share their farming experiences. A panel of veteran dairy graziers will give advice on "Troubleshooting Farm Issues". The young farmer panel will feature 4 dairy graziers sharing their experiences. Breakout sessions will be on crop rotation, soils, forages, mastitis and other dairy health issues. This two day program is full of information and opportunity to network with dairy graziers across Ohio and the Midwest as well as vendor show. The cost for the conference is \$55 for the two days. Registrations are due by January 16, 2014. For a brochure or more information, contact Leah Miller at Small Farm Institute, P.O. Box 214, Millersburg, OH 44654 or email leah@smallfarminstitute.org.

OFGC 2014 Annual Conference

February 14, 2014
Ohio Department of Agriculture in
Reynoldsburg, Ohio



Membership & Finance

Bob Hendershot (Chair)

Roger Baker

Val Jorgensen

Annual Meeting:

Gary Wilson (Chair)

Mark Sulc

Dan Fullenkamp

Jeff Bielek

OSU Horticulture and Crop Sciences Council Repre- sentative:

Rep.-Gene Debruin

Awards & Nominations

Dan Fullenkamp (Chair)

Perry Clutts

Val Jorgensen

Daryl Guggenbiller

Nominating Committee:

Philip Bauer (Chair)

Gary Wilson

Gene Debruin

Educational Activities & Meetings

Perry Clutts (Chair)

Gary Wilson

Mark Sulc

Bob Hendershot

Gene Debruin

Special Committees:

Essay Contest Judges:

Eric Grim (Chair)

Dan Fullenkamp

Roger Baker

Val Jorgensen

Executive Committee:

President- Eric Grim

Vice President- Gene Debruin

Secretary/ Treasurer-Bob Hendershot

Past President- Perry Clutts

Director- Val Jorgensen

Director- Dan Fullenkamp

NRCS State Technical Com- mittee Representative:

Rep.-Rick Leslie

1st Alternate-Dan Fullenkamp

Ohio Forage and Grassland Council Awards

Jack Tucker Distinguished Service Award

1997- No record
 1998- No record
 1999 Ed Voburn Barbara Brachman
 2000 Ed Volburn
 2001- No record
 2002 Jack Tucker (posthumously)
 2003 Louise Warner
 2004 Dr. David Zartman
 2005 Bob Hendershot
 2006 Tom Noyes
 2007 John Daniel Schlachbach
 2008 Gary Wilson
 2009 no record
 2010 Mark Sulc
 2011 Jeff McCutchen
 2012 Gary Wilson
 2013 Leah Miller

Outstanding Producer

No record
 No record
 Bob Evans
 Earl McKarns
 No record
 Keith Snoddy
 Andy Fadorsen
 Tom Noyes
 Alan Kozak
 Gene DeBruin
 Bob Clapper
 Bob Hendershot
 no record
 Scott Stoller
 Perry Clutts
 Gene DeBruin

Bob Evans Award

Earl McKarns
 Dr. David Zartman
 Bob Hendershot
 Eric Grim
 David Kline

OFGC ANNUAL CONFERENCE PRESENTER

Laura Paine - Managing Pastures for Certified Organic Production and Managing Grazing to Benefit Stream Habitats

Laura Paine is Grazing & Organic Agriculture Specialist for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Since 2006, she has provided production and marketing research and education focused on developing and marketing organic and grass-fed products. Prior to that, she conducted on-farm grazing research for the University of Wisconsin and served as county Extension Agent in Columbia County. She and her husband raise grass-fed beef on their farm near Columbus, Wisconsin.

Introducing....

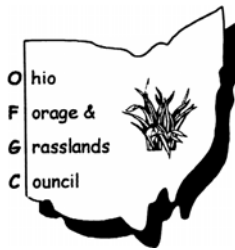
Troyce Barnett - Grazing/Grassland Conservatism Specialist, NRCS "Conservationist at Heart, Agriculturalist by Choice"

Troyce Barnett serves as the State Grazing/Grassland Specialist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Ohio where he provides conservation leadership in the development of conservation grazing plans and education at Ohio's many Grazing Schools and Pasture Walks. Troyce has introduced a new endophyte fungus friendly fescue, increased legumes, integrated Warm Season Native Grasses with many forage varieties that "Enhance Soil Health" and extend the grazing season.

Born in Wichita, Kansas, Troyce was raised on a sustainable ranch in the Ozark Mountains. Troyce followed his passion for Agriculture Sciences by attending North Arkansas Community College and Arkansas State University, where he earned an Associate Degree in Biological Science, Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Agriculture, and a specialization in Agriculture Leadership. Troyce earned placement in the "Who's Who from Colleges and Universities in Agriculture Science," as well as other honors upon graduating from college.

Troyce began his career as an Agriculture Science teacher in Arkansas Secondary Schools. Troyce's students won many Agriculture Awards in FFA and Troyce earned recognition as an outstanding member by the Agriculture Professional Teacher Association. Troyce continued teaching people about forage and livestock production when he accepted a position with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service. Troyce developed expanded rotational grazing systems by designing and demonstrating high tension elect-fencing and "GiM" Grazing intensive Management to achieve a "300 Day Grazing System." He was the first to introduce high tension elect-fencing and stockpile fescue in Northern Arkansas and introduced cool season annuals in warm season forages to extend the grazing season. Many ranchers that adopted these good grazing conservation practices were able to achieve year round grazing. The Cooperative Extension Service recognized Troyce's efforts nationally by selecting him as an "Outstanding Extension Agent." Troyce took a position as a conservation specialist with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service in Arkansas where he worked closely with Conservation Districts and producers to expand the "300 Day Grazing System" to a "Year Round Grazing System." By introducing Native Warm Season Grasses in a rotational grazing system he helped producers improve soil health. Troyce continues to serve as a grazing conservation leader by improving grazing intensive management "GiM" for expanded adoption, assisting with the development of new Bermudagrass varieties, and introducing new fungus friendly fescues, warm and cool season annuals, and legumes varieties. He believes that through thoughtful management, soil health will improve, leading to greater forage production.





OFGC
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