

**DAIRY FARM
MANAGEMENT
BASICS**

A Farm Management Course by
Glenn A. Shirk
Penn State Extension Agent
Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Grazing Considerations - Article 18

Grazing is one of many farming options, and pastures are another source of feed that deserve your consideration. There are many systems of grazing and many ways of feeding and managing cattle on pasture. Explore the advantages and disadvantages, and the economics of the various systems.

1. Some advantages:

- Less start-up capital is needed for machinery, equipment, storage facilities, etc. However, it is hard to "save" start-up capital that has already been invested in non-salable assets such as poured concrete silos, etc. Some capital investments can be partially recovered by selling assets no longer needed, such as machinery and equipment.
- Well-managed pastures are very productive, and a source of good quality feed.
- Purchased feed costs can be reduced.
- Herd health can improve, but under poor management, it can deteriorate.
- Soil conservation is improved.
- Cropping costs are reduced.
- Peak labor demands during the traditional planting and harvesting seasons is reduced.

2. Some disadvantages:

Dairy Production

(Continued from Page A1)

Extension agent Stanley Fultz of Maryland Cooperative Extension will lead a panel discussion on grazing and its effects on farmland in the Mid-Atlantic region. Leading suppliers to the dairy industry will be on hand to present new technology to industry participants.

Registration for the MDIA Annual Meeting opens at 8:30

a.m. on Nov. 10, with meeting and program events scheduled from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. Luncheon will be served. All events take place at Hagerstown's Four Points Hotel.

Details of the program are available from MDIA headquarters at MDIA, Suite 1100, 1629 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, (202) 293-0476.

We Just Call Him The Hawg.



MADE IN GERMANY

reg. value \$5696⁰⁰
now \$4250⁰⁰

According to many, it's the best hot water pressure washer in the world.

- 2250 psi @ 4.5 gpm
- Maximum water temp 285°F
- Water cooled motor
- Automatic shut-off
- Steam stage
- Low fuel shut-off
- Built-in scale inhibitor
- 90% efficient fuel burner
- Single piece powder coated frame
- Direct-drive integrated motor/pump

Buy before December 15, 1998 and get these Bonus items

- ✓ Pivoting hose reel and mounting kit
- ✓ Dirtblaster (increases impact pressure by 10X)
- ✓ Karcher "The Hawg" Melton/Leather Jacket

Kochel Equipment Co.

3030 Ridge Rd. (Rt. 23), Elverson, PA 19520

(610) 286-5519 1-800-922-9680 Fax (610) 286-2162

www.kochelequipment.com



"Get this Great Jacket as a Bonus!"



- Managing pastures intensively for maximum profit requires intense management. You must manage pastures for yield, for feed quality, and for stand persistency.
- It takes about three years for pastures to develop a dense, productive sod. In the mean time, yields can be less than optimum and feed supplies may have to be supplemented with additional purchased feeds, or herd size reduced to match the amount of feed that is available.
- Managing pastured cows for good levels of milk production requires more, not less, management. It can be more challenging than managing high producing herds in confinement. The availability and quality of feed available from pastures need to be checked frequently so modifications can be made to current feeding programs, and so pasture paddocks and feeding programs can be managed to meet the herd's future needs. Lush pastures contain a lot of soluble protein, and they are low in fiber. Adding more fiber and soluble carbohydrates to the ration is beneficial. When cows are getting most of their forage needs from pasture, it becomes difficult to feed ensiled feeds fast enough to keep ahead of spoilage, especially with small herds.
- Water needs to be supplied to all pasture areas.
- Fences need to be kept in good repair and moved almost on a daily basis
- When pastures slow down in hot dry periods, more stored feeds are needed
- Provisions need to be made to harvest excess pasture growth. Because these plots are smaller and because they mature at different times, it becomes more difficult to plan hay harvesting schedules, and the hay harvesting schedules will also affect when these plots will be ready to graze in the future.

Trust Sponsors 8th Annual Harvest Fest

YORK (York Co.) — The Farm and Natural Lands Trust of York County will sponsor its 8th annual Harvest Fest at Brown's Orchard Farm Market in Loganville on Oct. 24 - 25. Hours of operation are from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

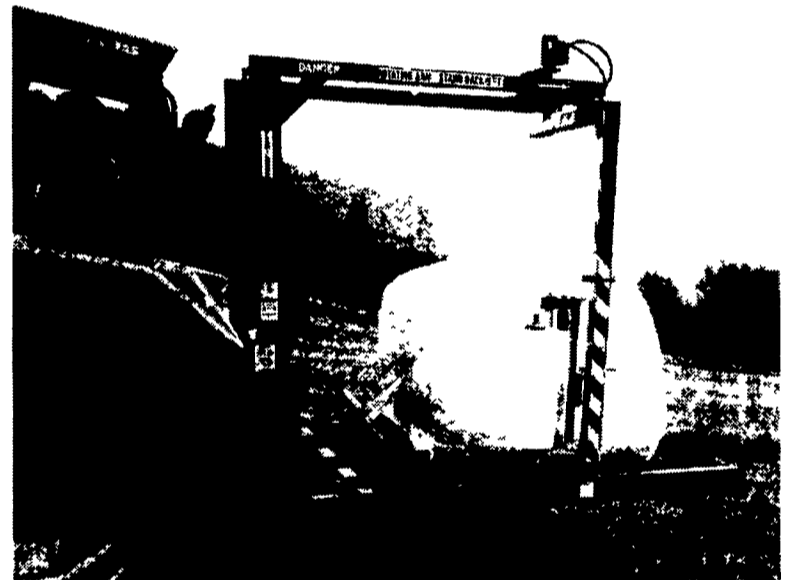
The fest features games for the kids, great food, and entertainment. Pennyroyal and Coyle School of Irish Dance will be the featured performers on Saturday from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. A Tai Chi demonstration will follow.

Sunday features the Modern Icons at 1 p.m. A magician will also perform at noon and 3 p.m.

Kicking off this year's Harvest Fest on Saturday will be the 5K Country Run at 10 a.m. The Fun Run for kids begins at 10:30 a.m. All participants will receive T-shirts provided by C. S. Davidson, Inc. and awards.

This year will feature hot air balloon rides, weather permitting. Also new this year will be moon walks for the kids and craft demonstrations and participatory projects for the children.

FARMLUND, INC. ROUND BALE WRAPPER



LOAD-WRAP-TRANSPORT-UNLOAD
ONE MAN OPERATION

Wholesale Distributor

HAMILTON EQUIPMENT, Inc.

567 South Reading Road, Ephrata, Pa 17522

717-733-7951

AUTHORIZED DEALERS

PENNSYLVANIA

Berwick - C.H. Rinehimer & Sons.....	717-752-7131
Canton - Hess Farm Equipment.....	717-673-5143
Eighty Four - Field's Implement Store.....	724-222-1154
Halifax - Tobias Equipment Co.....	717-362-3132
Honesdale - Marshall Machinery.....	717-729-7117
Kittanning - W.C. Crytze Equipment.....	724-543-2441
Lebanon - Umberger's of Fontana.....	717-867-5161
Leola - M.M. Weaver & Son.....	717-656-2321
Montrose - Markovitch Brothers.....	717-278-3637
Mt. Pleasant Mills - Kauffman Farm Supply.....	717-539-4571
Quarryville - Grumelli Farm Service.....	717-786-7318
Richland - Lebanon Valley Implement.....	717-866-7518
Tamaqua - Charles S. Snyder, Inc.....	717-386-5945
Watsontown - Rovendale Ag & Barn Supply.....	717-538-9564

DELAWARE

Clayton - Clements Supply Co.....	302-653-8536
-----------------------------------	--------------

MARYLAND

Easton - Elliott Equipment & Hdw.....	410-822-8866
Mt. Lake Park - Arnold Brothers Equipment	301-334-9605

VIRGINIA

Christiansburg - S.G. Wimmer & Son.....	540-382-3521
Harrisonburg - Dayton Equipment.....	540-434-5341
Staunton - Augusta Equipment Co.....	540-885-8107

WEST VIRGINIA

Lewisburg - Greenbrier Tractor Sales.....	304-645-1711
Union - Wilson Farm Equipment.....	304-772-5110