



# AGS

ADVANCED  
GRAZING SYSTEMS

---

RESOURCES

# RESOURCES

## MODULE 2

### CONCEPTS

## English Resources (le Français suit)

### National

#### [Success with ALUS Enhanced Grazing Projects](#)

Enhanced grazing with ALUS is a suite of management tools used to catalyze accelerated grass growth and ultimately build rich, healthy soils that sequester carbon and provide many other ecological and agricultural benefits. Adaptive Multi-Paddock (AMP) Grazing is one tool to achieve these enhanced grazing outcomes.

#### [Grazing management](#)

Effective grazing management on pastures not only ensures high forage yield, sustainability, animal health and productivity, all of which impact cost of production, it also benefits the pasture ecosystem. Innovations in pasture management give producers greater control to support the environment (e.g. biodiversity) but also allow them to better use pasture resources for food production.

### Mountain

#### [BC Farm Practices and Climate Change; management-intensive Grazing](#)

MiG integrates grazing management parameters, including stocking density, stocking rate, stocking period, and rest period, into operational planning and application. Like holistic management—another adaptive grazing management approach—it considers the entire resource base of a farm or ranch, including the human, socio-cultural and economic dimensions, and is based on ecosystem building blocks like the water and nutrient cycles.

#### [Increased Forage by Intensively Managed Controlled Grazing of Logged Lands](#)

Controlled grazing can be done in many ways, but no matter how intensive the management plan, there are three key components which the rancher has to manage for. The first is watering: how will the livestock be watered? will it be brought to them? or do they need an alley way to access it? The answers to these questions will often determine the layout of your pastures. The second consideration is fencing: electric versus barbed wire, and temporary versus stationary fencing. The final issue to address is stocking density: that is to say what intensity of grazing and management are appropriate for your ranch?

#### [A different form of R&R; Giving the range meaningful rest and recovery after grazing](#)

##### [Rest/recovery](#)

One of the four principles of range management 1. Rangelands can be safely grazed outside the conventional grazing times.

### [Grazing frequency and utilization](#)

When developing a grazing management plan you will have to consider both grazing frequency and utilization of every pasture in your grazing rotation. This factsheet will attempt to answer some questions that you may have as well as guide you through the process of making these decisions.

### [Seasonal Considerations for grazing management](#)

When developing a grazing management plan, determining what season you should graze your pastures is typically the first question that must be answered. Before making this determination numerous factors must be considered.

### [Improving Livestock Distribution](#)

Poor livestock distribution is one of the major causes of unhealthy rangelands and may also reduce the production potential of your herd.

### [Chapter 4: Grazing management \(in Advanced Forage Management\)](#)

Book chapter that describes: pasture growth, animal health, herbage intake, intensive grazing, rotational grazing principles, tips.

### [Using Management Intensive Grazing for Adapting to and Mitigating Climate Change](#)

Total carbon was found to be 28% greater under intensive management and organic carbon averaged 13% greater when compared to extensive management.

### [Improving Livestock Distribution](#)

Poor livestock distribution is one of the major causes of unhealthy rangelands and may also reduce the production potential of your herd. Livestock distribution refers to the dispersion of grazing animals over an entire pasture. Ideal grazing distribution, while often impractical, occurs when proper utilization extends uniformly over the entire pasture.

### [Grazing frequency and utilization](#)

When developing a grazing management plan you will have to consider both grazing frequency and utilization of every pasture in your grazing rotation. This factsheet will attempt to answer some questions that you may have as well as guide you through the process of making these decisions.

### [Seasonal Considerations for grazing management](#)

When developing a grazing management plan, determining what season you should graze your pastures is typically the first question that must be answered.

### Improving Livestock Distribution

Poor livestock distribution is one of the major causes of unhealthy rangelands and may also reduce the production potential of your herd.

### Chapter 4: Grazing management (in Advanced Forage Management)

Book chapter that describes: pasture growth, animal health, herbage intake, intensive grazing, rotational grazing principles, tips.

### Using Management Intensive Grazing for Adapting to and Mitigating Climate Change

Total carbon was found to be 28% greater under intensive management and organic carbon averaged 13% greater when compared to extensive management.

### Improving Livestock Distribution

Poor livestock distribution is one of the major causes of unhealthy rangelands and may also reduce the production potential of your herd. Livestock distribution refers to the dispersion of grazing animals over an entire pasture. Ideal grazing distribution, while often impractical, occurs when proper utilization extends uniformly over the entire pasture.

### Grazing frequency and utilization

When developing a grazing management plan you will have to consider both grazing frequency and utilization of every pasture in your grazing rotation. This factsheet will attempt to answer some questions that you may have as well as guide you through the process of making these decisions.

### Seasonal Considerations for grazing management

When developing a grazing management plan, determining what season you should graze your pastures is typically the first question that must be answered.

## **Prairie**

### [Spring Grazing](#)

Brief intro to concepts in rotational grazing.

### [Biggest Mistake in Grazing Management](#)

Overgrazing is most common mistake: take half, leave half.

### [Is It Time to Start Grazing?](#)

Manitoba Agriculture made a video to describe when grasses have grown enough to begin grazing in the spring - shows the 3 leaf stage. Video is 3 minutes long.

### [AMP Grazing — University of Alberta Study Results March 4, 2021](#)

Researchers from the University of Alberta discuss the results of their Adaptive Multi-Paddock Grazing study.

### [2021 Fall Speaker Series #2 Regenerative Agriculture with Steve Kenyon](#)

Ontario Sheep webinar about soil health, drought planning, regenerative agriculture, grazing management.

### [Beef School: Grazing Management](#)

Jonathan Bouw of Edie Creek Angus near Anola, Manitoba discusses their approach to grazing and perennial pasture management.

### [Jim Gerrish – Year Round Grazing](#)

Event hosted by PCBFA, video with touches on Feed costs, Year-round grazing fundamentals, Grazing Days, New Zealand Grass Based Production, Stocking rates for cow-calf year round grazing, Peace Country Context.

### [Drought Management Strategies](#)

Recurring drought is a natural part of the climate in many areas of Canada and creates a challenge when managing grazing and forage resources. Although droughts are often unpredictable, they are inevitable in many regions, so long-term farm and ranch management must include planning for and consideration of how drought will affect the entire system – including plants, livestock and water sources.

### [Grazing management Adjustments for Healthy Rangelands](#)

You can help sustain the productivity and health of your rangeland by balancing forage production with animal unit size.

### [Setting Stocking Rates for Pastures](#)

Stocking rates are expressed as the number of Animal Unit Months (AUM) supplied by one acre of pasture for one year. An animal unit (AU) is defined as one mature 1000 lb. cow with or without a calf.

### [Rotational Grazing](#)

Rotational grazing is designed to obtain the best economic return per acre through grazing while managing the land for the future. The pasture is divided into cells or paddocks. Each paddock is intensively grazed for a short period, then allowed to rest and recover before being grazed again. The amount of time each cell is grazed and then rested relates to the time of year, quality of the forage and the growth stage of the forage.

### [Getting Started with Intensive Grazing](#)

Brief introduction to getting started with intensive grazing: benefits, pasture plan, design, forage. Includes references for further reading.

### [Dairy Cows on Pasture](#)

Comment on dairy nutrition and milk production, and best use of pasture systems.

### [Determining forage yield, grazing calculations, and stocking rate](#)

There are different ways to create a grazing rotation. This handout details steps to take for taking a yield estimate, determining desired utilization, and calculations for determining number of days on pasture or size of paddocks desired.

### [Multi-species Grazing](#)

The primary objective of multispecies grazing is to improve the grazing efficiency or utilization of available range resources, while maintaining or improving animal production. Multispecies grazing can provide economic and ecological advantages over single-species grazing due to differences in dietary preferences and foraging behaviour of the animals.

### [Rested Grazing Increases Pasture Carrying Capacity](#)

Dr. Shannon Scott is looking into the effect of resting pasture during the pre-frost period on pasture carrying capacity and the persistence of alfalfa.

### Pasture management for Bison

Good pasture management looks after both the bison and the plants. Proper management of pasture plants will enhance forage production and quality, and will extend the life of your pasture. If you look after the grass, it will look after the bison.

### Management of Intensive Livestock Grazing

Intensive grazing describes livestock and grass management practices that focus on: increased levels of manager involvement, increased forage quality, increased meat production per unit area and more uniform forage utilization. Managers practicing intensive grazing closely follow the interactions between plant, animal, soil and water.

## **Eastern Canada**

### Rotational Grazing Primer

What is rotational grazing? As I talk to farmers across the province about grazing management, I have come to realize that rotational grazing means different things to different people.

### Conserving Pasture Production During Dry Conditions

How you manage your pasture from the start of the grazing season will influence how it responds to drought conditions. The root system is usually proportional to the top growth. Maintaining a residual height of 3-4 inches (7-10 cm) and adequate rest and re-growth time will provide for a strong deep root system.

### Managing Horse Pastures

Horse paddocks and pastures are often like golf courses. The horses over graze some areas so that they are golf-green height while defecating in others, creating roughs of ungrazed plants. Over grazing, compaction and tearing of the ground by hoofs, forms a surface where only the hardiest of plants can survive.

### Budgeting and Measuring Pasture Production

Pasture is a feeding system. Like any feeding system it is important to know the needs of your livestock and the amount of feed you are offering. Think of your pasture field as a feed bunk.



### [Intensive Rotational Grazing](#)

This is a presentation about the technique of intensive rotational grazing. This video talks about how intensive rotational grazing works and the intent and the science behind it.

### [Grazing with Purpose?](#)

Joshua Dukart is a Certified Educator of Holistic Management who speaks and teaches regularly throughout the United States and Canada. Through this progression was born a consulting business that works with land managers, families, and organizations in assisting them with achieving a sustainable balance of people, finances, and resources.

### [Virtual Field Day - Rotationally Grazing Sheep at Pasture Hill Farm](#)

### [Allocating Grazing to Maximize Pasture and Beef Cattle performance](#)

There are many ways to measure annual pasture performance such as total annual dry matter yield, stocking rate achieved, livestock gain, etc. Ultimately, pasture performance is determined by (a) animal performance over the course of the grazing season, i.e. average daily gain, and/or (b) the number of animals, i.e. beef cows, that can be grazed on a pasture over the grazing season.

### [Slowing Down the Rotation Protects Pasture Yield](#)

Grass doesn't just happen. Maximizing pasture yield requires management, and one of the most important decisions a manager can make is to give their grass enough time to fully recover after being grazed. Pastures have fully recovered from a grazing event when the grass plants have 3-4 new leaves.

### [Northern Grazing Workshops](#)

BFO has had the opportunity to partner with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) to host twilight pasture tours throughout the north that are focused on beef and sheep grazing management. Visited Dave and Chantal Lewington near Lavigne, Ray and Susan Ford near Powassan, Andrew Weber in Val Gagné, and OMAFRA specialists on sheep, and beef, ag development, ag sustainability spoke too.

### [Rotational Grazing in Ontario](#)

This video provides an overview of a demonstration project that was conducted at the Grey-Dufferin and Victoria Community Pastures in 2013. The project sought to quantify the benefit of intensively managed rotational grazing systems. Managing an intensive rotational grazing system has been shown to significantly improve forage production resulting in increased carrying capacity and improved animal performance which provides economic benefits to beef producers, most notably those in the cow-calf and backgrounding sectors.

### **Atlantic**

#### [Rotational Grazing Management Tips](#)

One-pager of tips related to rotational grazing.

#### [MBC Forage Field Day Friday- Bill Thomas- Grazing Management 1](#)

Bill Thomas (BT Agronomy) explains and demonstrates simple ways to identify when pastures are ready to put animals in, and when they should have animals taken out.

### **Informations en Français**

#### [Journée d'information sur la production de viande de pâturage](#)

Enregistrements vidéo d'une conférence sur la viande de pâturage. Les sessions comprennent une table ronde, des outils pour les coûts de production, des études de cas de producteurs de pâturages laitiers, de volailles, d'agneaux et de porcs.

#### [Gestion des pâturages par temps sec](#)

La manière d'entretenir les champs dès le début de la saison du pacage aura un effet sur la réaction des pâturages aux conditions de sécheresse. Le système racinaire est habituellement proportionnel à la partie aérienne. En gardant l'herbe à une hauteur de 7 à 10 cm (3 à 4 po) et en lui accordant une période de repos et de repousse suffisante, on obtiendra des racines profondes et vigoureuses.

#### [Manuel technique : Le Pâturage Tournant Dynamique en élevages herbivores](#)

Sommaire: Les règles de base du pâturage tournant dynamique; Subdiviser ses parcelles; Réussir le déprimage; Gérer l'excès d'herbe; Préparer la sécheresse estivale; La reprise après une sécheresse estivale

### Conseils de gestion de la rotation du pâturage

Une bonne rotation du pâturage est bénéfique pour les plantes de pâturage, la croissance des racines (piégeage du carbone), la santé du sol, la tolérance à la sécheresse, la biodiversité, la distribution du fumier, et elle augmente la capacité des pâturages et leur valeur nutritionnelle

### Le Pâturage Tournant Dynamique : concilier Pâturage efficace et performance animale

Le pâturage tournant dynamique est une technique largement éprouvée en Nouvelle Zélande. Dans ce pays, la culture de l'herbe est omniprésente et le rendement des prairies détermine le potentiel de production des exploitations. La base de cette technique est de pouvoir faire pâturer la vache de l'herbe au meilleur stade et en optimisant le potentiel de repousse de la parcelle.

### Gestion optimale des pâturages pour contrôler le parasitisme

Le présent document décrit une des composantes de la gestion intégrée du parasitisme, soit la gestion optimale des pâturages. Le but ultime d'une bonne gestion des pâturages est d'optimiser la valeur nutritive et la productivité des surfaces fourragères, tout en réduisant l'exposition aux larves.

### La gestion intensive des pâturages dans une approche pratico-pratique: une question d'équilibre!

Mode de vie, finances, besoins nutritionnels et sociaux des animaux, cycle bio des plantes, environnement.

### Porc au pâturage

Cette fiche synthèse de la collection Productions en émergence au Québec propose un survol des connaissances disponibles sur l'élevage de porcs au pâturage, un produit de niche qui gagne en popularité au Québec. Cette production possède un potentiel intéressant dans un contexte d'établissement en agriculture ou de diversification des activités d'une entreprise existante.