



AGS

ADVANCED
GRAZING SYSTEMS

RESOURCES

RESOURCES

MODULE 4

EXTENDED

GRAZING

English Resources (le Français suit)

National

[Farmer Panel: Grazing Full Season Cover Crops](#)

Discussion topics: Cover Crops. Best Practices. Grazing Days. Stock Density. Land Improvement. Re-growth. Q& A.

[Sustainable Management of Nutrients on the Landscape for In-field Livestock](#)

An increasing number of producers are feeding or grazing their livestock in a field setting rather than a confined corral during the winter season. In-field winter feeding systems include swath and bale grazing, grazing standing corn, stockpiled perennial forages and annual crop residues.

[Extended Grazing](#)

Methods to extend the grazing season, including stockpiled perennial forages, use of annual forages, crop residues, and bales left in the field, have considerable economic and environmental benefits over traditional winter-feeding systems. Well-managed systems reduce or eliminate labour, feed harvesting, transport and delivery, and manure handling. These systems also allow for flexibility in returning nutrients back to the land instead of concentrating animals in pens.

Prairie

[Beef School Ep 3 - Grazing Corn](#)

Bart Lardner of the University of Saskatchewan and the Western Beef Development Centre join Shaun Haney to discuss grazing corn in this episode of the Beef School.

[Grazing Fall Rye](#)

In Saskatchewan, recent grazing seasons have been unpredictable in terms of rainfall and production, leaving it difficult to plan out the capacity of perennial or native pastures. Including annual forage crops to your farm's forage portfolio is an option that can increase the total grazing days per year. If you have some crop acres to spare, or, if you have some old hayland that needs a change, seeding an annual pasture is an option.

[A Quick Guide to Extended Grazing](#)

Many producers are leaving their herds or flocks on pasture long into the fall and on into the winter, using perennial pastures held in reserve, annual crops, crop residues and bales left in the field.

[Benefits of Bale Grazing Beef Cows](#)

Bale grazing beef cattle during Manitoba's long winters can save producers time, effort and money and, with proper management, reduce environmental risk.

[Beat Costs And Boost Yields With Bale Grazing](#)

Many Canadian producers have taken steps to extend their grazing period and provide forage for cattle outside of confinement and away from corrals. Well-planned extensive wintering systems have obvious benefits for reducing on-farm labour and yardage costs, but extended grazing also has environmental advantages for nutrient management and potential forage yield improvements.

Bale Grazing

Bale grazing on fields is a method of providing feed to beef cattle during the winter months. With this system, livestock are allowed access to bales previously placed on a field or wintering site. When properly managed, it does not compromise the health, comfort or performance of the livestock.

[Bale Grazing and the Bale Grazing Calculator](#)

When properly managed, bale grazing can offer both economic and environmental advantages compared to traditional intensive winter feeding. Bale grazing can also be done without compromising the health, comfort or performance of livestock.

[Winter Corn Grazing 250 Cows](#)

The video describes the cost-saving and efficiency of winter grazing cattle on standing corn. They use temporary electric fences, with gaps in seeding to make easier fencing.

[Grazing Cattle on Corn](#)

Grazing your herd on corn can lower your winter feed costs, reduce your operating expenses and save you time.

[Grazing Standing Corn - Reducing the Risk of Acidosis](#)

The practice of grazing standing corn during late fall and winter was first tried in Western Canada in the early 1990s. An advantage of grazing corn is the potential to reduce labour and machinery costs during winter feeding and reduced manure handling. However, there is risk for cattle to experience rumen acidosis or grain overload.

What is stockpiled forage?

Stockpiling forage is a method of extending the grazing season beyond the growing season. It saves pasture and hay fields for fall and winter grazing after forage growth has stopped. Stockpiled forage can be used from October to early December, or until weather and snow conditions prevent grazing. Stockpiled forage can also be used in early spring before new growth pasture is available.

[Design a winter grazing pasture for bison](#)

Bison willingly graze through the snow on winter pasture. An effective winter grazing pasture provides adequate forage quantity and quality for the bison through the winter. Proper management helps make winter grazing effective.

[StockTalk March 18: Forage Frenzy - Extended Grazing with Stockpiled Forage, Corn, Swath & Bale Grazing](#)

Topics: Extended Grazing with Stockpiled Forage, Corn, Swath and Bale Grazing. Improved Livestock and Pasture Performance with Rotational Grazing.

Union Forage Field Day - Stockpile Grazing

Union Forage products for stockpile grazing: supplementing your winter feeding system.

Winter Grazing Solutions

Union Forage describes saving costs of swath grazing, and of swath mixes.

[Swath grazing in western Canada: an introduction](#)

Swath grazing is a management practice that can be used to extend the grazing season and reduce feed, labour and manure handling costs for cattle producers in western Canada.

[Risks of using overwintered crops as livestock feed](#)

Using overwintered cereal crops for swath grazing in the spring or baling for use as greenfeed in the fall and winter are two options to utilize the 2016 crop for ruminants. It is also possible to thresh the crop and feed the grain to monogastric and ruminants. However, there are a number of concerns associated with feeding overwintered crops to both types of livestock.

[Swath Grazing Calculator](#)

The swath grazing calculator is designed to provide a cost comparison between conventional wintering feeding systems and swath grazing.

[Winter Grazing Systems: Feed Quality in Swath Grazing](#)

This video offers the perspectives of ranchers winter feeding on cereal-based swath grazing. They share the value of feed testing and blending of custom mineral mixes to suit animal types.

[Managing Risk in Winter Grazing Systems](#)

This video is an introduction to the Alberta Ranchers Winter Grazing Cattle video series. This series of 47 videos share the personal perspectives and practices of ranchers across Alberta and how they have implemented management practices to reduce risk in winter grazing systems.

[Winter Grazing – Farminar](#)

Ranching in Alberta, Steve has lots of experience with cold, snowy winters. Even so, he has designed a system to allow for profitable winter grazing. In this farminar, Steve will discuss the importance of pasture planning; bale and swath grazing; and the economics of winter grazing, including labour and equipment.

[Wintering Site; Assessment and design tool; a guide to selecting and managing a wintering site in western Canada](#)

The practice of feeding cattle in a field setting during the winter, called extensive winter feeding, is increasing across the Prairies. The main driver behind this increase is reduced yardage, feeding, and manure hauling costs.

[Livestock Wintering: Locating and Livestock Wintering](#)

Includes worksheet to evaluate the quality of potential livestock wintering sites. A sustainable wintering system requires farm management, feeding, infrastructure and resource management strategies that work together. They create flexibility and maximize profits, while at the same time minimizing the environmental effects of livestock production.

[Spring Grazing on Stockpiled dormant pastures](#)

Proper management of pastures throughout the year allows you to have a spring calving pasture with enough quality forage to support the bison cow herd. A calving pasture spreads new calves out on clean, disease-free ground and allows the cows to meet their nutritional needs while searching out the first shoots of green grass.

Bale Placement

Time of year and amount of feed placed, wind protection and watering, bale setting and density feed rationing, electric fence management.

Bale Grazing Improves Your Pastures

Winter bale grazing covered the soil with bale residue & manure & sparked incredible changes: More snow melt was captured & more rain infiltrated into the soil instead of running off. Less soil moisture evaporated.

Eastern Canada

Beef: Turn Corn Stover into Low-Cost Pasture

Corn stover can provide a low-cost feed source for mid-gestation beef cows. The energy in a cornfield is half in the grain and half in the stover or plant material. Once the crop is harvested, half the feed energy remains in the field. The cows can enjoy an additional benefit by gleaning the kernels and small cobs that passed through the combine.

Fall Graze to Stretch the Grass Season

Farmers with grazing livestock like cows, sheep and goats are learning to get many more days of grazing from their existing pastures. These folks are picking up on using stockpiled pasture to extend the grazing season until well after the snow comes! Can this work for you?

Fall Pasture Management Tips

Late summer is not the time to neglect your pastures. How you manage your pastures during this period will affect their productivity for the remainder of this year and next. Extending the grazing season until Christmas is an achievable goal for winter anyone, but there are a few important steps to follow if you want to achieve this.

Stockpiled Pasture: 2. Lamb Performance On Two Stockpiling Systems

The results presented above show that stockpiling management can be used to create two situations: i) a stockpile with high growth potential but limited carrying capacity or ii) a stockpile with a high carrying capacity but lower growth potential.

Atlantic Canada

[Holdanca Farms - Virtual Farm Tour](#)

Farm tour video, using bale rings to prevent waste (20%). Cost-effective by reducing handling cost of bale moving, and manure moving

[MBC Forage Field Day Friday- Dean Manning Corn Part 2](#)

Dean Manning NS producer speaks about Corn Silage considerations. This is part 2 of his talk on growing Corn for beef production/winter grazing.

[Ontario farmer describes corn grazing during N.B. pasture tour](#)

After the ground freezes in November, Lehrbass begins to rotationally graze corn, which the cows stay on until the ground begins to thaw. When the fields are muddy, the cows are held in a yard and fed haylage.

For your interest

Informations en Français

[Neige ou eau cet hiver?](#)

La question se pose à chaque année : Est-ce que la neige peut suffire à combler les besoins en eau des vaches hivernées à l'extérieur?