Master Grazer - Graze 300 Educational Program
2015 1st Quarter Report
(January 1st - March 31st, 2015)

UK Grazing News Newsletter
- Two issues (February and Early Spring 2015) of the UK Grazing News were published. Each 4-page issue of UK Grazing News contained 3 to 4 newly written articles on timely forage and animal topics important in managing a grazing system. Topics included (1) interseeding clovers in pastures, (2) renovating high traffic areas, (3) starting the grazing season off right, and (4) timely tips for each time frame regarding the grazing program.
- Each issue of the newsletter was sent electronically to all 120 UK agriculture and natural resource extension agents who use these articles in their county newsletters and newspapers, which greatly expands the readership of these educational resources. In addition, 254 electronic subscribers received these issues along with 180 households receiving printed copies.

Master Grazer Website (www2.ca.uky.edu/grazer)
- New material was added to the UK Master Grazer Website. The home page contains current and previous articles found in UK Grazing News Newsletter, electronic subscription to our newsletter, informational video clips, upcoming events and programs, reports and accomplishments, links to other useful websites, and important contacts.

Stockpiled Fescue Demonstrations Completed and Results Summarized
- Five different counties (Madison, Meade, Oldham, Pulaski, and Warren) completed stockpiling fescue research demonstrations between November 2014 and January 2015. These demonstrations were designed to measure (1) the number of days the grazing season was extended while grazing stockpiled fescue and (2) the impact of applying 100 units of urea (46 lbs. of actual N) would have on stockpiled fescue yield and number of grazing days.
- Forage quality was determined. Forage samples averaged 13% crude protein, 100 relative feed value, 36% ADF, 56% NDF and 58% TDN on a dry matter basis. Stockpiled fescue was higher in quality than the average of 72,000 grass hay samples analyzed by DairyOne, a commercial forage testing laboratory over the last 14 years.
Results from Master Grazer-Grazing for Cash 2014-2015 Stockpile Demonstrations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Forage Yield (lbs dry matter/acre)</th>
<th>Increased number of animal units-grazing days per acre with 100 units of urea applied*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With Nitrogen</td>
<td>Without Nitrogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>3335</td>
<td>1990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meade</td>
<td>2324</td>
<td>426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldham</td>
<td>4293</td>
<td>2800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulaski</td>
<td>3525</td>
<td>2914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>3497</td>
<td>2701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average across locations</td>
<td>3395 lbs</td>
<td>2166 lbs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of animal unit-grazing days per acre

*Assumes a 1000 lb animal unit consuming 3% of body weight with a 70% forage utilization with strip grazing. Increased number of animal unit-grazing days per acre = ((Increased yield/acre * forage utilization rate)/(1000 lbs BW * 3% DMI/day)).

“Grazing for Cash” 2015 Demonstrations and Educational Programs

- The goal of these demonstrations is to illustrate and collect data regarding the decreased reliance of stored forages by grazing livestock and/or improved management of forages grazed or fed which can increase the profitability of livestock enterprises.
- Protocols were developed to implement and collect data from on-farm demonstrations on extending the grazing season which illustrate (1) incorporating winter and spring annual forages, (2) incorporating summer annual forages, (3) use of stockpiled fescue, and (4) improved pastures with clover into a grazing system. Our goal is to select demonstration farms and implement these demonstrations in 2015.
- Demonstrations from last year:
  - Both weed demonstrations conducted last year will be followed this year to assess weed control.
  - David Burge- Anderson Co Managed Grazing Demonstration – Rotational grazing system is being continued from last season with some modifications to ease the daily cattle management. Dave has sown 3 lbs of Will white clover in approximately 15 acres. He has also sown annual ryegrass this March in high traffic use areas to increase ground cover and increase the amount of grazable forage. He has developed a rotation that will provide 8-9 paddocks for 20 cows with calves this summer. From his experience last year, Dave has developed a rotational system on another farm with his sheep flock.

Educational Opportunities Planned for 2015

- KY Grazing School- 2 day, intensive and hands-on educational program on how to design and implement a grazing system, May 20-21, 2015 at Woodford Co Extension Office and C. Oran Little Research Center. Demonstration plots were seeded in February and March for illustration of spring forage practices. Grazing demonstrations will be done in April to illustrate rotational grazing management.
- EKU/ Berea Undergraduate Student Grazing School- Two day school to be held at EKU farm complex April 7-8, 2015.
- “Lengthening the Grazing Season” – New Program. One day or evening short course with multiple topics related to managed, rotational grazing designed to extend the grazing season. At this time, plans are developing to hold one in the Eastern Region and another in the Western Region of the state.