

Northwest Missouri Grazing School 2017

What is a Management Intensive Grazing System?

Management intensive grazing (also known as rotational grazing management) is a system where grazing is managed for both the benefit of the livestock and forage. Livestock graze in each pasture long enough to harvest the forage, but are removed before too much leaf area is consumed. A basic system may have 4 or 5 pastures while a more management intensive system will have 8 to 10 pastures.

Why should I attend this school?

The single most important management factor in determining the profitability of a livestock operation is keeping feed cost low. So why buy forage when you can grow high quality feed yourself through a management intensive grazing (MIG) system? Cost control, not the amount of production, separates profitable from unprofitable operations. Through a MIG system you can keep your cost down and production in most cases will increase, all while helping out the environment. In addition to profits to your pocket book and environmental benefits you may be eligible to receive cost share assistance to help establish your MIG system. Check with your local SWCD or NRCS office for further information.

The Northwest Missouri Grazing School will feature information on these topics:

- Inventorying Farm Resources
- Soils and Topology
- Plant Growth and Species
- Grazing Basics
- Livestock Water
- Extending the Grazing Season
- Fencing
- Forage Quality Discussion
- Economics of Grazing
- Layout and Design of a MIG System
- Meeting Nutritional needs of Livestock with Pasture
- Pasture Fertility
- Forage Estimates
- Grazing Heights
- Matching Livestock with Forage Resources
- Farm Visits (onsite functioning MIG systems)
- Pastureland Soil Health/Adaptive Grazing

The Natural Resources Conservation Service and University of Missouri Extension will present the 2017 Northwest Missouri Grazing School at the Cameron Community Building 219 Ashland Drive Cameron Missouri 64429 on June 27-29, 2017. The "tuition" will be \$110.00 per person (second person with full registration will be \$60.00). The tuition covers the costs the seminars including meals, speaker fees, refreshments, on-farm tour equipment, fence and water system demonstration, materials and the following references: Missouri Grazing Manual, Forages and Weeds of Pastures, and a grazing stick. You also receive these free publications: Electric Fencing for Serious Graziers, and Watering Systems for Serious Graziers. Registration for

the school is limited to 40 people. Contact your local SWCD office or the Buchanan County SWCD office at 816-364-3662.