

Conference Registration

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

One Day Registration-Please Check One

Friday only Saturday only

_____ # people x \$35.00

_____ # additional people x \$25.00

Two Day Registration (Friday and Saturday)

_____ # people x \$55.00

_____ # additional people x \$40.00

Total Enclosed \$ _____

List additional names for this registration:

Return this form with check payable to:

LaGrange Co. S.W.C.D.

Attention: Grazing Conference

910 S. Detroit St.

LaGrange, IN 46761

* Send by January 27, 2012 for early registration. Late registration will be charged for those received after January 27.

** If you need special dietary or disability accommodations, please indicate when registering.

PLAN ON VISITING WITH TRADE SHOW EXHIBITORS DURING THE DAY OF THE CONFERENCE

A complete list of exhibitors and sponsors with contact names, addresses and phone numbers will be provided with materials distributed at the Conference.

EXHIBITORS FOR 2012

Agri Energy Resources
 Agri-King
 American Hybrids
 Ball Liquid Supplements, Inc.
 Best Forage
 Center Feeds
 Cisco Companies
 Corland Seed
 CRV
 Crystal Creek, Inc.
 Dairy Farmers of America
 Dairy Grazing Services
 DuMor Water Specialists
 Farm and Garden Bookstore
 Farm Boy Equipment
 F.D. Miller Feed and Supply
 Foerg & Forgey River View Equipment
 Foremost Farms
 Fruitful Hill
 God's Helping Hands
 Growers Mineral Solutions
 Health Supplements
 Hilltop Machine Shop
 Indiana Dairy Equipment and Services
 Indiana Irrigation Company, Inc.
 InstaGro Liquid Plant Food
 JBF Distribution
 Jerry's Organic Supply
 L&M Ag (formerly Nature Way Feeds)
 (Continued on back panel)

EXHIBITORS FOR 2012 (Continued)

Livestock Improvement Company
 Lord's Grain
 Merck Animal Health
 Milk Promotion Services
 Modreske Fence
 Mullets Machinery & Parts
 Normande Genetics
 Northern Indiana IBA, Inc.
 Nutritional Blending
 Organic Valley
 Ridgeline Portable Milking Systems
 Sea Agri
 Shepherd Innovations
 Shipshe Farm Supply
 Silver Stream Shelters
 Sunrise Metal Shop
 Sunrise Seeds Plus
 SuperGro of Iowa
 Taurus Service
 Tri State Scabbling
 Truelove Brothers
 Wood Farms

SPONSORS FOR 2012

Beech Road Seeds
 Farmer's State Bank
 Farm Credit Services
 Midwestern Bio-Ag of Wisconsin
 WBZ Seed

Please be sure to thank all of the Exhibitors and Sponsors for this year's conference by visiting with them at the conference or by stopping by their business locations.



NORTHERN INDIANA GRAZING CONFERENCE



February 3-4, 2012

Friday, February 3

8:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Evening Session 6:30—8:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 4

8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Lunch and refreshments included in daytime sessions. Donations accepted for evening session. Registration begins at 7:00 a.m. both days.



Michiana Event Center
 7605 N State Road 9
 Howe, IN 46746

Pre-registration Fees

One-Day Registration: \$35 per person, \$25 for each additional family member.

Two-Day Registration: \$55 per person, \$40 for each additional family member.

Pre-registration deadline: January 27, 2012. No exceptions will be made.

On-site / Late Registration Fees

One-Day Registration: \$50 per person, \$40 per additional family member

Two-Day Registration: \$70 per person, \$55 per additional family member

Northern Indiana Grazing Conference

Friday, February 3, 2012

7:00 a.m. - **Registration**—Rolls, juice, coffee, & milk.

8:00 a.m. - **Welcome & Introductions** - Steve Hooley, 2012 Northern Indiana Grazing Conference Chairman

8:15 -9:15 a.m. - Kerry Estes, 2011 Young Dairy Producers of the Year—*"Farming Experiences"*

9:15 -10:00 a.m. - Dave Heidel—*"Earning the Right to Feed No Grain"*

10:00 -10:30 a.m.-**BREAK**

10:30 - 12:00 noon - **Farmer Panel, Transitioning the Family Farm from Generation to Generation**

Jerry Lehman, Shipshewana, Indiana

Phillip Whetstone, Goshen, Indiana

Elmer Yoder, Jr. Topeka, Indiana

12:00 -1:30 p.m. - **Lunch**

1:30 -2:30 p.m. - Break Out Sessions-Choose one:

Keith Johnson—*"Keeping the Pasture Productive"*

Julie Diehm, Master Gardeners—*"Wild Edibles"*

2:30 -3:30 p.m. - Jerry Perkins, Bob and Deb Eash, Kevin Eash—*"Retooling An Operation-Carrying on the Farming Tradition"*

Moderated by Keith Johnson

3:30 -6:30 p.m. -**BREAK** and visit with exhibitors-Dinner is on your own. Food will be offered on-site.

Evening Session

6:30 -7:30 p.m.-Jack Lazor, Vermont—*"My Thirty-five Year Organic Farming Adventure"*

7:30 -8:30 p.m.-Cliff Hawbaker, Chambersburg, PA - "Make it or Break it"

Saturday, February 4, 2012

7:00 a.m. - **Registration**—Rolls, juice, coffee, & milk.

8:00 a.m. -**Welcome**—Steve Hooley, 2012 Northern Indiana Grazing Conference Chairman

8:15 -9:30 a.m.-Greg Gunthorp Family, moderated by Steve Engleking—*"Overview of the Gunthorp Family Farm, Including Direct Marketing of Pasture-raised Product"*

9:30 -10:00 a.m.-**BREAK**

10:00 -11:30 a.m.-Jack Lazor—*"Give Back to the Earth More Than You Take and Reap the Benefits in a Few Short Years"*

11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.-**LUNCH**—Use the opportunity for a last visit to the exhibitor booths

1:00 -2:00 p.m.-Break Out Sessions-Choose one:

Mark Russell—*"Horse Health"*

Mark Kepler—*"Beauty or Beast, What is your Goal in Meat Goat Production"*

Greg Gunthorp—*"The Dos and Don'ts of Pasturing Poultry and Hogs"*

2:00 -3:00 p.m.-Cliff Hawbaker—*"Stewardship of the Creation"*

Meet the Northern Indiana Grazing Conference Speakers

Complete biographies will be listed in NIGC Proceedings

Kerry Estes—Kerry and Christiana did not grow up on a farm nor were they trained in the field of agriculture, yet that did not deter them from making the choice to raise their family on a farm. Married in 1997, the couple purchased 188 acres in 1999 on contract from a local farmer. Experiencing successful growth rates on grass and a longing to work as a family full-time on the farm, Kerry and Christiana freshened 100 cross-bred heifers to start their seasonal dairy experience in March of 2005. Increasing their herd to 150 cows and their home by 4 children, the Estes are realizing their dream.

Dave Heidel—David and Angelita own and operate a 294 acre farm in the rolling hills of east central Wisconsin. Their 244 acres of diverse pasture and hay land support a herd of 58 cows and associated young stock and provide the income to give their three children education beyond high school. Today with a totally pasture and forage fed organically certified herd it is with pride that Heidel calls himself a grazier.

Keith Johnson—Keith is a Professor of Agronomy and the Forage Crops Specialist with the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service. He graduated from the University of Nebraska with a B.S. in Agriculture and degrees in Agronomy and Animal Science. He came to the Purdue University Agronomy Department to acquire more knowledge about forages and received the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Agronomy. He joined the Purdue faculty in 1981. His major area of interest is investigating and sharing information about the improved production and utilization of forage crops when used as feed for livestock, cover crops and biofuels.

Jerry Perkins—Jerry carried on his family farm tradition on the home farm managing a grain and confined dairy operation. Recently he retired after working with NRCS for more than 20 years.

Bob, Deb & Kevin Eash—Bob, Deb and Kevin own and operate Country Meadows Farm. The farm consists of just under 300 dairy cows grazing on 200 acres. They utilize center pivot irrigation and monitor pasture production weekly as management tools. Heifers, steers and additional forage for winter feeding are grown on additional rented acres. They also custom harvest forages for others and are a distributor of forage seeds and cover crops.

Greg Gunthorp and family—Greg and his family own and operate a small pasture based livestock operation. Greg's family has raised pigs on pasture for at least four generations. They have one of the largest pastured poultry operations in the country which includes an on-farm full USDA inspected slaughter and processing operation. They supply pork, chicken, duck and turkey to some of the best restaurants in Chicago, Indianapolis, and surrounding areas. Greg has been very active in the Sustainable Agriculture movement. He is a board member of the American Pastured Poultry Producers Association. He served on Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman's Small Farm Commission and on a small farm advisory panel to President Clinton.

Mark Russell—Mark serves as the Extension Horse Specialist in the Department of Animal Sciences at Purdue University. He combines his personal, life-long horse management and training experiences with his university degrees to bring expertise in horse feeding, training, and management to horse owners. He is the author of many Extension publications dealing with horse diets, horse health & wellbeing, and general selection and management strategies for horses. Mark assists his wife in managing a horse boarding stable in West Lafayette, IN.

Jack Lazor—Jack and his wife Anne have been farming near the Canadian border in northern Vermont since 1976. They began as back-to-the-land homesteaders and eventually worked their way into becoming dairy farmers with a herd of Jersey cows and farmstead processors of yogurt and other dairy products. They have grown their operation slowly and deliberately over the past 35 years to become a vertically integrated farm with ample pasture, hay crops, and grain for livestock and human consumption. Butterworks Farm is one of America's oldest and longest standing organic dairy farms.

Cliff Hawbaker—Cliff owns and operates Hamilton Heights Dairy Farm and Emerald Valley Farm in South Central Pennsylvania. The dairies consist of 725 acres. He is milking 320 cows and has 200 head of heifers. For several years his focus has been on intensive grazing management and other dairy related issues including once a day milking. Cliff has served on numerous farm related boards and committees. He is also active in his local church, The Gideons International. Cliff and Maggie have 3 grown daughters and 8 grandchildren.

Mark Kepler—Mark is a 26 year Purdue Extension Educator working the past 15 years in Fulton County. He has been associated with goat production for most of that time. He also has a 25 cow beef herd that he rotational grazes. He is an Animal Science graduate of Purdue University and South Dakota State University.

Julie Diehm—Julie grew up on a small farm in LaGrange County. During this time, she learned from her parents to prepare and use many wild foods. Julie has been an Advanced Master Gardener with Purdue since 1998 and is also a Master Naturalist with I.D.N.R. Most of her volunteer hours are spent teaching people of all ages about *"Wild Edibles"* – including what she calls *"volunteer vegetables"*. Julie works for S.N.R.T. as a Natural Resource Tech & Lab Manager. She also works part time for LaGrange County SWCD.

Jerry Lehman—Jerry and Loretta, along with their 7 children live and work on a 152 acre dairy farm with 100 tillable acres southwest of Shipshewana, IN. Jerry has lived and worked on the farm his whole life being the 4th generation of his family living on the farm. Jerry currently has 40 head of Holstein dairy cows and 30-35 head of young stock, which he raises on the farm. Of the 100 tillable acres Jerry tries to raise 30 acres corn and 10 acres sorghum or teff. The rest of the tillable acres are seeded in hay and pasture.

Phillip Whetstone—Phillip and Lora and their 3 children operate an organic dairy. They own 62 acres and rent an additional 50 for a total of around 90 tillable acres. They bought the farm in the fall of 2005 and are now the fifth generation on the farm. In 2006 the Whetstones bought 33 heifers and started milking in February 2007. They currently have 34 cows and 40 head young stock. The farm is planted completely in pasture and hay.

Elmer Yoder, Jr.—Elmer and his wife Carolyn live with their 4 young children on a 120 acre organic dairy farm. The Yoders currently farm their own acreage, rent 8 acres from a neighbor, and are milking 35 cows year round. Elmer uses a 4 year crop rotation beginning with oats or spelts on the seeding year, followed with 2 years of hay or pasture and ending with one year in corn. Cover crops are used after harvesting for silage since he doesn't like to leave any soil bare. Elmer and Carolyn are third generation dairy farmers on their farm.