

Graziers' Comments

Ed Heckman

Eight to ten paddocks will accomplish the goals of a rotational grazing system.

Put money into a fresh water system before tackling a management-intensive grazing system.

Start a rotational grazing system in the slow or no growth months. The spring flush months are just too overwhelming.

If the pastures are extremely uneven after grazing, it indicates that the stocking rate is too low or the rotation is too long. Maintaining a 10-14 day rotation until mid-summer should help to keep pastures from becoming excessively uneven.

It is funny that we have to relearn how to relax and understand the environment that we have pushed around for so long.

What truly separates the doers from the talkers and the finishers from the starters is PASSION.

Articulate your vision -- state it over and over and over and over.

Investing in land should be the very last step in a farming career. It should happen when all the other investment needs have been satisfied.

Stockpiling is an art.....That is to resist using it during the early fall and then to meter it out in strips. You need a decent land base that has excellent quality grass to do this economically in my opinion.

If legumes are contributing fewer than two plants per square foot, consider overseeding.

I like to feed 10 to 15 pounds of corn silage (2 to 3 pounds of dry matter) to Holsteins in addition to the forage they are grazing.

Corn fodder, cereal rye, turnip leaves and spring oats provides a near-perfect fall feed for lactating beef cows. Cliff Schuette via [Graze](#) magazine.

I enjoy forage crops so much because there are so many to choose from to meet varying needs and because they are always changing in morphology and quality.

Every grazier must develop a system that works for him/her and that can be done only by experience.