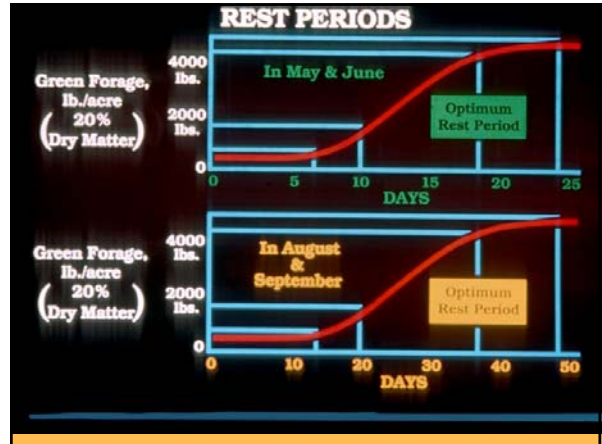




AVERAGE ANALYSES (DRY WEIGHT BASIS) OF 497 FORAGE SAMPLES TAKEN FROM PERMANENT PASTURES ON 6 VERMONT DAIRY FARMS USING VOISEN CONTROLLED GRAZING MANAGEMENT, 5/1/84-10/1/84

Dry Matter	Crude Protein	Available Protein
23.8%	22.0%	20.5%
Acid Detergent Fiber	Total Digestible Nutrients	
28.8%	69.2%	
Metabolizable Energy	Net Energy Lactation	
1.13 Mega calories/lb.	0.72 Mega calories/lb.	

AVERAGE DRY FORAGE YIELD = 4.0 TON/ACRE

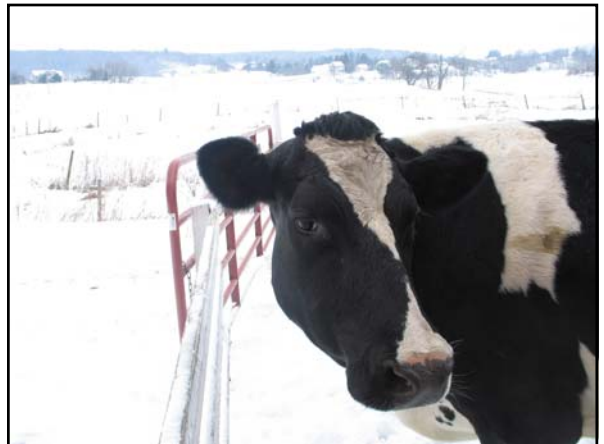




- Close plant spacing/ high plant density
- No bare soil visible
- Rapid plant growth
- Plants growing over a long growing period
- High soil biological activity - cow pies decompose rapidly
- Many different plant species - high diversity
- Many Perennial plant species

- Fewer plant species (monoculture or low species diversity)
- Increasing numbers of annual plant species
- Bare soil visible between the plants
- Slow plant growth
- Short season of productive growth
- low biological activity of decomposing organisms - cow pies don't decompose rapidly







Water pipe with valves for connecting portable tubs



Lightweight portable water tub with float valve.



A POORLY GROUNDED ENERGIZER IS THE SAME AS NOT HAVING AN ENERGIZER... IT DOESN'T WORK! THE ANIMALS ALL GET OUT AND YOU GET ANNOYED!



High tensile fence



Portable posts and polywire





PARASITE MANAGEMENT a youngstock issue

- Plant species diversity
- Mineral nutrition (from diverse forages and mineral supplementation) (copper, zinc & cobalt)
- Woody plants and other high tannin plants
- Colostrum and whole milk to calves
- Sanitation, ventilation... good management of barn, pasture and turnout areas
- Clean pastures for youngstock
- Forage quality and protein quality
- Medicinal and nutraceutical plants
- Probiotics, serum products

HOW DO YOU KNOW IF PASTURES ARE WELL MANAGED?

- High leaf area index
- High plant density/close plant spacing in pasture sward
- High plant diversity and pasture complexity
- Keep plants growing throughout growing season
- Decrease unproductive plants (over mature, stunted...)
- Good grazing management to maximize dry matter
 - harvested and growing
- More plant species
- More perennial plants
- Less bare soil, improve sward density and structure

- **Magazines:** Stockman Grass Farmer Magazine 800-748-9808 & Graze Magazine 608-455-3311
- **Books:** *Greener Pastures on Your Side of the Fence*-Bill Murphy 800-639-4178
- **Websites:** <http://www.attra.org/attra-pub/grassfarminglist.html> and <http://grassfarmer.com/>
- **Grazing Schools:** Sarah Flack teaches grazing schools each year. For more information email sarahf@globalnetisp.net or call 802-933-6965

the current NOP rule citations and standards regarding pasture:

205.2 Terms defined. **Pasture.** Land used for livestock grazing that is managed to provide feed value and maintain or improve soil, water, and vegetative resources.

205.203 Soil fertility and crop nutrient management practice standard. (a) The producer must select and implement tillage and cultivation practices that maintain or improve the physical, chemical, and biological condition of soil and minimize soil erosion.

205.237 Livestock feed. (a) The producer of an organic livestock operation must provide livestock with a total feed ration composed of agricultural products, including pasture and forage, that are organically produced and, if applicable, organically handled; Except, That, nonsynthetic substances and synthetic substances allowed under § 205.603 may be used as feed additives and supplements.

205.238 Livestock health care practice standard. (a) The producer must establish and maintain preventive livestock health care practices, including: (3) Establishment of appropriate housing, pasture conditions, and sanitation practices to minimize the occurrence and spread of diseases and parasites;

205.239 Livestock living conditions. (a) The producer of an organic livestock operation must establish and maintain livestock living conditions which accommodate the health and natural behavior of animals, including: (2) Access to pasture for ruminants: (b) The producer of an organic livestock operation may provide temporary confinement for an animal because of: (1) Inclement weather; (2) The animal's stage of production; (3) Conditions under which the health, safety, or well being of the animal could be

NOSB guidance document:
Organic dairy livestock over 6 months of age must graze on pasture during the months of the year when pasture can provide edible forage.

The grazed feed must provide significant intake: greater than **30% of the dry matter intake during the growing season, for no less than 120 days per year.**

This provision must be for all cows, whether dry or lactating.

NODPA's proposed rule change
205.237 Livestock feed.

- (c) Ruminant livestock must graze pasture for the growing season but not less than 120 days per year. The grazed pasture must provide a significant portion of the total feed requirement but not less than 30% of the dry matter intake on an average daily basis during the growing season. .
- 205.239 (b) The producer of an organic livestock operation may provide temporary confinement for an animal because of: (2) The animals stage of production life; for ruminants this includes only: (i) birthing; (ii) dairy animals up to 6 months of age; or (iii) beef animals during a final finishing stage not to exceed 120 days.

Estimated Dry Matter Intake by Subtraction Method
Herd Average Dry Matter Intake

Non-Grazing Feed Ration
Average lbs of Hay consumed _____ x _____ % Dry Matter = _____ lbs Dry Matter
Average lbs of Balage consumed _____ x _____ % Dry Matter = _____ lbs Dry Matter
Average lbs of Corn Silage consumed _____ x _____ % Dry Matter = _____ lbs Dry Matter
Average lbs of Grain consumed _____ x _____ % Dry Matter = _____ lbs Dry Matter
TOTAL LBS DRY MATTER _____

Grazing Feed Ration
Average lbs of Hay consumed _____ x _____ % Dry Matter = _____ lbs Dry Matter
Average lbs of Balage consumed _____ x _____ % Dry Matter = _____ lbs Dry Matter
Average lbs of Corn Silage consumed _____ x _____ % Dry Matter = _____ lbs Dry Matter
Average lbs of Grain consumed _____ x _____ % Dry Matter = _____ lbs Dry Matter
TOTAL LBS DRY MATTER _____

Non-Grazing Feed Ration – Grazing Feed Ration
= Estimated Pasture Dry Matter Intake

- **IV. Pasture (from VOF OSP)**
- 1. Describe the type of pasturing system used on your farm:
 - Rotational grazing
 - Occasional rotation of paddocks
 - Continuous grazing (not rotated)
 - Other _____
- 2. What is your usual spring turnout date for your adults?
- 3. What is your usual spring turnout for your young stock?
- 4. What date do you bring in your adult animals at the end of the growing season?
- 5. What date do you bring in your youngstock at the end of the growing season?
- 6. How many acres of permanent pasture do you have (include rented and owned)? _____
- 7. Do you also graze some hay land after first or second cut? If **yes**, how many acres? _____
- 8. Do you graze or board animals on another producer's farm (custom board/grazing)?
 - a. Is this land included in your farm production plan?
 - b. If no, have you obtained organic certificate from the producer?
- 9. What month in the summer do you usually need to add more stored forage (hay and silage) to your daily ration?

MORE RESEARCH IS NEEDED!

coccidiosis
lungworm

Roundworms/tapes
Mycotoxin products

Product testing
Dose sizes

Work with vets more

Encourage OMRI review of health care products