

## Registration Form

CSU Pasture Grazing School  
May 22-24, 2012

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee: \_\_\_\_\_ × \$550 ea.

Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Space is limited – register early!***

***Please submit this registration  
form by May 4, 2012***

Please make check payable to:  
**Colorado State University**

Mail, fax, or scan and email to:  
**Colorado State University  
Attn: Pasture Grazing School  
Room C132 Plant Sciences Building  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1170**

**joe.brummer@colostate.edu  
970-491-4988 (phone)  
970-491-0564 (fax)**

## What will you learn in this workshop?

Feed is the number one expense associated with beef cattle production, accounting for over 70% of costs. Feed prices (hay, silage, and corn) are twice that of 2007 and before. Beef cattle producers are looking for alternatives to reduce their costs, including better management of irrigated pastures.

Extending the grazing season, instead of feeding harvested forages and feeds, can significantly reduce input costs. It's not uncommon to achieve gains of over 800 lbs/ac when grazing steers on cool-season, irrigated pastures.

The challenge when integrating irrigated pastures into a beef cattle operation is that an increased level of management is needed. Issues such as how to handle cattle to avoid stress and lost production, calculating stocking rates, utilizing stocking density to improve harvest efficiency, and setting up fencing systems must all be addressed for producers to realize the maximum benefit from these systems.

This workshop will combine both classroom lectures with numerous hands-on assignments that will be conducted in actual pasture settings with grazing livestock. Participants will be divided into several small groups to facilitate learning and foster future networking.

**Hotel:** Rooms are available at the Wellington Days Inn for \$89 by calling 970-568-0444.

**Registration:** The \$550/person registration fee covers all handouts, materials, animal usage, lunches, snacks, on-site transportation, supplies, and equipment.

**Registration deadline:** May 4, 2012

**Location:** ARDEC, 4482 E. Co Rd 56, Ft Collins

## CSU Irrigated Pasture Grazing School

May 22-24, 2012



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

A boots-on-the-ground workshop for cow/calf producers and stocker operators who want to reduce their reliance on harvested forages and improve profitability by improving grazing methods and boosting forage availability

**CSU ARDEC Facility  
4482 East County Road 56  
Fort Collins, CO**

**For information:  
970-491-4988**

**joe.brummer@colostate.edu  
www.ansci.colostate.edu**

# Irrigated Pasture Grazing School – Agenda

## May 22<sup>nd</sup> (Day 1)

- 8:00 am Welcome and introductions
- 8 – 11 am Hands-on low-stress livestock handling exercise (cattle & sheep)
- 11:00 am Assignment: Feed a small set of cows for 24-hrs using temporary fence to define a grazing paddock.
- 12:00 pm Lunch (provided)
- 1:00 pm Assignment: Determine forage productivity (standing crop) using different techniques.
- 2 – 5 pm Tour of CSU forages & grazing. Review grasses, legumes, & mixes. Changing forage production programs to meet cowherd needs.
- 5:00 pm Adjourn

## May 23<sup>rd</sup> (Day 2)

- 8:00 am Calculating stocking rate and stocking density.
- 9:30 am Evaluate previous days grazing assignment.
- 11:00 am Assignment: Using new info, do a better job of feeding your cows for 24 hrs.
- 12:00 am Lunch (provided)

## Day 2 (continued)

- 1:00 pm Assignment: Observe grazing behavior of livestock.
- 2:00 pm What can you learn from manure? Compare forage quantity vs. quality.
- 3:00 pm Plant anatomy and physiology. Grasses vs. legumes/forbs. Cool vs. warm season grasses. Palatability and nutrient density.
- 5:00 pm Adjourn

## May 24<sup>th</sup> (Day 3)

- 8:00 am Evaluate diet selectivity using fistulated steers. Rumen anatomy and function. Compare samples from irrigated vs. dryland pasture.
- 11:00 am Assignment: Evaluate previous day's grazing assignment
- 12:00 pm Lunch (provided)
- 1:00 pm Fencing techniques. Fencing options/types for irrigated pasture.
- 2:00 pm In groups of 4, build a small section of temporary fence.
- 3:00 pm Review
- 4:00 pm Adjourn

## Key Topics that will be covered:

- Design of grazing cells
- Determination of appropriate stocking rates
- Design and building of permanent and portable electric fences for use with irrigation systems
- Minimization of animal stress during handling
- Stockpiling of standing forage to reduce winter feed costs
- Enhancement of grazing management skills to improve forage and livestock production
- Increasing forage supply and net income
- Minor pasture renovation
- Reducing costs of feeding harvested feeds
- Gaining knowledge in order to start a new cattle operation
- Improving profitability of cow/calf and stocker operations

## About the instructors:



Dr. Joe Brummer, Ph.D.  
CSU Forage Specialist

Dr. Brummer was raised on a small family farm/ranch operation in south central Kansas. He has been involved in range and forage research, teaching, and extension for over 25 years in Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Colorado.



Dr. Jason Ahola, Ph.D.  
CSU Beef Production Systems

Dr. Ahola was raised on a small beef cattle operation in rural New England. Currently, he teaches courses and conducts research related to low-cost beef cattle production, including methods of extending the grazing season.

***Space is limited – register by May 4, 2012!***