



# Grazing Gazette

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## Two Organic Livestock Farms Featured in Pasture Walks

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013.

Starting at 3:00 p.m. we'll visit *Earth be Glad Farm* managed by Mike and Jennifer Rupprecht near Lewiston. This is an organic, grass fed beef operation with a long established rotational grazing system. Here's a chance to ask questions and observe the methods the Rupprecht's use to produce grass fed beef. During the pasture walk we'll talk about forage management, the use of cover crops, and strategies used for marketing grass finished beef. Jill Sackett, University of Minnesota Extension, will discuss the use and benefits of cover crops and how they can be applied to prevented planting situations and to increase the feed supply for livestock operations. We expect this meeting to end around 4:30 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., we'll restart the meeting at the *Beyer Crest Farms*, a formerly conventional Registered Holstein dairy farm that has recently converted to organic production. This meeting will begin with Jill Sackett's discussion on the use and benefits of cover crops for prevented planting and increased feed supply. The Beyer's have installed a rotational grazing system and they will share with you the experiences they had in learning to manage forages and balance the rations of their dairy herd. Then we'll take a walking tour which will allow participants to ask questions (transport will also be available). The meeting will adjourn at around 8:00 p.m.

Feel free to attend either or both events, light refreshments will be provided, there is no fee for these workshops. These events are organized jointly by NRCS, SWCD, and University of Minnesota Extension.

**Directions to Earth Be Glad Farm:** From Lewiston go north 2 miles on County Road 25, then west 2 miles on County Road 20 (look for Grazing Workshop signs on the right) etc.

**Directions to Beyer Crest Farm:** From Lewiston go north 2 miles on County Road 25, then west 2 miles on County Road 20, follow County Road 20 N as it turns into County Road 27 for 3.5, then turn east on Dixie Dr. (look for Grazing Workshop signs on the left).

# Small Flock Sheep Grazing Field Day

*This will be an opportunity to see and discuss the benefits of rotational grazing on the small scale. Both those producers grazing only a few animals or those considering starting grazing will receive useful tips. A representative of the Farm Service Agency and specifically the Farm Loan Program personnel are planning to attend to present the FSA programs for existing producers, individuals interested in starting a farming operation in the conventional and non-conventional sense, as well as possible youth applicants.*

**Date & Time:** Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

**Location:** The Jerry & Kathy Tesmer farm is located at 22097 County 30, Harmony, MN. Travel 10.5 miles west on Highway 44, 2 miles south on 225<sup>th</sup> Avenue, ½ mile west on County 30. The farm is on the north side of the road.



**Cost & Registration:** no charge and no pre-registration, the event will be held rain or shine.

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