



Winter 2007

Issue #91

Forage Feed

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Important Dates:

- IL Beef Expo
February 22-25
- Forage Institute
February 28
- Hay and Straw Auctions
Orangeville IL
2nd & 4th Saturdays
November—April
- By-Products Seminar
Dixon Springs Ag Center, March 6
- Forage Expo
Summer 2007
- AFGC Annual Meeting
State College,
Pennsylvania
June 23-26

Forage Institute, Annual Meeting To Be Held February 27

Keith Johnson to be Keynote Speaker

Illinois Forage and Grassland is proud to sponsor the Forage Institute, to be held at Yoder's Kitchen in Arthur on Wednesday, February 28.

The agenda will tentatively include the following:

- Dr. Keith Johnson, Forage specialist, Purdue, "What is Your Forage Management Grade?"
- Dr. Larry Berger, Ruminant Nutrition, University of Illinois, "Edible Bunk Covers" and "How DDGS and CGF Fit in Forage Rations"
- Doug Miller, IL Crop Improvement Association, "Certified Weed Free Forage Program in Illinois—What it Is & How it Works"
- Dr. Barbara Frase, Biology Dept., Bradley University, Peoria "Carbon Sequestration in Grasslands"
- Dr. Larry Berger, "Edible Bunk Covers"

IFGC corporate sponsors and local agricultural businesses are invited

to display their companies' products and services at the Institute. For information about table displays, please contact IFGC President Ron Atherton at 1-800-435-9560.

Hay Contest

A hay contest will also be included in the activities of the Forage Institute. Hay bales will be accepted prior to 10:00 a.m. at Yoder's Kitchen in Arthur. Hay for the contest will be set up near the banquet room entrance.

Registration

Pre-registration is required to attend. Please contact the Moultrie-Douglas County Extension office, 122 South Walnut Street, Arthur IL 61911, or phone 217-543-3755 to register by February 21.

Costs will be \$20 per adult prior to February 21; after that date or at the door price will be \$30. Please make checks payable to IFGC. Registration includes coffee and donuts, a buffet lunch, and all materials from the day's educational sessions.

Information will be circulated to local soil and water conservation district or Extension offices as the Institute date nears.

For more information, check the IFGC website, www.illinoisforage.org,

2006 Corporate Members of IFGC

Agri-King Nutrition, Inc., Fulton, IL
Alpha Ag, Pleasant Plains, IL
Ampac Seed, Winona Lake, IN
Barenbrug USA, Vinton, IA
Bergmann Farm Supply, Carthage, IL
Byron Seeds, Dongola, IL
Dairyland Laboratories, Arcadia, WI
Dairyland Seed, West Bend, WI
Dow AgroSciences, Graham, MO
GFC/Bale Band-It, Pittsfield, IL
Hoffman Seed House, Hoffman, IL
JDL Sales, Pittsfield, IL
Merial, Heyworth, IL
Midwest Forage & Grass, Industry, IL
Midwest Laboratories, Inc., Omaha, NE
MIX30/AgriDyne, Springfield, IL
**Modern Livestock Systems, Inc.,
Shelbyville, IL**
Olds Seed Solutions, Madison, WI
Pennington Seed, Madison, GA
Pirok's Big Bale Feeder, Highland, IL

Illinois Forage and Grassland Council is grateful for the corporate sponsorship and partnerships with Illinois Beef Association, Illinois Grassland Conservation Initiative, Illinois Department of Agriculture, USDA/NRCS and University of Illinois Extension. Their contributions make IFGC's programs possible.

AFGC Annual Meeting June 23-26 at Penn State

The American Forage & Grassland Council's Annual Meeting will be held on June 23-26 at Penn State Conference Center and Hotel.

The keynote address at Monday's general session will be *Bio-fuels: Agriculture's Ticket to the Head of the Table*, as presented by Tom Richards, Director of the Biomass Energy Center at Penn State. Monday afternoon will be filled with your choice of four tours focusing on forage crops, grazing, grain crops, and an industry tour. See the AFGC website for details.

Tuesday's producer programs will begin with a keynote address by Neal Martin, Director of USDA Dairy Forage Research Center in Madison WI entitled, *These Aren't Your Father's Forages*. Other programs include, *Can You Use Carbon Credits to Boost Your Farm Income?* Presented by Nathan Clark, Chicago Climate Exchange; and *What's Up With Organic Agriculture?* presented by Erin James, Director of Pennsylvania Certified Organics.

Companion tours on Monday and Tuesday will include stops in the Amish country and various historic sites in the area.

The event is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Forage & Grassland Council, and Penn State University. For more information call the AFGC Office -800-944-2342 or go to the AFGC website: www.AFGC.org and follow the conference links.

Welcome Corporate Sponsors!

Dairyland Laboratories

Arcadia, WI

Dairyland Seed

West Bend, WI

IFGC Address Change

The IFGC has changed its mailing address. Please send all future correspondence, including membership dues, to the following address:

IFGC
 PO Box 233
 Greenville, IL 62246

Hay-Straw Auctions Set For Fall and Winter

*Prepared by Jim Morrison
Extension Educator, Crop Systems
Rockford Extension Center, University of Illinois*

The Northwestern Illinois Forage and Grassland Council will host their hay and straw auctions at the Orangeville Boco MiniMart parking lot, Route 26, on the 2nd and 4th Saturday's beginning at 11 am. The first auction is November 11 and the last is April 28.

Consignments should arrive by 10:30 am. It is encouraged, but not required, that hay lots have a certified scale ticket on the day of the auction. This will allow hay to be sold by the ton, rather than by the bale. Straw is typically sold by the bale.

Quality tested hay is encouraged, and a copy of the analysis indicating at least the crude protein, fiber (acid detergent fiber and/or neutral detergent fiber) and relative feed value (RFV) be brought with the consignment. Hay analysis will not be provided on site. A list of forage testing laboratories is available at Extension offices.

There will be no consignment fee for members of the Northwestern Illinois Forage and Grassland Council. Non-members will be charged \$10.00 and this will be collected prior to the auction. B & M Hay Auctions will retain a 6% commission fee from the sale proceeds and 3% for no-sale lots. Sellers can outline their delivery terms as in the past. A skid loader will be available for reloading hay and straw at the sale site.

Dues (\$30.00) to the organization for the January through December year can be paid at the auctions.

Questions about the auctions can be directed to B & M Hay Auctions (608-938-4822), Don Brown, Jr. (815-238-8372), or the Stephenson County Extension Office (815-235-4125).

Co-Products Seminar to be held March 6

A Co-Products (By-Products) Seminar will be held on Tuesday, March 6 at the Dixon Springs Ag Center, at 1:00 p.m. and again at 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Larry Berger will speak on storage and feedlot diets from co-products. Dr. Dan Faulkner will talk about mineral supplements for beef cows being fed co-products. Dave Fischer will explain the dairy applications of co-products. Dr. Justin Sexton will explain supplementing beef cows on forages with co-products.

There is no cost to attend the seminar. Pre-registration is required by February 23. Call the Dixon Springs Ag Center at 618-695-2441 to register. Programs are sponsored by the University of Illinois Animal Sciences Department and the University of Illinois Extension.

Dues Reminder –

IFGC Dues for 2007 are now due. Annual dues are \$25, which includes membership in AFGC, quarterly newsletter from IFGC, and a newsletter from AFGC as well.

The membership year runs from January 1 to December 31. Contact Joy at the address, phone number, and/or email address shown on page 10; or see the website for an application (www.illinoisforage.org).

Thank you for your support!

Alfalfa Production Challenges Focus of Teleconference

Production management is the focus of the *Alfalfa Production – Managing Challenges in 2007* teleconference hosted by University of Illinois Extension on February 26. The program runs from 9:30 am to 12:05 pm and will be presented via distance delivery at more than 30 University of Illinois Extension offices across the state. Registration begins at 9 am.

“Alfalfa growers, dealers and consultants will hear about current production and protection strategies that impact the profitability of alfalfa operations,” reports Jim Morrison, Extension Educator, crop systems and program coordinator. “Information will be presented to help fine-tune management plans for the 2007 crop”.

Steve Barnhart, Iowa State University Extension forage agronomist, will discuss “Keys to Successful Alfalfa Establishment”. Dan Undersander, Extension forage agronomist at University of Wisconsin-Madison, will comment on “Roundup Ready Alfalfa – Results from 2006”.

“Weevils, Blister Beetles, & Aphids – Need for Concern?” will be presented by Dave Feltes, Extension Educator, integrated pest management; and Kevin Steffey, Extension entomologist at the University of Illinois, will discuss “Controlling Insect Pests the ‘Natural’ Way”. Jim Endress, Extension Educator, farm business management and marketing will round out the program with a discussion on “Pricing Alfalfa for Sale”.

Two continuing education units (1 in IPM and 1 in Crop Management) for Certified Crop Advisers will be provided. The program is sponsored by University of Illinois Extension, USDA Risk Management Agency, and the Illinois Forage and Grassland Council.

Contact your local Extension office to see if they are hosting the teleconference. For program details, contact Morrison at 815-397-7714.

AFGC National Photo Contest

The purpose of the AFGC National Photo Contest is to recognize, through photography, the multi-faceted uses of forages. Entrants must submit slides or negatives to AFGC Headquarters. These will be enlarged and displayed at the annual conference held in State College, Pennsylvania in June, 2007. Cash prizes will be awarded for the best photos. “Hay and Forage Grower” magazine is the corporate sponsor of the National Photo Contest.

Photo must have been taken and submitted by an AFGC member. Photo classes include Production, Utilization, Research, People, and Other. Two submissions per photo class are allowed.

Each color print negative or slide must be sent with \$10 for each entry to AFGC headquarters. Please do not send cash. The fee covers the charges associated with enlarging the negative or slide and its subsequent display at the Annual Conference. Make check payable to AFGC.

Submit negatives and check with the following information: Name, address, telephone number, title of photo, photo class, and description of photo in 50 words or less.

Digital photos will also be accepted for this contest, and will be judged along with the regular 35mm photography. Digital photos should not be retouched. Please send digital photos on either a 3.5 disk or a CD, with the fee and information as above.

Deadline for photo submission is March 1.
Send photos and entry information to AFGC, 350 Poplar Ave, Elmhurst IL 60126.

Contact Information for AFGC

American Forage & Grassland Council
350 Poplar Avenue
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Toll-Free: 800.944.AFGC (2342)

Fax: 603.359.4274

E-mail: info@afgc.org

Web: www.afgc.org



2006-07 Certified Livestock Manager Training Workshops

Contact Randy Fonner, refonner@uiuc.edu for program details or go to www.livestocktraining.com

February 9, 2007: 8:50 am, St. Paul's Church United Church of Christ, 3030 North Buhrman St., Nashville IL. Written exam will be offered at 1:30 pm. This workshop has a swine emphasis.

February 16, 2007: 10:00 am, Effingham County Extension Office, 1209 Wenthe Drive, Effingham, IL. Written exam will be offered at 2:00 pm. This workshop has a beef/dairy emphasis.

February 23, 2007: 8:50 am, DeKalb County Farm Bureau Building, 1350 W. Prairie Drive, Sycamore IL. Written exam will be offered at 1:30 pm.

March 9, 2007: 8:50 am, Sangamon/Menard County Extension Office, Illinois State Fairgrounds, South Gate, Building 30, Springfield, IL. Written exam will be offered at 1:30 pm.

Healthy Horses in Healthy Habitats Program Series

Program Series sponsored by Sangamon-Menard Extension Unit and McDonough County Extension Unit

March 1, 2007: Housing, Fencing, Pasture Fertility, Manure Composting, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Sangamon County Extension Office, Springfield IL

March 6, 2007: Housing, Fencing, Pasture Fertility, Manure Composting, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, 4-H Center, Macomb, IL

May 8, 2007: Pasture Walk-Establishment, Pests & Grazing Management, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Springfield IL area

May 17, 2007: Pasture Walk-Establishment, Pests & Grazing Management, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Macomb IL area

July 26, 2007: Vaccine Technologies, Parasite Management, Horse Behavior, Poisonous Plants, 6 :00 pm – 9 :00 pm, River Bank Lodge, Petersburg, IL

Other Regional and State Programs

February 22-25: 2007 Illinois Beef Expo, State Fairgrounds, Springfield, IL, <http://www.illinoisbeefexpo.com/>

February 26: U of I Extension Alfalfa Workshop, presented via distance technology, various county extension offices, 9:30 am – noon, for further information contact Jim Morrison, morrison@uiuc.edu

February 28: Illinois Forage Institute, Yoder's Kitchen, Arthur IL, www.illinoisforage.org

March 2-4: Illinois Horse Fair and Industry Trade Show, State Fairgrounds, Springfield, IL, www.horsemenscouncil.org

March 13: U of I Extension Livestock Manure Management Conference, 9:00 – 3:45 pm, Keller Convention Center, Effingham, IL, for further information contact Ted Funk, funkt@uiuc.edu

March 15,: U of I Extension Livestock Manure Management Conference, 9:00 am – 3:45 pm, Bureau County Metro Center, 837 Park Avenue West, Princeton, IL, for further information contact Ted Funk, funkt@uiuc.edu

March 26: Profitable Pastures for Northern Illinois, Byron Forest Preserve, Byron, IL, 9:30 am to 3 pm. For details and to register contact Bill Lindenmier, Ogle County Extension Office, phone 815-732-2191.

March 29: Profitable Pastures for Northern Illinois, Farm Bureau Building, Monmouth, IL, 9:30 am to 3 pm. For details and to register contact Al Kulczewski, Warren County Extension Office, phone 309-734-5161.

Illinois Forage and Grassland Council



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The mission of the Illinois Forage and Grassland Council is to provide the framework that unites industry, producers, and educational/governmental institutions for the production, marketing, and wise use of forages and grasslands.

2006 IFGC Officers and Board

2006 IFGC Officers

President (Industry)	Ron Atherton Work Phone (800) 435-9560
Vice President (Prod)	Don Brown Jr. Work Phone (815) 865 5471
Co-Secretary/ Treasurer (Gov)	Jerry Millburg Jerry.Millburg@usda.gov Work Phone (888) 458 4787
Past President (Education)	Dean Oswald Work Phone (309) 836 2265

Check out IFGC's web site at
www.illinoisforage.org

Board of Directors

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	Kevin Schwarz (618) 594 7646	06-08
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