

# Larry Israel

- Born and raised in Southwest Missouri
- Stone County
- Grew up on a small farm
- Worked on a dairy farm through high school
- Graduated high school in 1981

# 1990-1999

- Partnered on a cow/calf operation
- Built a herd of 400 cow/calf pairs
- Rented most all of our land
- Bought all of our hay
- In 2000 I bought my partners half of the business
- I worked full time off the farm
- Scaled back to a 200 cow/calf operation
- Continued operating this way until 2008

# 2008 STILL NO PROFIT

- ⦿ Installed my first grazing system in the spring of 2008
  - Consisted of 200 acres
- ⦿ By 2010 all farms were set up for rotational grazing
  - Total of 825 acres
  - Total of 84 paddocks
  - Numbers down to 150 cow/calf pairs

# SPRING 2008 – SPRING 2012

- ⦿ Rotated cattle every three to ten days
  - Depending on the amount of forage available
  - The size of the paddock
  - And the number of cattle grazing
- ⦿ Animal performance ?

# SPRING OF 2012

- ⦿ I could see we were gaining (BUT)
- ⦿ Wanted to take it to another level
- ⦿ Read about crazy people grazing year round
  - Not feeding hay
- ⦿ Started attending grazing schools and seminars
  - Started rotating cattle one or more times a day
  - Larger herds

# HAY CONSUMPTION

- 2008/2009 - Over 600 bales (150 cow/calf)
- 2009/2010 – 450 bales (150 cow/calf)
- 2010/2011 – 150 bales (160 cow/calf - 80 yearlings)
- 2011/2012 – 42 bales (160 cow/calf - 80 yearlings)
- 2012/2013 – 36 bales (180 cow/calf - 120 yearlings)
- 2013/2014 – 8 bales (247 cows and bred heifers)

# FERTILIZER

- ⦿ Last year fertilizer was applied was in 2008
- ⦿ Cost over \$19,000.00

# SAVINGS

- 600 Bales x \$30.00 each = \$18,000.00
- Fertilizer = \$19,000.00
- Fuel = \$5,000.00
- Equipment/Repair = ??????????
- Time = ??????????
  
- Total = \$44,000.00

















































































