

CHALLENGES & BENEFITS of Co-GRAZING SMALL & LARGE RUMINANTS



Who is Maplewood Acres Farm

Family operation

Matt & Jennifer

David, Mariah & Judah

Hannah

Early Adopter of MIG

Improving grass management
for 28+ years

Seed-stock producer of:

Premium Red Angus,

Polled Hereford & Red

Baldie grass ready genetics; Low-input

Hair Sheep & Meat Goats



■ Genetic Selection Goals:

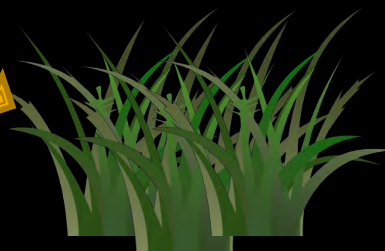
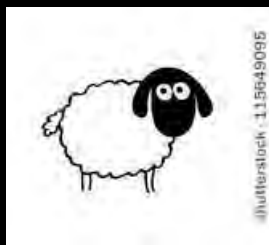
Fescue tolerant ruminants with the ability to utilize annuals, perennials and other available forages and convert them efficiently and profitably to quality protein.

Low-input ruminants designed to maximize grazing days and minimize hay feeding days

- Maximizing Profit Per Acre Through:

- Planned crossbreeding
- Forage management/utilization
- Enhanced selection for fertility, soundness, weight gain, durability & parasite resistance

- We are so Thankful to
be part of the food
answer...
- The ultimate recyclers:
 - The Ruminants
 - The Soil Builders



**“He causes the grass to grow for
the cattle and vegetation for the
labor of man, so that he may bring
forth feed
from the earth.”**

Psalm 104:14



A landscape photograph featuring a vibrant rainbow arching across a cloudy sky. Below the sky is a dense, dark green treeline, and in the foreground is a lush, green field. The text 'WHY CO-GRAZE LARGE & SMALL RUMINANTS' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font in the lower half of the image.

WHY CO-GRAZE LARGE & SMALL RUMINANTS

Enhance pasture quality
Fully utilize available forage resources
Maximize all farm acres
Lower per acre land costs
Add one small ruminant per cow





A NEW MANAGEMENT RESOURCE



CHALLENGES IN SMALL RUMINANT PRODUCTION:

- PREDATOR CONTROL



- FENCING and LABOR



- PARASITE MANAGEMENT



2 SYSTEMS TO MITIGATE PARASITE MANAGEMENT:

1. Simultaneous co-grazing with
40-50 days pasture rest interval
2. Alternating small ruminant/large
ruminant grazing with 30 day
pasture rest interval

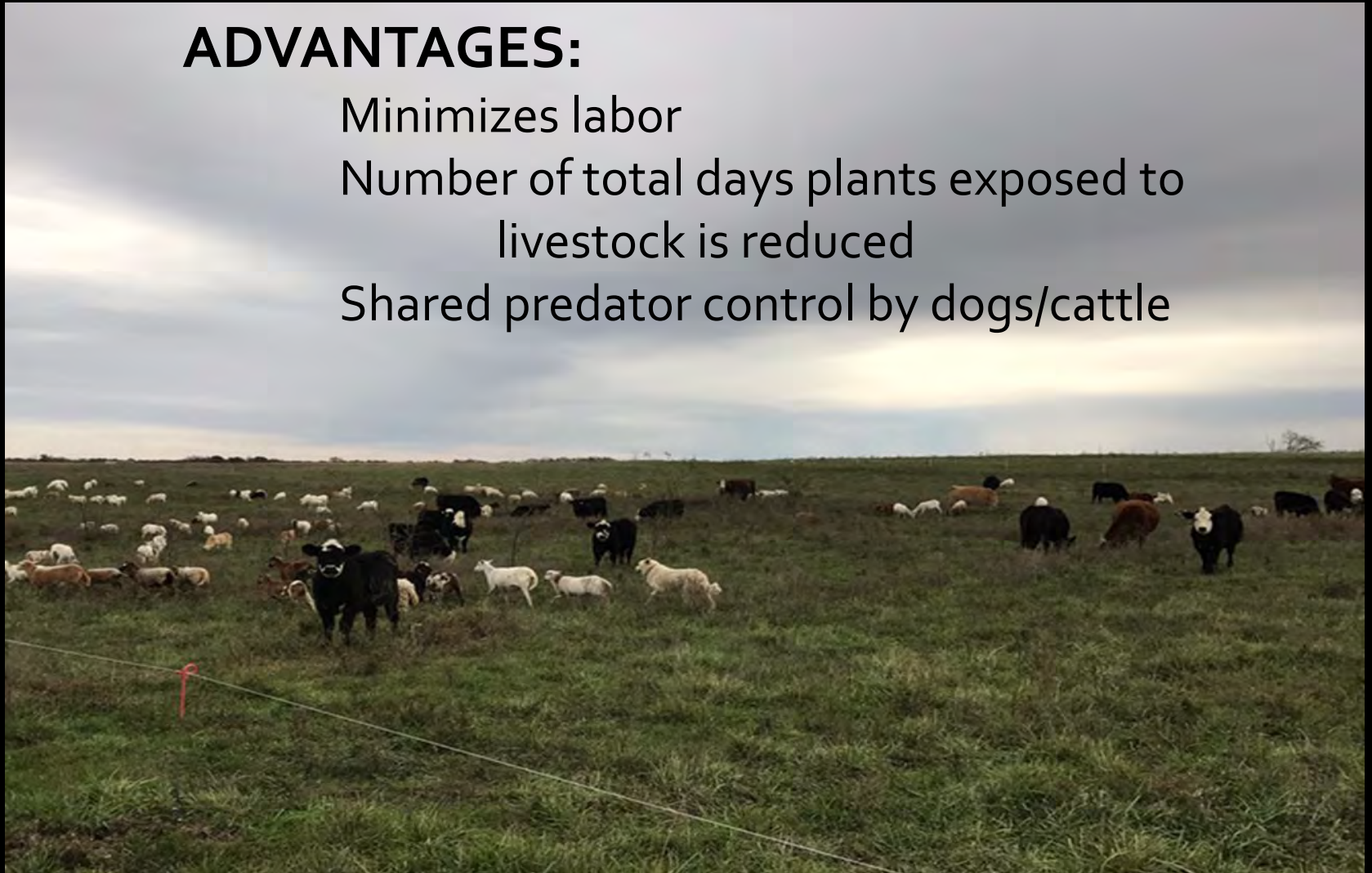
1. SIMULTANEOUS CO-GRAZING OF SHEEP/GOATS & CATTLE

ADVANTAGES:

Minimizes labor

Number of total days plants exposed to livestock is reduced

Shared predator control by dogs/cattle





SIMULTANEOUS CO-GRAZING OF SHEEP/GOATS & CATTLE

DISADVANTAGES:

Takes significant time to introduce
dogs/calves/cows to accept one another
All fences have to be sheep & goat proof
Uses of one 30" high tensile wire/gives dogs place to go
May not be a good idea during lambing and kidding;
lambs & kids vulnerable/stepped on



2. ALTERNATING SMALL RUMINANT/LARGE RUMINANT GRAZING

ADVANTAGE:



- Focus your attention on one species
- Allows greater control/pressure on plant species
- Great mitigator of parasites
- Ideal for lambing and kidding

DISADVANTAGE:

- Requires really good planning and record keeping
- No shared predator control
- Longer plant exposure to livestock over the course of the year than simultaneous co-grazing

RESULTS of Parasite Management



2017-ZERO
small ruminants
(out of 830)
exhibited
parasite burden

Boatright farms

WHY WE MANAGE OUR FORAGE

--Profitable ruminant production based on our Ability to manage and raise grass and forage



--If we take care of the forage, we put pounds on our livestock quicker and with less expense



--The longer and more completely we can graze (extend grazing days) the more dollars go in our pockets



Maplewood Acres Farm

- **31st Annual Bull & Female Sale**
March 24, 2018 1:00 pm

Red Angus, Composite, & Polled Hereford Bulls; Fall Bred and
Spring Open Females

- **2nd Annual Sheep & Goat Sale**
October 2018

“Every moving thing that
is alive shall be food for
you; I give all to you, as I
gave the green plant.”

Genesis 9:3 NASB

MAPLEWOOD ACRES FARM

- Sedalia, MO

www.maplewoodacresfarm.com

mboatrig@gmail.com



THANK YOU

www.maplewoodacresfarm.com