

# Franklin County Graziers



**Titus Martin**  
**Grazing Specialist**

# Initial Startup

- ❖ **Who will be involved?**
  - ❖ Farmers
  - ❖ Ag Business
  - ❖ Agency Staff
- ❖ **Elect Officers/Select Coordinating Committee**
- ❖ **Develop Goals and Objectives**
- ❖ **Financial Support**
  - ❖ Meeting Notices
  - ❖ Postage
  - ❖ Refreshments



Photo Courtesy of USDA-NRCS



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## ❖ Group Structure

- ❖ Organizational Committee is Made up of Three Individuals
  - ❖ makes decisions on the direction of the group
  - ❖ makes a list of farmers willing to hold pasture walks
- ❖ Group Coordinator is Chairmen of this Committee
  - ❖ Coordinates Pasture Walks and Field Days with Input From the Committee
  - ❖ Coordinates Planning Meetings for the Committee



Photo Courtesy of USDA-NRCS

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## ❖ Initial Goals and Objectives

- ❖ Simple Discussion Group
- ❖ Farmer to Farmer
- ❖ Farmer Owned and Operated
- ❖ A Support Group for Farmers Already Grazing or Interested in Grazing



Photo Courtesy of USDA-NRCS

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## ❖ Financial Support

- ❖ Penn State Extension Funds Printing of Pasture Walk Notices and Postage
- ❖ Field Days Incorporate Sponsors for Lunch



Photo Courtesy of USDA-NRCS

# Tips For New Groups

## ❖ Organize as an Independent Group

- ❖ Do not Rely on Local Agency Staff to Organize or Conduct Meetings
- ❖ Develop the Purposes and Goals for Group
- ❖ Adopt Specific Meeting Times and Dates
  - ❖ i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues @ 10:00
- ❖ Select Host and Notify the Location of Pasture Walk
- ❖ Maintain Proper Lines of Communication with “Local Agency Staff” when involving State Staff Specialists
- ❖ Open Discussion Should be Utilized for a Pasture Walk
- ❖ Key to the Success of the Group is Honesty in Discussion

# Tips Cont'd

- ❖ **An Open discussion Pasture Walk Should Have a Walk Leader.**
  - ❖ The Leader Could be the Grazing Group Coordinator or Another Member of the Group
  - ❖ The Host should **NOT** be the Leader
  - ❖ The Leader's responsibilities are:
    - ❖ Watch the Clock
    - ❖ Initiate Discussions by asking Questions
    - ❖ Keep the Whole Group Focused on Pasture Walk
    - ❖ Make Sure the Discussion is Conducted in the Pasture not at the Barn
    - ❖ **Industry Personnel Welcome for Discussion, no Sales**



# Questions?

- ❖ Contact Titus Martin at Franklin County NRCS Field Office in Chambersburg.
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