

**\*PRESS RELEASE: Pasture Schools Announced for May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018**

**Upper Susquehanna Coalition Pasture Management Schools**

**Featuring nationally renowned, pasture consultant, farmer and author, Sarah Flack**

Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 in Steuben County at the farm of Emanuel Kurtz: 2940 CR 2: Addison, NY 14801. After lunch, we'll travel a short ways down the road to the farm of John Burns; 8475 Morgan Creek Road; Lindley, NY 14858

Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 in Chenango County at Allen Troyer Family Organic Dairy Farm, 583 County Rt. 36 Guilford, NY 13780

10:00am to 3:30 pm workshops. (Rain or Shine in the field, please dress appropriately) A donation lunch featuring homemade fare will be available.

Vermont's Pasture consultant Sarah Flack and author of *The Art and Science of Grazing* will be on the farms leading in-depth pasture management and monitoring skills and teaching solutions in growing more forage to lower feed costs. Ms. Flack stresses the use of variable plant recovery periods in grazing system planning and implementation. "Too many times we get in a routine or use standard guidelines and forget to observe the plant growth. Changing the pre-grazing height and what you leave behind is one of the best ways to grow more quality forage. Net farm income improves as you lengthen the grazing season."

These hands-on pasture walks will focus on improving marginal pastures, how to plan out your rotations, early season grazing approaches, determining the best time to graze plants, fertility management, animal impact grazing techniques, weather related management strategies and in-field farmer training exercises to hone your grazier's eye.

The hosting families raise dairy animals, sheep, beef, horses and have multi-species grazing operations on less than stellar soils with limited fertility added. The goals are to use pasture management and grazing techniques to nourish the soil, plants, animals, people and create wealth using the tools at hand, including the mind. Expect fruitful dialogues, reality-based decision-making and networking with peers.

Pre-registration is required to help plan for lunch and logistics

To reserve your place for this unique early season grazing event please contact: Jonathon Barter, Steuben SWCD at (607) 776-7398 Ext. 3 or Brett Chedzoy, Schuyler CCE at (607) 535-7161 and [bjc226@cornell.edu](mailto:bjc226@cornell.edu) for Steuben County workshop

Contact Troy Bishopp at (315) 824-9849 Ext. 110 or [Troy-Bishopp@verizon.net](mailto:Troy-Bishopp@verizon.net) to register for Chenango County workshop

The grazing schools are sponsored by The Upper Susquehanna Coalition, The National Fish and Wildlife Service, EPA, Chesapeake Bay Program, The Tri-County Grazier's Group, The Central NY Grazier's Group, Organic Valley Cooperative, Chenango & Steuben Co. Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Schuyler County Cornell Cooperative Extension, Lee Newspapers and the Addison and Guilford Amish Church Communities.