

Pasture Walks for Profit

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Pasture Walks for Profit



Bahiagrass



Hybrid Bermudagrass



Common
Bermudagrass



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Bahiagrass Hay

**Over grazed
Bahiagrass field**



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Crabgrass---

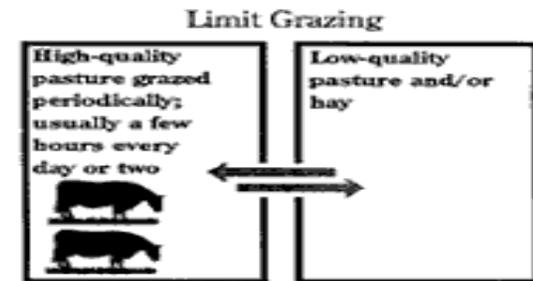
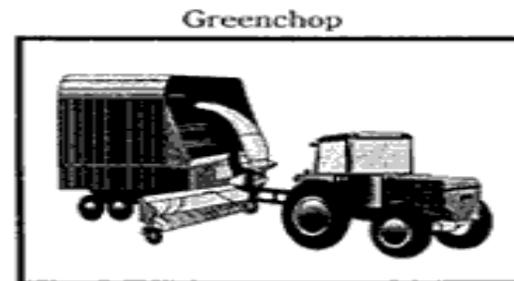
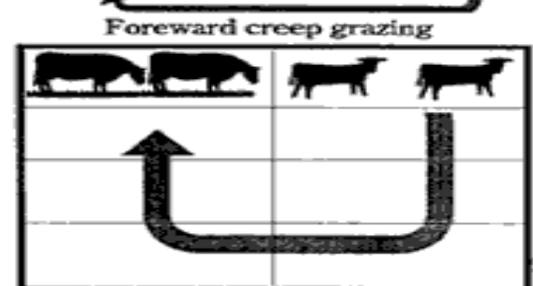
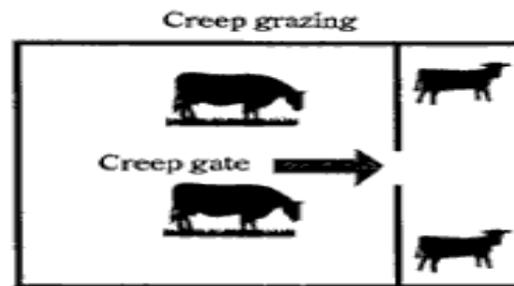
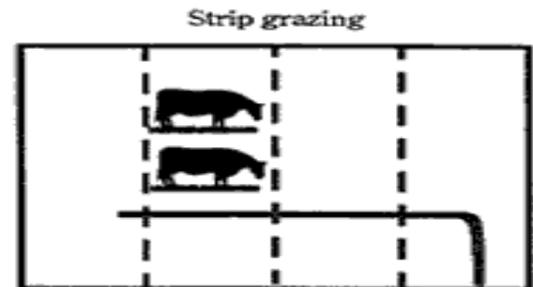
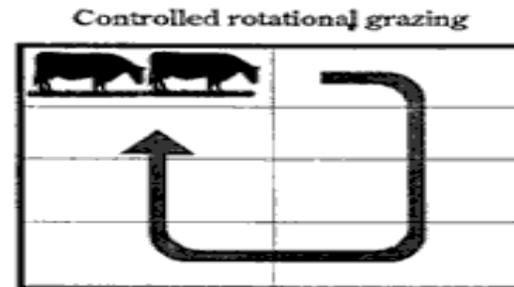
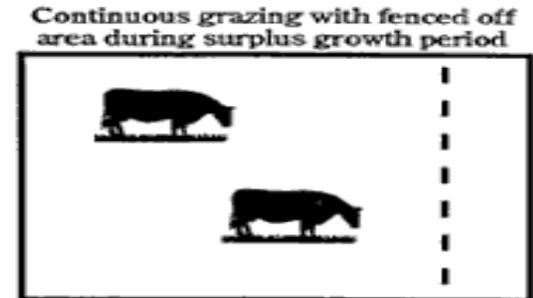
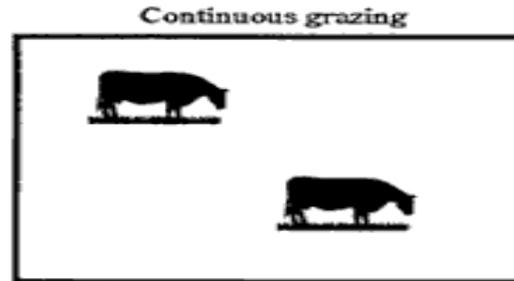


Cows grazing crabgrass at KBC Dairy.

Red River Crabgrass Red River Crabgrass is a reseeding warm season annual grass released by the Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation of Ardmore, Oklahoma. It is the first known proven crabgrass variety and it provides for the first time, a crabgrass forage of known type and potential.

Grazing Method Options

Figure 1 - Grazing Method Options

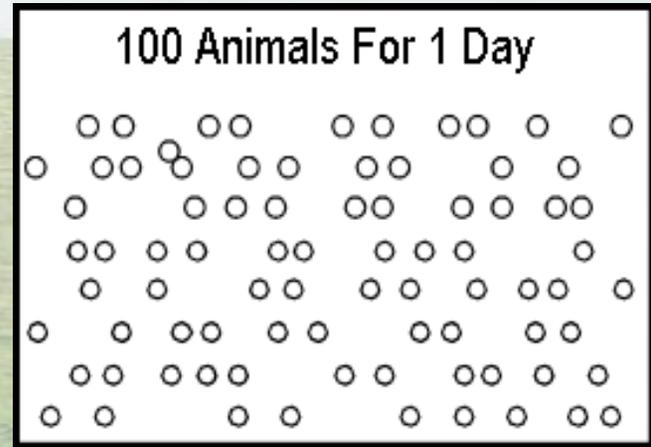


Grazing management options diagrams from the book *Southern Forages*.

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OVERGRAZING IS A FUNCTION OF TIME



Overgrazing is grazing a plant before it has recovered from the previous grazing.

- Overgrazing occurs in two ways:
- leaving stock in a pasture too long
- bringing them back too soon.

OVERGRAZING IS A FUNCTION OF TIME



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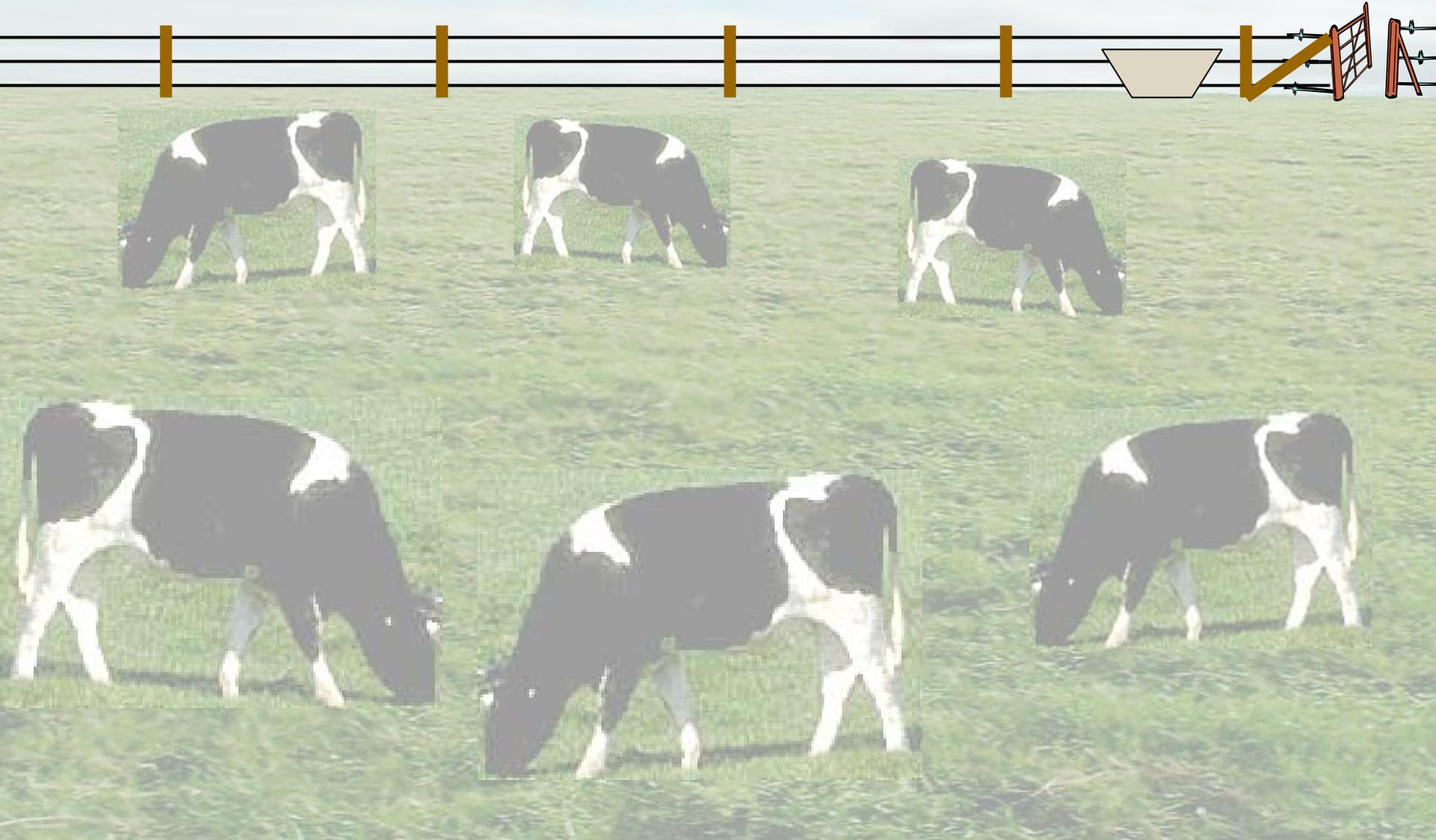


Managed Grazing Systems and Fencing for Distribution of Beef Manure



Intensively managed grazing systems can be a win-win situation, increasing productivity and profits for the operator and improving water quality for all citizens

Conventional Grazing



Conventional Grazing

Benefits of Conventional Grazing

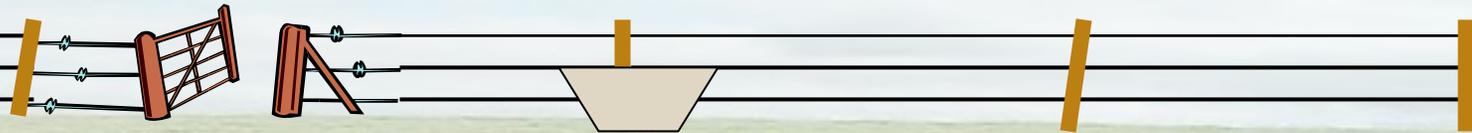
- Low Labor Cost
- Lowest Fencing Cost
- 30% Efficiency Rate



Rotational Grazing



Rotational Grazing



Benefits of Rotational Grazing

Increased Forage Quantity

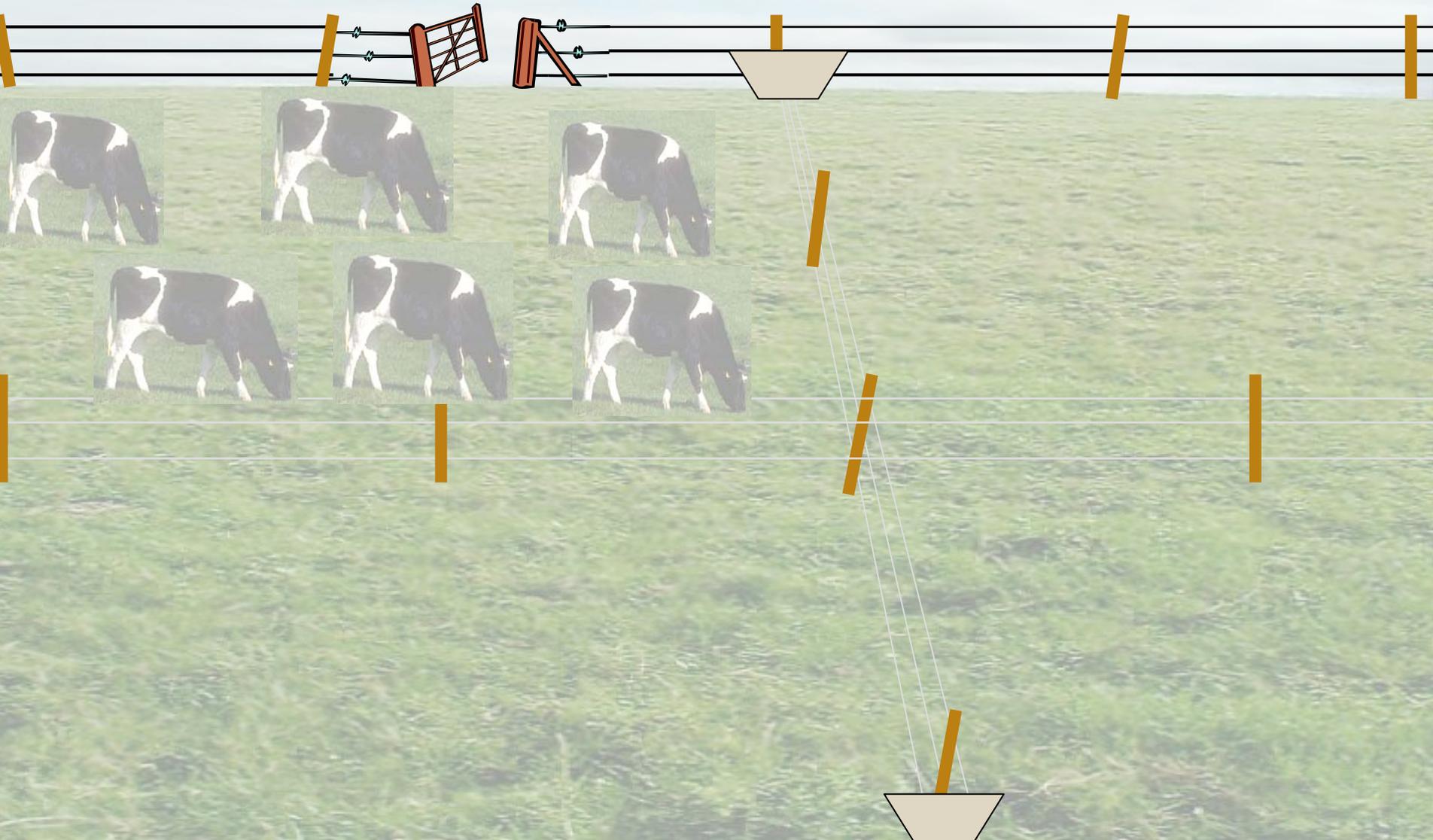
Increased Forage Quality

Low Labor Cost

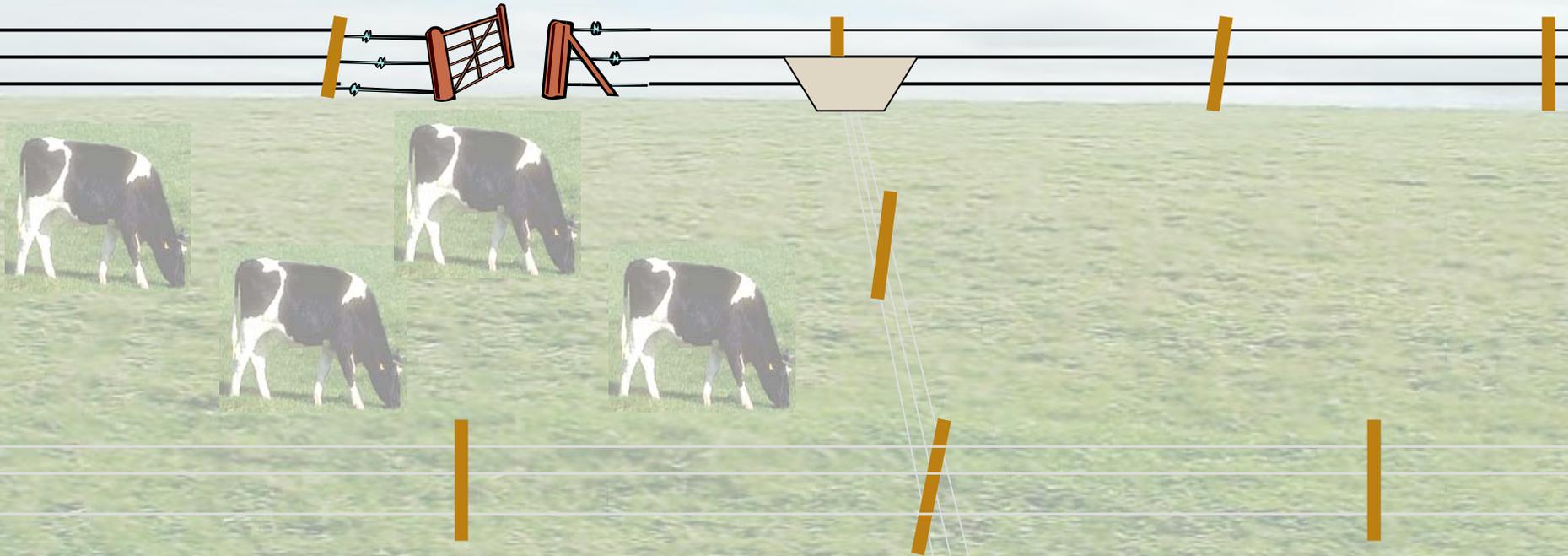
Low Fence Cost



Rotational Grazing



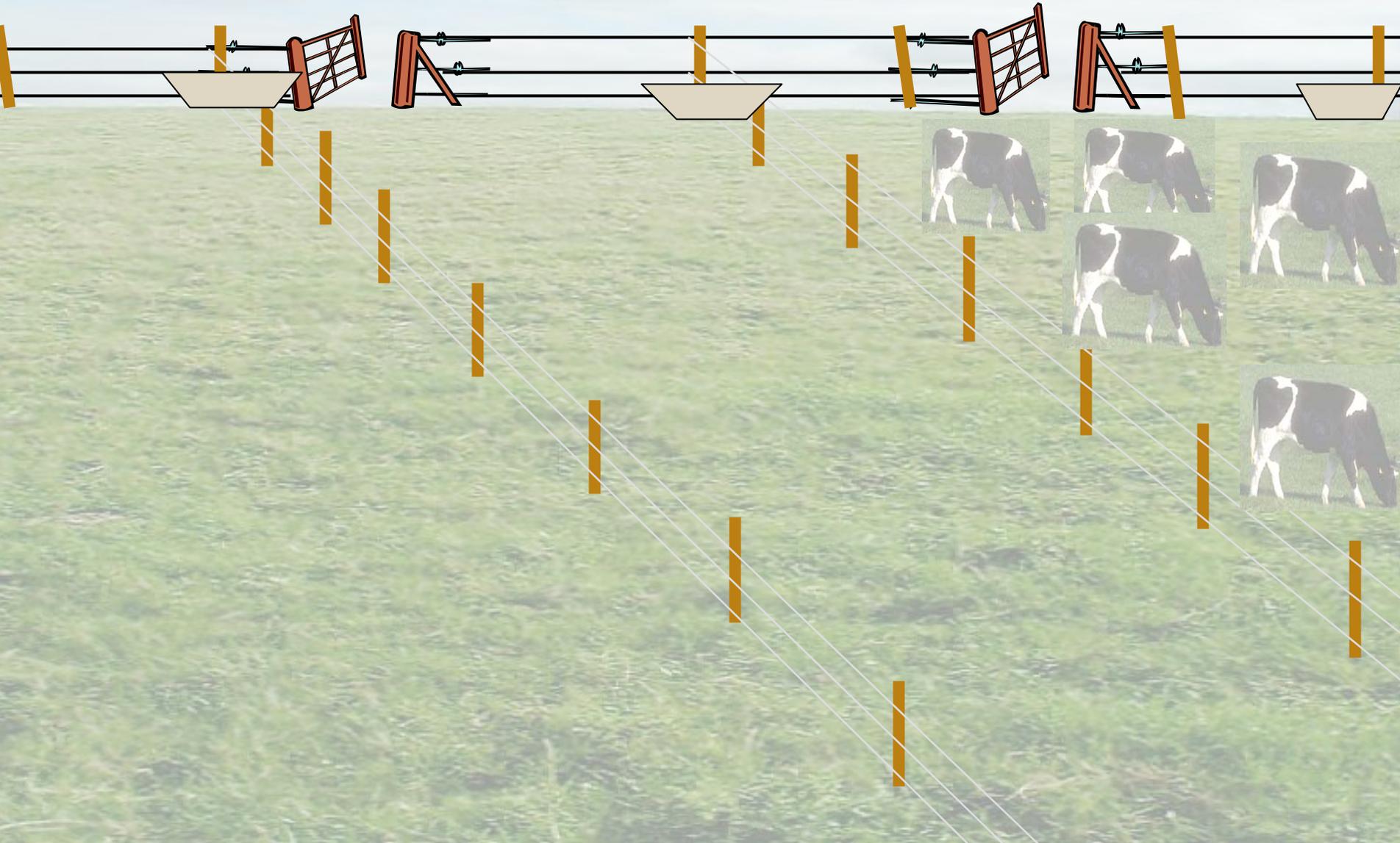
Rotational Grazing



Two Pasture System (35-38%)

Four Pasture System (50%)

Cell Grazing



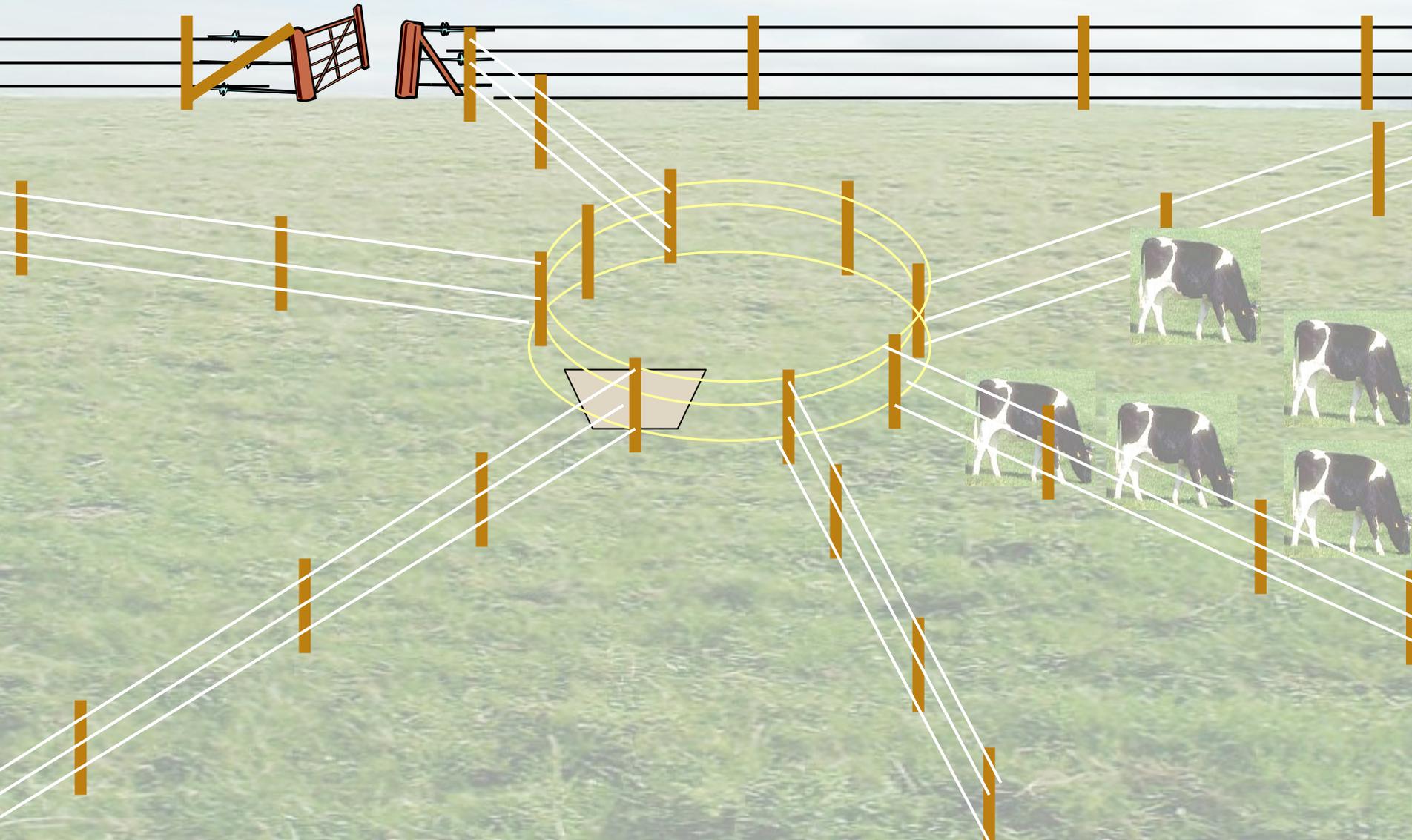
Cell Grazing

Benefits of Cell Grazing

- Increased Forage Quantity
- Increased Forage Quality
- Higher Weight Gains
- Increased Total Stocking



Cell Grazing



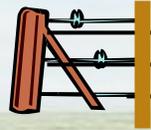
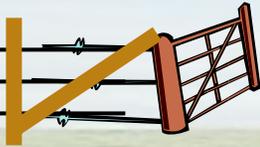
Cell Grazing

Benefits of Cell Grazing

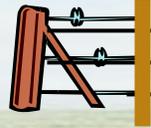
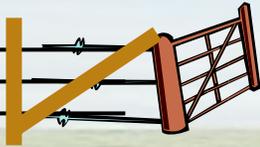
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Area Agent

MSU Extension Service

CIAP GOALS

- ✦ Goal: Improve water quality in the Jourdan River Watershed (Hancock County, MS)
 - ◆ How (Reduce non-point source pollution)
 - ◆ \$100,000. Cost share 60/40 match

- ✦ Actual: increased fencing and forage production in the JR Watershed
 - ◆ \$115,000. Spent on overall program

Performance Against Schedule

- ✦ Plan: 3 years 2 field days per year / 2 year signup for cost share funds
- ✦ Actual: 4 years – program delays allowed for a one year continuance / 2 field days per year (except for 2005 – Katrina, Pasture walk canceled)

Project Planning

How Was the Project Planned?

- ✦ EPA – Gulf of Mexico Program Office – Stennis Space Center – 3 counties, 5 plus municipalities, Numerous Agencies (1 Plan)
- ✦ Plan was accepted by NOAA, MDEQ and State Government.
- ✦ Was project well defined from beginning?
 - ✦ Written plan – 10% pasture to be cross fenced (2500 acres) (25 troughs)

Project Planning

Was the Plan the Right One?

✦ Was the plan a good one? YES

✦ What was good? UNITY

✦ Was the plan realistic? Yes

Project Management

How Was the Project Managed?

- ✦ Meetings: who/when/how often
 - ◆ SWCD, MS S & W, Ext., Landowners
 - ◆ Spring & Fall / 2 times per year
- ✦ Local Soil and Water Personnel continually met with landowners for project approval and guidelines

What Went Right

- ✦ Field Days
- ✦ Cost share dollars
- ✦ Beneficial Practices

A wide-angle photograph of a vast, flat green field, possibly a meadow or prairie, extending to a flat horizon. The sky is filled with soft, white and grey clouds, suggesting an overcast day. The overall tone is calm and open.

Questions?