

Twilight Forage Tours

Native Grasses for Summer Forage

hosted by
The Center for Native Grasslands Management
The University of Tennessee

Please come join us for a twilight forage tour to learn more about using native grasses such as big bluestem, switchgrass, and eastern gamagrass in your forage program. These highly drought tolerant, long lasting, low input, warm-season perennials can produce high yields of hay (4 – 6 tons/acre) and excellent animal performance when grazed (1.1 – 2.6 lbs. ADG on steers) during the summer.

Each tour will be held at a University of Tennessee Research and Education Center. Ongoing grazing trials will be visited and the latest results made available. Tours at all locations will begin at 5:30 PM local time with a grilled steak supper. After a brief presentation, the group will tour the native grass pastures with the researchers, extension specialists, and the Center staff managing the grazing projects. Topics to be discussed include:

- Establishing native grass forages
- Grazing management
- Hay production with native grasses
- Integrating forage and biofuel production
- Managing native grasses for forage and wildlife



There is no cost for the tour, but you must register two weeks prior to the scheduled tour date in order to attend. In order to register, please go to <http://nativegrasses.utk.edu/>, and click on the link for “Forage Tours” on the home page. You may also register by e-mailing your name, affiliation (producer, business or agency name), and contact information (mailing address, phone, and if available, e-mail address) to mwright@utk.edu or by calling 865-974-7346 and providing that same information. You may register multiple individuals, but please provide the requested information for each.



Forage Tour Dates and Locations:

(all tours 5:30-8:30 p.m. local time)

May 24 – Middle Tennessee REC, Spring Hill, TN

<http://middletennessee.tennessee.edu/>

May 26 - Highland Rim REC, Springfield, TN

<http://highlandrim.tennessee.edu/>

June 21 - Ames Plantation REC, Grand Junction, TN

<http://www.amesplantation.org/>

June 30 - REC at Greeneville, Greeneville, TN

<http://greeneville.tennessee.edu/>



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