Integrating Livestock into a Cash Grain Operation

Jack Erisman

Why Do It?

• What is the outcome you want to achieve?
  – Placing marginal ground into permanent pasture versus utilizing livestock in a pasture-and-crop rotation.
  – Build Soil
  – Diversify
  – Satisfy a Market
Considerations

• Species
• Farm Infrastructure
  • Water
  • Food
  • Containment
  • Comfort
  • Handling
Considerations

• Labor
  – Employee considerations

• Additional Equipment
  – The cost of making and handling feed and hay can consume profit.
  – Water Distribution

Considerations

• Pasture and Crop Rotations
  – Long vs. Short
  – Cover Crops

Grasses Build Soil!
“If your life’s work can be accomplished in your lifetime…

you’re not thinking big enough.”

Enjoy the Journey