

The University of Vermont Center for Sustainable Agriculture



The Center cultivates understanding, innovative practices and policies to advance sustainable food and farming in VT and beyond.



Established in 1994, the UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture:

- Supports farmers and communities through diverse approaches to collaborative learning and applied research;
- Integrates scientific expertise and practical wisdom for ecologically-balanced and viable choices
- Links aspiring and experienced farmers, communities, consumers, service providers, policy makers, scientists, and students to new resources, networks, and partnerships;
- Builds the capacities of our partners and those we serve to become catalysts for broader change; and
- Shares lessons broadly to increase understanding of current, relevant and credible information.

UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture
106 High Point Center, Suite 300, Colchester, VT 05446
(802) 656-5459
sustainable.agriculture@uvm.edu
www.uvm.edu/sustainableagriculture



Support from the Pasture Program Team – FY 2009

We are here to provide **assistance in grazing planning** (pre-contract/Conservation Technical Assistance) and **implementation of non-engineering/grazing-related practices for farmers in all NRCS contracts**. This agreement was put into place to help with any excess workload, to provide high-quality grazing assistance in the long term, and to encourage improved pasture and farm management on grass-based or would-be farms throughout the state.

Practice implementation: Chuck and Todd can facilitate and certify NRCS-contracted practices such as fencing, seeding, watering facilities, and animal trails and walkways:

Chuck Mitchell cmitchell@pshift.net or 802-888-5441

Todd Shuttleworth info@shuttleworthfarm.com or 802-233-8495

For technical assistance or grazing planning support, or any questions:

Rachel Gilker rgilker@uvm.edu or 802-656-3834



The Pasture Program

The Center's Pasture Program was established in 1996, as a partner in the Vermont Pasture Network with USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative and the VT Grass Farmers Association. The Pasture Program provides staff support to Network activities, as well as pursuing independent research and education.

The goal of the UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture's Pasture Program is to promote and enhance sustainable grass-based livestock farming through improvements in soil, water and forage quality and profitability by working with farmers and other partners to provide research, information, educational opportunities (including grazing workshops and the Vermont Grazing Conference), and technical support.

Our forward-looking purpose is to continue to support farmers through various forms of technical assistance, education, and outreach, and to carry out research, creating valuable and accessible resources. This research will primarily be situated on farms throughout the state, highlighting farmers as innovators.

Our current research is funded in these areas: soil quality impacts of farming methods, pasture species trials, winter grazing, and equine pasture management.

For more information about the Pasture Program's activities, contact Rachel Gilker, Pasture Program Coordinator, at (802) 656-3834 or rgilker@uvm.edu or Jennifer Colby, Pasture Outreach Coordinator, at (802) 656-0858 or jcolby@uvm.edu.
www.uvm.edu/pasture