

# **HAVE YOUR PASTURES SURVIVED THE DROUGHT OF 2012?**



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# DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

- **Begin as early as possible**
- **Take action when you believe you are entering a drought period**



# DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

- **Adjust the grazing period to leave more residue**
  - **Less stress on the plants**
  - **Additional shading will keep the soil cooler**
- **Allow longer rest periods to give plants as much time as possible to recover**



# GRAZING ADJUSTMENTS

- **Increase length of rest periods—**




# DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

- **Reduce the herd size by culling:**
  - **Open cows**
  - **Structural problems**
  - **Bad disposition animals**
  - **Big cows**
  - **Old cows**
  - **Did I mention “Big Cows”**



# FEED INVENTORY

- **Check your hay and feed inventory before the market becomes aware of your problem**
  - **Forage test to know what you have**
  - **Protect hay and feed inventory with sound storage methods—**
    - **Net/plastic wrap**
    - **Good location**
    - **Buildings**
    - **Tarps**
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# FEEDING METHODS

- **Bale feeders—**
  - **New styles claim savings of 10-30%**
- **Unrolling hay—**
  - **Feed only what they need each day**
  - **Feed on ‘thin’ ground or poor stands of grass to help with the reseeding process**
  - **Can feed under a hot wire**
  - **No manure to haul**



# STOCKPILING

- **A great opportunity to control cost and stored feed usage—**





# STOCKPILING

- **Don't graze as close to the ground as in a normal winter!**



# STOCKPILING

- **Don't graze too low...**



# STOCKPILING

- **Let the cows do the work—**



# SACRIFICE AREAS

- **It's better to have one or more paddocks or lots to feed in during muddy times to prevent damage that will inevitably occur**



# RESEEDING

- **Make sure it necessary**
- **Consider endophyte-free or novel varieties**
- **Frost seeding is cheapest and easiest for legumes but less effective fro grasses**



# RESEEDING

- **Interseeding—another option**



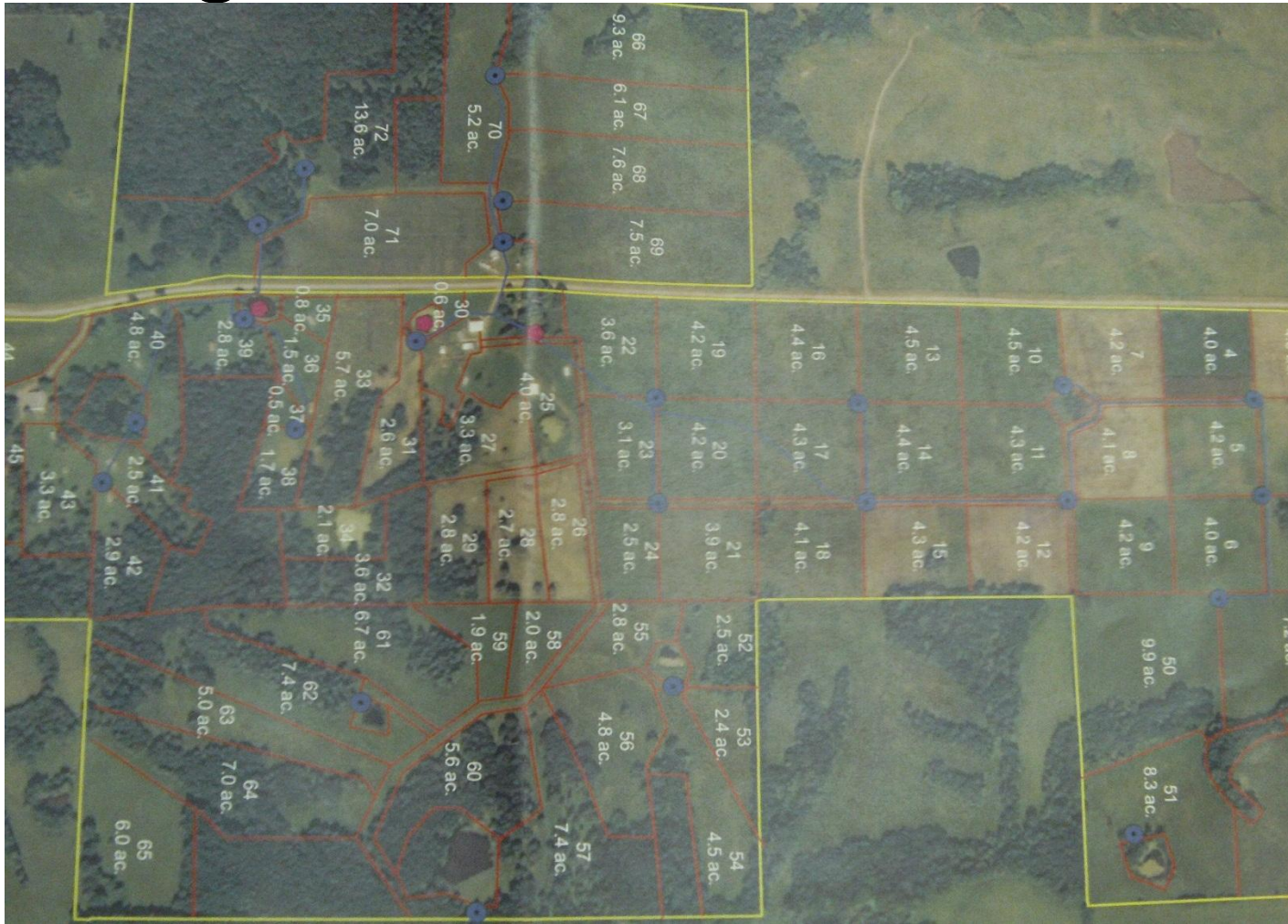
# NEXT SPRING

- **Rotate faster leaving more leaf area giving a faster recovery to drought stressed plants**



# FARM MAPS

## Getting started--





# EQUIPMENT NEEDS

## The Sutermobile—



# MORE EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS



# MORE EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS



# MORE EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS



# BUILDING FENCE



# YOUR GUESS ?



# WATERING ALTERNATIVES



# MINERAL FEEDERS





# MORE EQUIPMENT

**Old faithful—**



# REFRACTOMETER



# SHADE FRAMES



# GRAZING



# WAITING FOR THE TRUCK



# THE END

