



Benefits of No-Till Drilling & How You Can Get Started

Earlier this month, 41 producers and agriculture professionals gathered in Leesville, LA to learn how to operate a no-till drill. Hosts LGLCI and Calcasieu SWCD began with a goal to create an instructional video about how to run the no-till drill, which expanded into an in person workshop taught by both a drill-operating professional, Nathan Hood from Great Plains, and rancher, Hayden LeJeune. The full instructional video will be released on our YouTube channel next month. Thank you to SWCD and NRCS for providing additional assistance to make this workshop a reality.

Following the event, one workshop attendee put it simply: **"No-till drill is not that complicated".**

Several SWCD offices throughout the state have no-till drills available to rent. For the full list of those, and to learn more about no-till drilling, click the button below.



[Read More](#)

Upcoming LGLCI Events

Dec 4: Louisiana Forage Conference | Alexandria, LA | 8:00-3:00

More info and registration for all events at LouisianaGLCI.org/Events

Tara Morris (education@louisianaglci.org or 225-721-1313)

**Sponsorships available for all events*



- **Producer panel** on using virtual fence to manage grazing
- Presentations on **soil health, long-term effects of regenerative management, & updates** from experts
- Weed + grass ID contest , networking, & more!

Sponsorships + Vendor tables available

\$25 TICKET, INCLUDES LUNCH

LouisianaGLCI.org/events

Registration is now open for the 2026 Louisiana Forage Conference! Join us in Alexandria on December 4 for a full day of networking, learning from experts, and more.

[More Info + Register](#)

Forage Highlights: Globe Flatsedge, Dog Fennel, Smutgrass

Is there a forage you'd like us to feature? Something you need help to ID? Respond to this email and let us know!

Globe Flatsedge

Cyperus echinatus

- Warm-season perennial sedge
- Thrives in wet or poor draining areas
- Blooms June-September; starts green, then turns reddish brown at maturity
- **Leaves:** Light green; triangular stem
- **Seed heads:** Round, clustered; branches at the top of the stem, and the seeds are arranged in globe-shaped clusters
- **Roots:** short, knotted rhizomes



Photo credit: Larry Allain, U.S. Geological Survey

Dog Fennel

Eupatorium capillifolium

- **Stem**
 - Straight, brown/copper in color with small hairs
- **Leaves**
 - Green, alternate, opposite arrangement
- **Seedhead**
 - Leafy and branch-like
- **Height**
 - 3-10 feet
- **Origin**
 - Native to US
- **Lifespan**
 - Perennial
- **Growing Season**
 - Warm season
- **Commonly Found**
 - Dry, sandy soils, roadsides, and old fields/pastures



Photo credit: Larry Allain, U.S. Geological Survey

Smutgrass

Sporobolus poiretii

- **Stem**
 - Fibrous and wiry, round at cross-section
- **Leaves**
 - Green and linear, but a black fungus will cling to upper leaves and flowers
- **Seedhead**
 - Small black seeds, on leaves and flowers. Produces thousands
- **Height (inches)**
 - 7.9 - 43
- **Origin**
 - Introduced
- **Lifespan**
 - Perennial
- **Growing Season**
 - Warm season
- **Commonly found**
 - Roadsides, moist loam, low praries



LOUISIANA GRAZING LANDS CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

New Roots in the Boot Episode: Natural History of Southeast Louisiana, with Brian Early

In this episode, LGLCI Executive & Education Director Tara Morris sat down to chat with Brian Early, State Plant Community Ecologist for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Brian shared a wealth of knowledge about the native flora and fauna of Louisiana, and their historical significance to the landscape. Additionally, **Brian gave insight to the benefits that planned land disturbances, such as grazing and/or prescribed fire, can have on the ecosystem.**

This episode is available now on [Spotify](#), [Apple Podcasts](#), and [YouTube](#).

Helpful Resources:

Southern SARE Producer Grants

The goal of the grant program is for farmers/ranchers to conduct projects to solve challenges and problems they face, and develop information on what works and doesn't work so that other farmers and ranchers facing those same problems can benefit from the results of the funded project. **Calls for Proposals open in September** and grants are awarded February the following year. Project duration is for 2 years. [Learn more >>>](#)

C-GRIP

The Coastal Grassland Restoration Incentive Program (C-GRIP) provides financial incentives to private landowners for conducting habitat treatments that improve suitability of grassland bird habitat on their property. [Learn more >>](#)

Growing GRASS

The Growing GRASS project aims to get farmers, ranchers, and herders of regeneratively raised beef and bison more overall value out of their livestock. It is a USDA-funded "Advancing Markets for Producers" (AMP) project; all support for producers comes from this USDA grant. [Learn more >>](#)

2026 Photo Contest Now Open!

Submit your best photo (or photos) from your farm!

We would love to feature photos from Louisiana's grazing lands, forages, hay fields, and more. **Amateurs, pros, and in-between are welcome!**

The submission form will be open until 11:59 pm on October 31. Winning photos will be printed on posters to display at the Louisiana Forage Conference on Dec. 4th, 2026.



Last year's winners!

[Submit Your Photos!](#)

External Events of Interest:

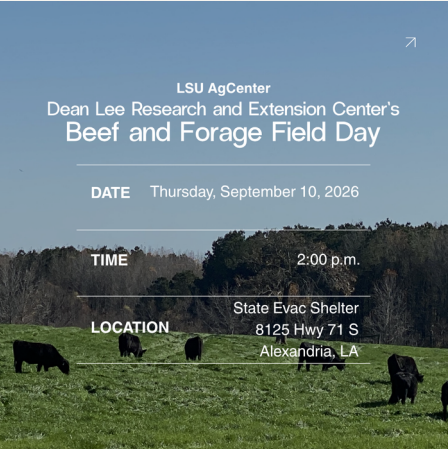
- September 8: Current Beef Cattle Research Webinar (Heifer Development)
- September 10: LSU AgCenter Beef & Forage Field Day | Alexandria, LA
- September 10: LA Master Farmer Program Phase 1 Training | Alexandria, LA
- September 12-13: Farmer Veteran Coalition Resource Farm Tour | Belle Chasse, LA
- September 15: Current Beef Cattle Research Webinar (Heat Stress)
- September 17: LSU AgCenter Beef & Forage Field Day | Mangham, LA
- September 23-24: NatGLC Grazing the Heartland Bus Tour | Sioux Falls, SD
- January 8-10: Louisiana Cattlemen's Association Membership Convention | Marksville, LA

LSU AgCenter
Dean Lee Research and Extension Center's
Beef and Forage Field Day

DATE Thursday, September 10, 2026

TIME 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION State Evac Shelter
8125 Hwy 71 S
Alexandria, LA



ready to ride?
The road is calling.



GRAZING THE
HEARTLAND



2026 LSU AgCenter Grazing



The LSU AgCenter Grazing School will take place over five sessions, providing information and hands-on experience with a variety of different topics associated with forage production for livestock operations.

Grazing School Sessions:

Session	Topic
Session I – Sept. 16	Soil Fertility and Health, Components of Grazing Plans
Session II – Oct. 1	Comparing Forage Species and Weed Management
Session III – Oct. 14	Establishing Forages, Hay Production, Supplementation Considerations
Session IV – Oct. 28	Grazing Behavior, Forage Intake and Digestibility, Animal Health
Session V – Nov. 10	Grazing Systems, Fencing and Water Supply, Economics of Grazing

* Sessions will be held at the State Evacuation Center, the Rapides Cooperative Extension Office, and the Dewitt Livestock Show Facility.

* Sessions will be from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Registration Information:

Registration Fee: \$175 per participant
Registration Deadline: September 7, 2026

Participation is limited to 30 participants

Register Online
Scan the QR code or visit:
<https://lsuagcenter.regfox.com/lsu-agcenter-2026-grazing-school>



For more information or questions, contact Kurt M. Guidry.

Email: kmguidry@agcenter.lsu.edu Phone: 225-281-5948

The LSU AgCenter Grazing School takes place over five sessions, providing information and hands-on experience with a variety of different topics associated with forage production for livestock operations.

Specific session topics include soil fertility and health, weed management, hay and baleage production, forage management, grazing management, forage nutritive value and animal requirements, designing grazing systems, and economics of improved grazing systems.

Registration deadline: September 7. [Click here for more info.](#)



News and helpful articles we've noticed this month:

Videos:

- [More Profit Per Acre: Integrating Cover Crops and Livestock](#)
- [Ranchers using new tool to fight drought](#)

Podcast:

- [Stockman Grass Farmer Advanced Mapping Tools for Grazing Management with Jim Gerrish](#)
- [Roots in the Boot: Natural History of Southeast Louisiana, with Brian Early](#)

Articles:

- [Drovers: Is the Heifer Development Game Worth the Gamble?](#)
- [Farm Progress: 50 years of regenerative soil health practices pay dividends](#)
 - “...you don’t need more land to increase profitability and fertility. By making changes in the best interest of soil health, increased profitability can occur. It just takes time and the ability to listen to what the land needs.

— Tara Morris, Executive & Education Director, Louisiana GLCI

If you ever find good resources to share, feel free to send them our way!
-Tara Morris, education@louisianaglc.org



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www.louisianaglc.org/sponsorlgc



 225-721-1313

 contact@louisianaglc.org



Get Involved with Louisiana GLCI

We are a producer-led and producer-focused 501(c)(3) non-profit that promotes, inspires, and teaches conservation-focused and profitable grazing practices across Louisiana through farmer-to-farmer education and networking.

You can become involved by being a financial supporter or event sponsor, an education provider, a volunteer, or just spreading the word about our events and education.

See more at the [Get involved](#) section on the website.



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