

Illinois Forage Institute Set For March 24

SIMPSON, ILL.

The Illinois Forage Institute will be held on Thursday, March 24 at the University of Illinois Dixon Springs Agricultural Center near Simpson, Illinois beginning at 9:00 am and concluding at 4:00 pm. The Dixon Springs Agricultural Center is located in southern Illinois about 25 miles south of Harrisburg on Route 145 in Pope County. The educational program will focus on managing hayland and pastures. The program will also include commercial exhibits focusing on the forage industry. Companies interested in setting up a commercial exhibit or individuals needing additional information can contact Dave Gentry at (309) 557-6397, dgentry@growmark.com

Topics to be presented in the morning include *Fertility for Pastures and Hay Production* from Brett Roberts, state conservation agronomist, USDA National Resources Conservation Service. Also, Richard Hungerford, state resource conservationist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service will present *Selecting Forage Species* and Ed Ballard will discuss *Year Round*

Grazing and Forage Economics.

After lunch Dr. Clifford Shipley, University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine will present *Grazing Small Ruminants, Horses & Exotics*. In addition the Illinois Forage & Grassland Council (IFGC) will host the Illinois Forage Bowl, a youth competition quiz bowl, and the Forage Spokesperson contest.

Cost for the educational program is \$15 per person for IFGC members and \$20 per person for non-members. Pre-registration is requested by March 11, 2011. Cost will be \$20 and \$25 respectively per person after March 11 and at the door on March 24. Registration covers a noon meal and forage presentation handout material. Program registration can be made by contacting Illinois Forage & Grassland Council, P.O. Box 233, Greenville, IL 62246. The program agenda can be accessed at <http://www.illinoisforage.org/>. The Forage Institute is sponsored by the Illinois Forage and Grassland Council and supported by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and University of Illinois Extension. Δ



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