

Open Gate: Pogson Ranch



Educating Young People about Soil Health and Regenerating Land with a Pasture Plan

Tuesday, August 4, 2015
Pogson Ranch
Clearwater, Manitoba

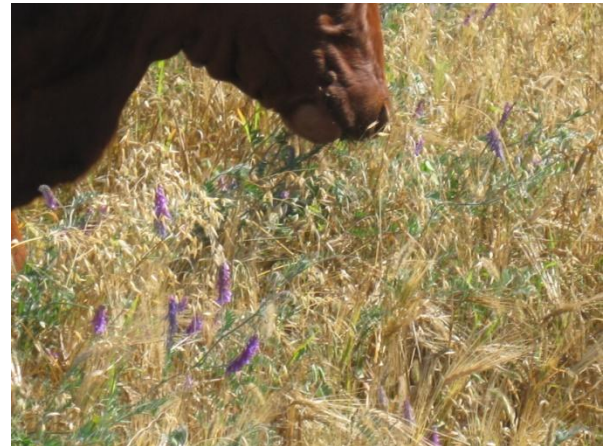
The Pogson Ranch Field Day is part of the Holistic Management Canada Open Gate Learning Series. Open Gates are peer-to-peer action-based learning days with short presentations and small

group exercises geared for participants to share discoveries and management techniques with guidance from experienced facilitators and producers. Whether you are an agricultural producer, wildlife manager, local agency representative, or just interested in ranching, and land stewardship, this is a day for you.

What to Expect

- how to use cattle for – grazing to improve grass
- planned grazing (timing) to increase plant diversity and reseed pastures
- how to stabilize creek banks
- how to reduce tree and shrub encroachment

- how to use cover crops for soil health and structure
- how to extend cattle grazing into fall and winter



Registration

Farmers, ranchers, and land stewards with any length of agricultural experience are welcome to attend. Whether you are raising cattle, broccoli, or wheat, you'll find helpful advice, tips, and techniques to build a profitable, sustainable operation. Registration is \$35.00 per person including lunch, and is non-refundable when purchased online. At the gate registration is \$40.00 per person. Space is limited at each event, so you are encouraged to register in advance.

This is a rain or shine event. Please bring appropriate clothing and footwear

Agenda

9:00 am – Registration

9:30 am – Introduction and Orientation – Certified Educators – Ralph and Linda Corcoran

9:40 am – Pogson Ranch – Val and David Pogson

- Overview of the operation
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10:45am – Michael Theile – Ducks Unlimited Canada - What is Soil Health? How to Improve it with Livestock and Plants

12:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm – Ralph and Linda Corcoran

- planned grazing
- succession

3:00 pm – Questions, Discussion and Evaluation

4:00 pm - Adjourn



LOCATION AND DIRECTIONS

From Town of Mather off Highway # 3 go 5 miles north on 442 and 1 mile east - look for the red house!

SPEAKERS

David and Val Pogson – David and Val and their daughter and David's brother Barry operate Pogson Ranch. They run a cow/calf and cropping operation. In 2007 they got tired of high inputs and low returns with conventional grains. David and Val completed a holistic management course and have learned to work with nature instead of against it. Since 2008 they have been using 160 cow/calf pairs and cover cropping to improve and build their soil. In addition they have been using the kids on the land program to teach kids about soil health.



Ralph and Linda Corcoran – Ralph and Linda purchased 8.5 quarters of land in the parkland region in southeast Saskatchewan in 1985. Approximately 500 acres was farmed and the rest was native grass and trees. The farmed land was seeded to grass in 1991 and by 2001 the

grass needed to be reseeded as there was very little production. In 2001 their daughter took a Holistic Management course from Don and Bev Campbell and she introduced them to planned grazing. The next year Ralph and Linda took the Holistic Management course from Don and Bev and life became good. They changed their management and the land is healthier today than it ever was and is still getting better.

Ralph and Linda became Certified Holistic Management Educators in 2009 with a Holistic Goal to let as many people know about Holistic Management as possible. In that time they have met a lot of very good people. They have three daughters, three sons in law and six grandchildren. They are kept busy with all their activities and their quality of life is on the rise. Holistic Management has helped them live their dream to live on a ranch and watch their children grow.

Micahel Theile - Michael was raised on a small mixed farm southwest of Dauphin, Mb. Since graduating with a degree in plant science from University of Manitoba, he has been involved with agriculture and conservation. He currently organizes Grazing Club events in Southwest Manitoba to promote good grazing and proper land management.

