


# The Impact of the Georgia Grazing School: 2007 to 2010

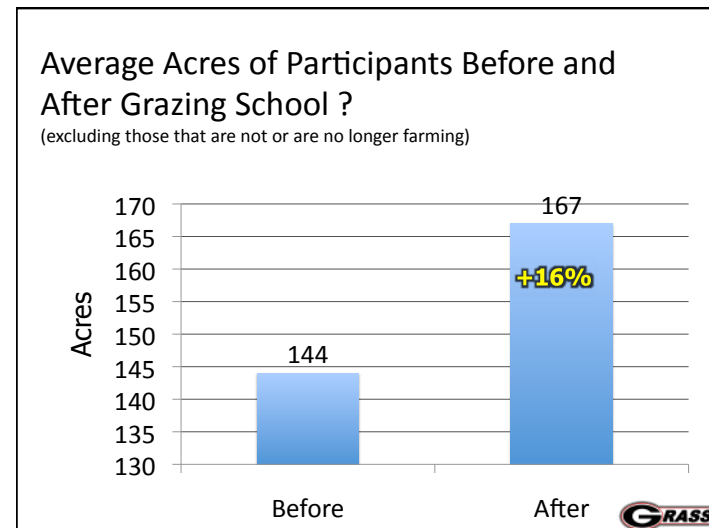
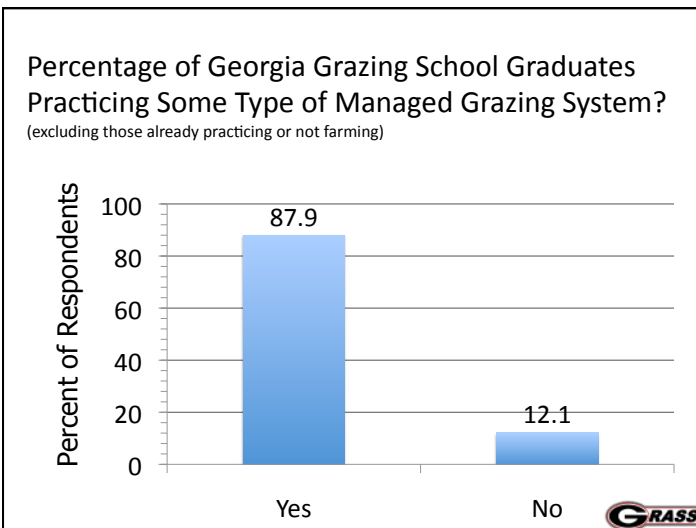

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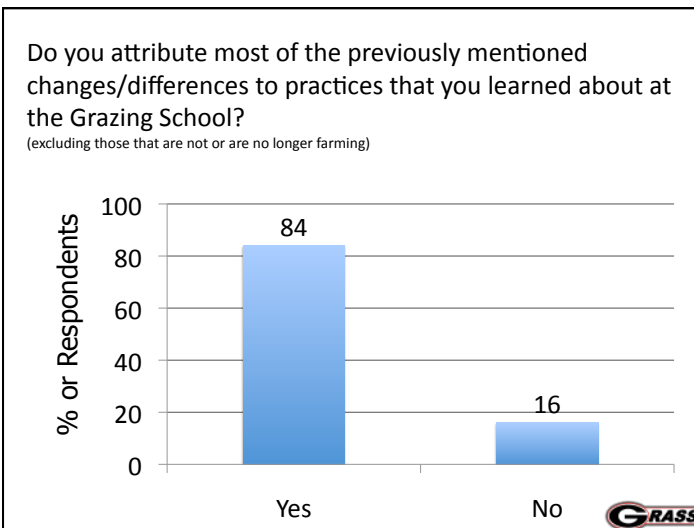
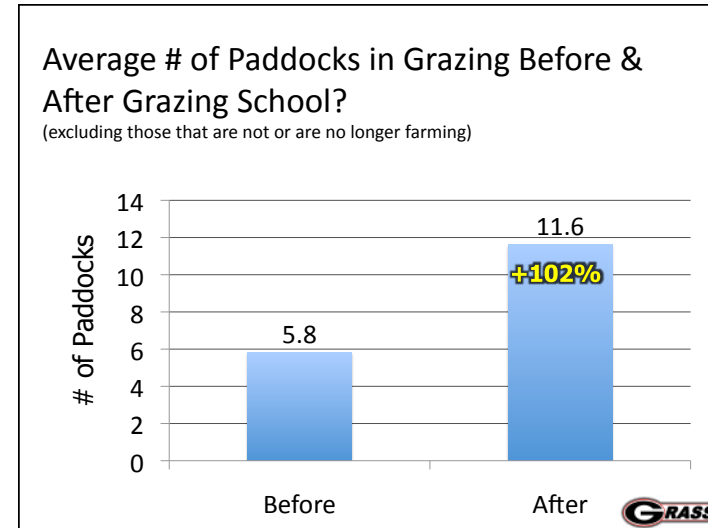
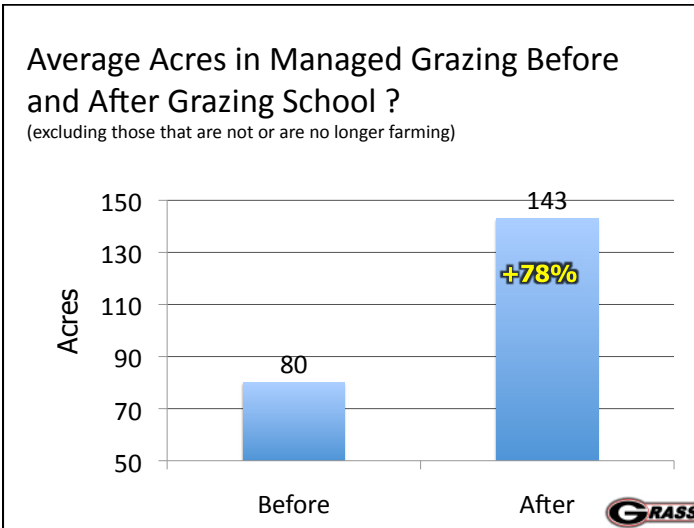
### Overview of Survey

- Online survey (zoomerang.com) was constructed and sent to 134 email addresses representing 147 participants of the Grazing School between 2007-2010.
  - 8 email addresses were invalid (126 participants received survey)
- Received 41 completed surveys (73 visits)
  - 41/126 = 32.5% return



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Do you attribute most of the previously mentioned changes/differences to practices that you learned about at the Grazing School?  
(excluding those that are not or are no longer farming)

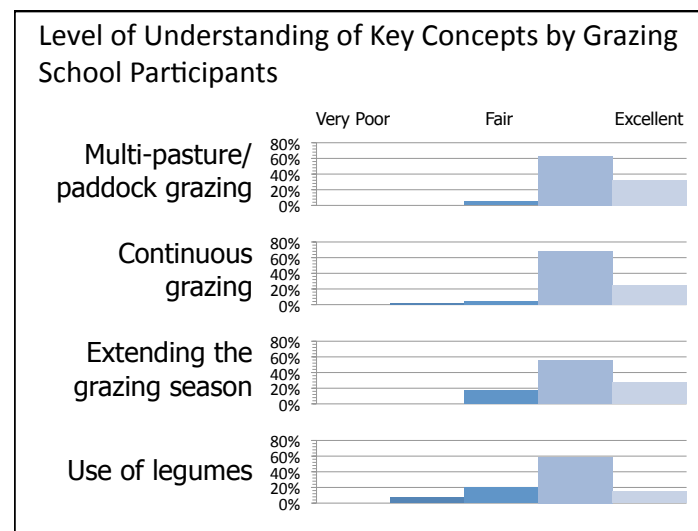
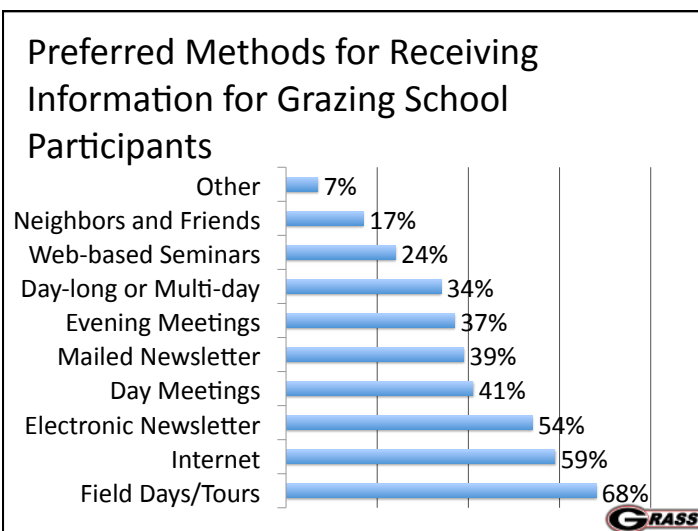
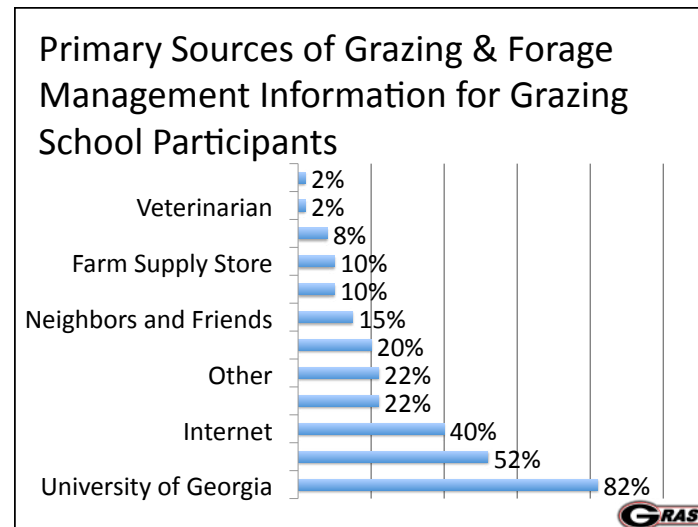
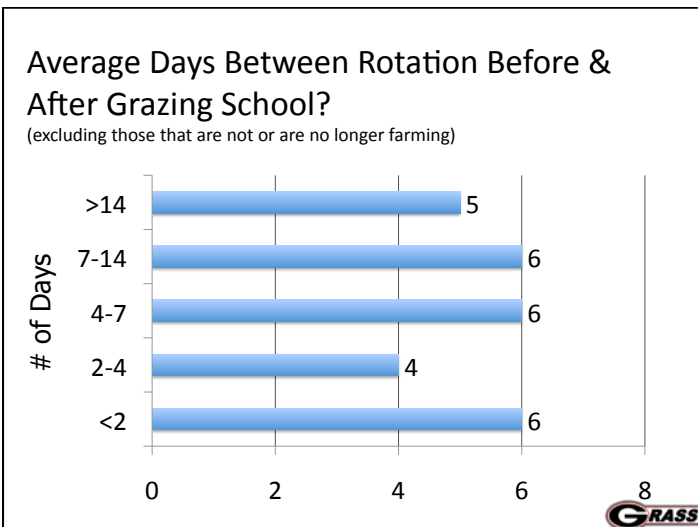
**No, but... (examples)**

- "system was set-up from previous exposure to Ext. services & field days"
- "We have worked with (Specialists) for several years & didn't need to make many changes as a result of this school."

GRASS

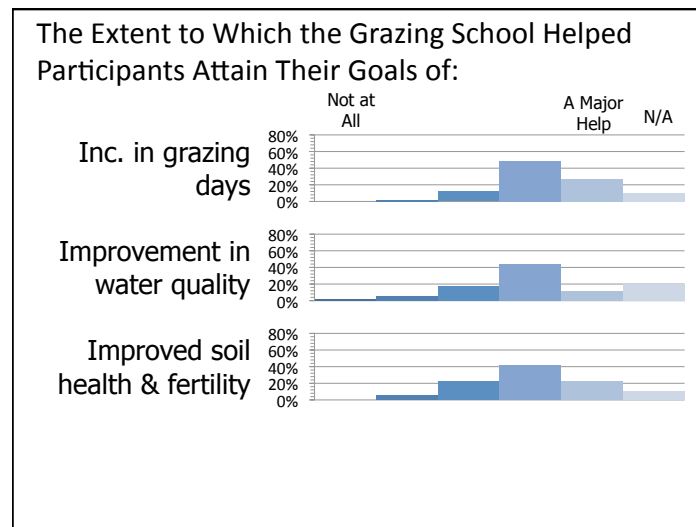
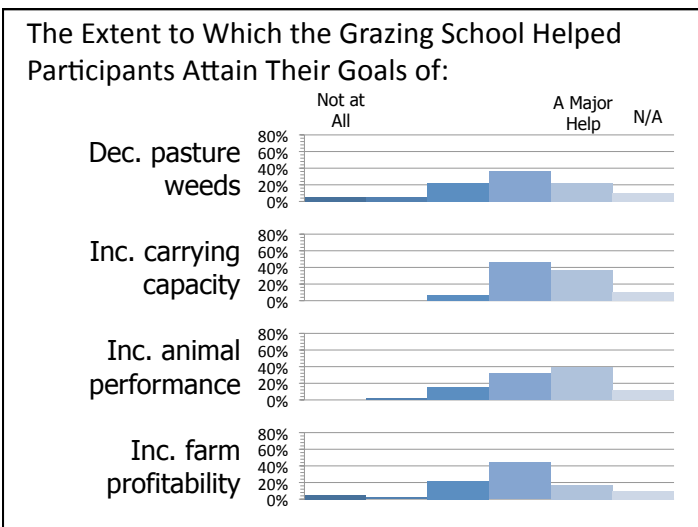
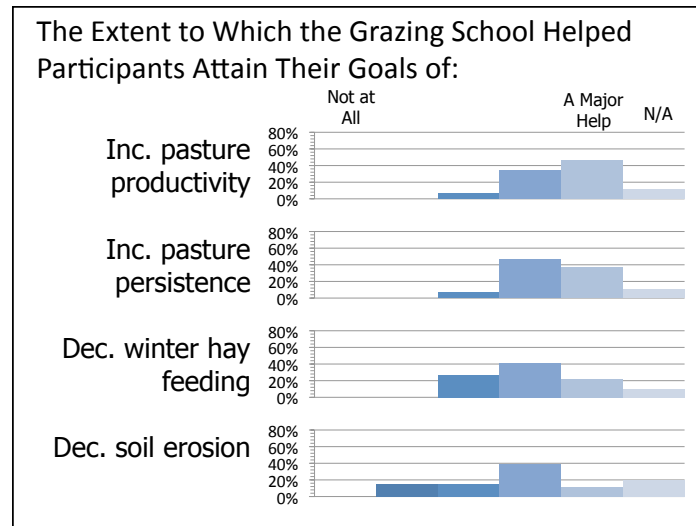
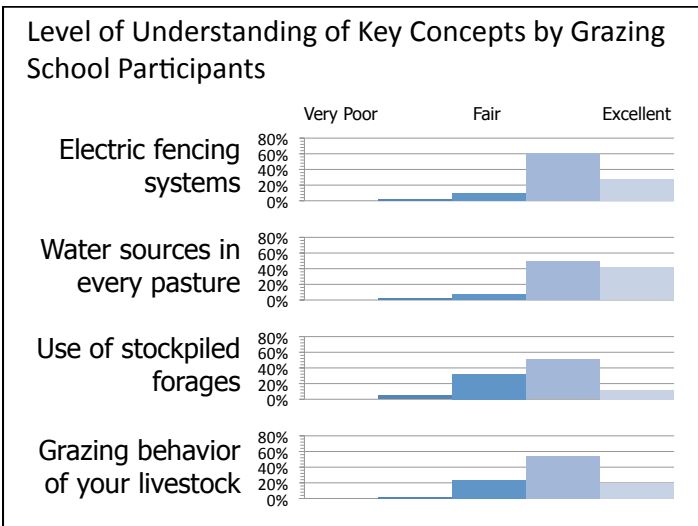
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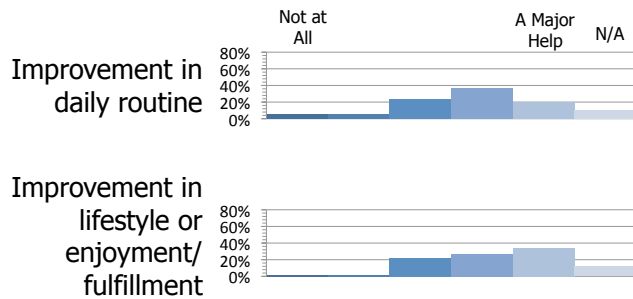
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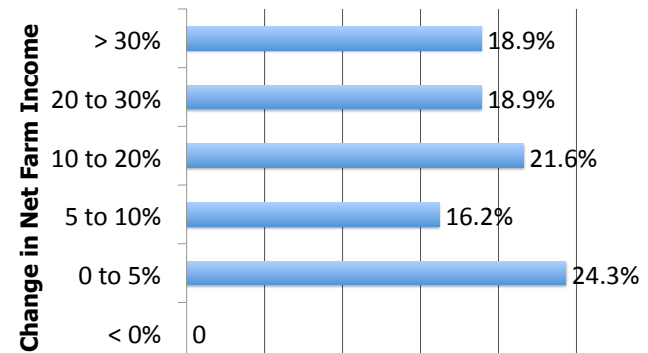
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The Extent to Which the Grazing School Helped Participants Attain Their Goals of:



Percent Change on Net Farm Income of Grazing School Participants Since Grazing School



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## **General Comments about the Grazing School by former Participants:**

*“Being relatively new to cattle farming (5 years), the Georgia Grazing School was the single best learning experience we have had for our farm. While change is slow as we transition more land into permanent pasture, continued learning through the Georgia Forages system is a must if we stand any chance of surviving.”*

*“Farmer/ranchers sometimes need a push to break them out of their safety zone and perhaps to shake them out of their habits. The grazing school is a good push.”*

*“I am an ag professional providing technical assistance to farmers so the Grazing school has significantly improved the technical assistance I provide to other farmers as well as on our own farm.”*

*“I’m forever in debt to the management practices that I learned from the grazing school.”*

*“I have encouraged progressive producers to attend this school.”*

*“Loved it but didn't like the gnats that were in Perry GA. I had to leave because they drive me crazy. I loved the amount of information it provided and will be attending more.”*

*“I think the grazing school was very good and i would also like to commend the hay school as well.”*

*“I am a recent attendee of your school. I need a few more years to practice.”*

*“A lot of extremely useful info for the small operator.”*

*“Yes, My wife and I graduated from UGA, and this type of assistance make us proud of our school. Thanks.”*

*“I have attended three of the grazing schools and each one reinforces what I learned previously and I always come away with something new. Keep up the GOOD work.”*

*“Support provided in resources such as the GA Grazing Schools will help grow the dairy industry in Georgia, which is a state of tremendous potential because of the climate and availability of water as well as the milk market.”*

*“Subdividing paddocks with temporary electric wire helps a lot in managing forage.”*

*“There does not seem to be any "perfect" system and what has worked best for us is to have a good understanding of the underlying science so that we can make changes and modifications (depending upon influences such as weather, finances, market place) with a level of certainty and confidence.”*

*“The grazing school is an excellent opportunity for employees and farm managers to get education concerning the use of rotational grazing.”*

*“There was very good discussion between teachers and farmers with valuable feedback.”*

*“Decreased flies and worms. Plan to have minerals in each field.”*

*“I plan to attend again.”*

*“Enjoyed visiting the farms and talking to the operators.”*

*“I think the Grazing School is a must attend for any farmer with cows or other livestock. I have shared the info I learned at the school with other farmers in my area that were not able to attend. They expressed interested in attending the next class.”*

*“I enjoyed and found the grazing school information to be helpful.”*

*“Y'all have some big operations down there! If you want to see some truly intensive grazing, check out some of the smaller acreage farms up in the North Georgia Mountains.”*

*“Becoming a keen observer with an educated mind and a new skill set has been the best thing to happen to beef on our farm.”*

*“I continue to be very frustrated in trying to extend the grazing season here on the fall line. Also in trying to stockpile bermuda beyond early December.”*

*“We need better weed control in clover and grass pasture combinations.”*

*“An excellent program that has given me insight into several production practices that I was unaware of or was not sure about.”*

*“Very well informed topics with data to support.”*

*“This change will be worth the cost.”*