Save The Date!
Eleventh Annual Winter Green-Up Grazing Conference

January 26, 2019
The Century House • 997 New Loudon Road • Latham • NY

Come join us at our eleventh Winter Green-Up, the Capital District’s original grazing conference! Hear talks from grazing experts, get to know other farmers and enjoy a buffet luncheon featuring local, grass-fed meats and other local products.

Winter Green-Up 2019 Speakers
Ridge Shinn founded Big Picture Beef in 2016. His work with cattle goes back to his twenties, when he was herdsman for a dairy farm, but for the past 20 years he has focused on beef. Ridge was the founding director of the New England Livestock Alliance and for two years ran a slaughterhouse in Stafford Springs, CT.

In 2002 he submitted a grass-fed filet mignon to a Wine Spectator competition. This entry triumphed over the grain-fed entries, establishing that grass-fed beef can be a gourmet food. Subsequently Ridge co-founded a meat company and developed markets and distribution systems for grass-fed beef throughout the Northeast.

Marc Cesario and Cheryl Cesario own and operate Meeting Place Pastures in Cornwall, Vermont. Both landless, first generation farmers, they have grown their operation to manage 820, mostly rented, acres of primarily perennial pasture.

While owning a small flock of certified organic hens and Katahdin sheep, their primary enterprise is selling their grass through contract grazing, grass finishing and boarding.

Although much of the stock is raised under contract and not owned, they have the ability to market much of the finished beef under the name Cornwall Cattle Company.

Initially these markets were mostly direct to consumer but

Greg Brann is the holder of a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Science from the University of Tennessee and has almost forty years of experience with that Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Greg has been a Certified Crop Advisor through 2013 and was National Grazing Conservationist of the year in 2014. He has also produced numerous presentations, fact sheets and publications during his career.

Greg has hosted an annual pasture walk on his farm for the past eighteen years, where participants can learn his methods of pasturing beef cows, stocker calves and hair sheep.

Greg also raises donkeys and dogs for guardian animals.
Since then, in addition to managing his own herd, Ridge has consulted in New Zealand, England, Uruguay, Argentina, and all over North America. His work has been recognized in Smithsonian, the Atlantic, the New York Times, and Time Magazine. Marc and Cheryl are passionate about harvesting sunlight and getting it into the marketplace. and has produced meat goats in the past. Timber woodland management and Christmas tree production, as well as native grass management on CREP land for wildlife are among Greg’s accomplishments.

The traditional Winter Green-Up buffet luncheon, featuring local products and grass-fed meats will be included in the event price of $75.00 per person.

Further information on additional speakers and registration will be coming very soon!

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