

# Pasture Walk *with* Jim Gerrish



**Friday, November 1, 2019**

Registration at 1, Tour at 2

\$10/person for meal



**Dogwood Farm**

2492 South Kirkman Road

LaCenter, KY 42056

On November 1, Jim Gerrish will tour pastures of Dogwood Farm, discussing their use of forages. Owned and operated by Toby and Debby Dulworth since 1977 in Ballard County, Kentucky, Dogwood Farm is a vertically integrated conception-to-consumer Hereford cattle operation, located on two separate properties between the communities of Bandana and Oscar. Dulworth ancestors have farmed in this area since 1897. Since its beginning in 1964 with three head of cattle, Toby's Hereford cows have grazed pastures without supplemental grain. In 1989, adaptive multi-paddock grazing began, to allow pastures ample rest between grazing periods. In 2003, Debby began marketing DWF steers and cull cows as all-natural 100 percent grass-finished Hereford beef to local customers.

When Toby married Debby in 1977, he had 30 cows grazing about 80 acres. For their first 12 years, they had a farrow-to-finish hog operation, burley tobacco and row crops of corn, wheat and soybeans in addition to cattle. Little by little over the years, battling effects of drought and erosion, they took about two hundred acres of row-crop land back to diverse cool-season and warm-season succession forages, using managed grazing to improve soil health while lowering input costs. Ten acres of Eastern Gamagrass as well as a rented row-crop farm that grows cover crops during the winter, complement diverse permanent pastures. After Toby resumed his teaching career at Heath High School in 1989, Debby took on much of the daily work as a cattle grazer for most of three decades.

During 2018-19, a total of about 300 head of cows, calves, heifers, steers and breeding bulls—have been grazing two separate farms about a mile apart. The Dogwood Farm pastures offer examples of several different ways to affordably and profitably convert over-farmed row-crop land, most of which had been growing annual monocultures (corn, winter wheat and soybeans) for many decades, back to sustainable, regenerative and highly productive pasture. No artificial fertilizers augment the natural fertility that the forages and cattle supply.



Jim Gerrish is an independent grazing lands consultant providing services to farmers and ranchers on both private and public lands across five continents. With a BS in Agronomy from the University of Illinois and MS in Crop Ecology from University of Kentucky, he served 22 years of beef-forage systems research and outreach while on the faculty of the University of Missouri-Forage Systems Research Center (FSRC). His research encompassed many aspects of plant-soil-animal interactions and provided the foundation for many of the basic principles of Management-intensive Grazing. He was also a co-founder of the very popular 3-day grazing management workshop at FSRC.

Aside from his monthly column in *The Stockman Grass-Farmer* magazine for over 12 years, Gerrish has authored two books on grazing and ranch management – “Management-intensive Grazing: The Grassroots of Grass Farming” published in 2004 and “*Kick the Hay Habit: A Practical Guide to Year-Round Grazing*” published in 2010.

Today, he is an instructor in the University of Idaho’s Lost River Grazing Academy held twice annually near Salmon, ID. He typically speaks at 40 to 50 producer-oriented workshops, seminars, and field days around the US and Canada each year.

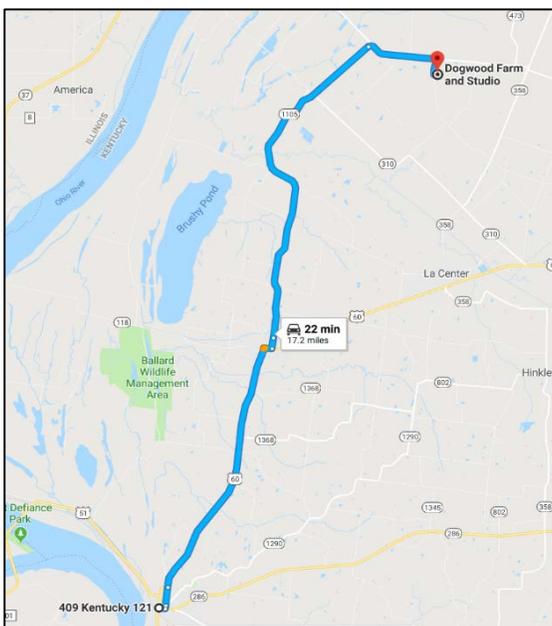
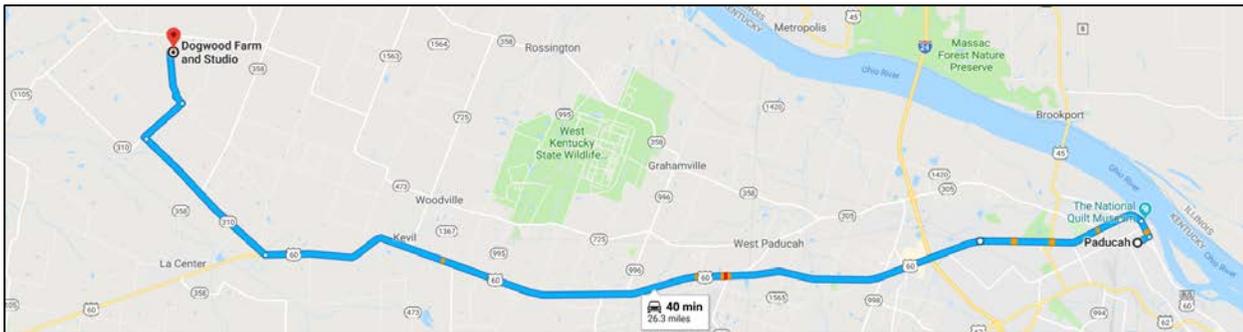
## PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Register online at <https://wkypasturewalk.eventbrite.com>  
or contact Rehanon Pampell at 979-224-5507



### **Directions to the farm:**

*From Paducah, KY, take I-24 to Exit 4 onto US-60 West. Travel on US-60 for approximately 20 miles. Turn right on KY-310 North (Broadway in LaCenter) and travel about 2.6 miles, turning left onto South Kirkman Road. Travel, a total of about 2.5 miles from the beginning of Kirkman, ignore your GPS at Berry Road, drive past the T and the s-curve, and watch for the Dogwood Farm sign about a mile further on your right.*



From Wickliffe, KY – Take US-60 East toward Barlow, KY 6 miles. Turn right onto Broadway/60 and go 2 blocks. Turn left onto KY-1105 for approximately 9.8 miles. Turn right onto South Kirkman Road and travel approximately 0.5 miles. The Dogwood Farm sign will be on your left.



QR Code for  
Farm Location