Missouri Dairy Grazing Conference

Randy Mooney
Dairy producer, Rogersville, MO
Chairman, Dairy Farmers of America
A great conference, despite challenges we face in the industry, and in our region
Grazing, has come a long way
Grazing, has come a long way

Some highlights
1991 –

The first grazing demonstration was held in Southwest Missouri.
1999 –

The Southwest Center established a seasonal rotational grazing dairy
2001 –

First dairy grazing manual published by University of Missouri Extension
2004 –

New Zealand farmers explored Missouri and other states for opportunities
2006 –
grazing conference in Missouri attracted 200 attendees from 21 states
2008 –

Charles Fletcher recognized as Innovative Dairyman of the Year
2009 –

Last Joplin Grazing Conference, with 325 attending

DFA formed Dairy Grazing Services to assist producers
2010 –

World Dairy Expo opens Grazing Pavilion at trade show
Grazing featured in national publications like Progressive Dairyman
Our “secret” is getting out, and even more opportunities will open
Opportunities for pasture-based dairies

• Lower input cost (profitability)
• Lifestyle attractive to younger producers
• Local milk for deficit markets
• Connections to sustainability
• Attraction to consumers
MILK
Natures Perfect Food
The single best thing anyone can consume
The single best product for the planet
Thank you