

# What's New in GRAZIER'S GEAR

## FORAGE

### DLF

DLF recently released a new intermediate ryegrass, Bison 2. The variety is a further development within DLF's successful intermediate ryegrasses and has an increased DM yield and better rust resistance. Bison 2 is on average later maturing, producing tall and very leafy plants. Combined with DLF's focus on genetic improvement of NDFd (high RFQ!), Bison 2 offers top Milk/ton production and is an excellent addition to improve your forage production.

Bison 2 can be utilized in various ways: New seeding of short-term pastures or as part of pasture mixes; Interseeding of alfalfa to increase DM yield; and overseeding of existing pastures on increase stand density and DM yield. This new variety tolerates intensive grazing and recovers extremely fast adding to its versatility.

Bison 2 has been a traffic stopper wherever it is grown. Even in New Zealand, Bison 2 fields stop traffic and people take notice. "An incredible field to see" said one bystander, looking at Bison 2 being grazed by a large herd of sheep for the second time, two months after planting. Bison 2 is available for spring sowing.

Contact DLF: P.O. Box 229, Halsey, OR 97348, 800-445-2251, [www.dlfi.com](http://www.dlfi.com).

### Teff Grass

Teff grass gained a lot of interest and excitement when it was introduced to the USA market.

Yield and quality results proved that excitement was with good reason.

In Iowa last year, Tiffany Teff grass grew 19" in only 35 days! It is very reasonable to expect 6-8 tons/acre over one season. Tiffany Teff is a small seeded, fine-stemmed annual warm-season grass that is ideal for alfalfa rotations and can be used successfully as an emergency crop; it is well suited for double cropping. Tiffany Teff offers horse owners a high producing grass rivaling the quality of timothy and offers dairy and beef producers forage with high protein levels with great palatability.

Tiffany Teff can be grown on a wide range of soils and tolerates drought conditions, as well as water logged conditions. Tiffany Teff seldom experiences disease or pest problems, so fungicides and pesti-

cides have not been needed in most areas, substantially lowering input costs. Tiffany Teff seed is very small and should be planted after all chances of frost are past at 5-8 lbs per acre. Seed bed should be loose and firm. Tiffany Teff should not be planted more than ¼" depth.

For more information on this or other summer forages, contact Welter Seed & Honey Co.: 17724 Hwy 136, Onslow, IA 52321-7549, 800-470-3325, [info@welterseed.com](mailto:info@welterseed.com), [www.welterseed.com](http://www.welterseed.com).

## PASTURE IMPROVEMENT

### Microbial

A Tall Harvest with SumaGrow inside has conducted over 100 forage trials in 20 states for average daily weight gain in beef. Their forage products have one of the highest microbial concentrations on the market, all natural (OMRI Listed) and GMO free.

Field trials for A Tall Harvest with SumaGrow inside have been conducted by Murray State University, Kentucky; LHOP Ranch, Nebraska (conducted by Dr. Allen Williams); Michigan State University, Lake City Research Station; Arise Research and Discovery, Inc., Illinois; Lakota Ranch, Virginia; along with other university/third party researchers. These field trials have consistently shown an increase in average daily weight gain of 0.2 lbs. over conventional NPK products and an overall increase in crude protein and total digestible nutrients (TDN).

Dr. Michael Stonnington, orthopedic surgeon and highly recognized grass fed beef farmer, from Perkiston, Mississippi, raises cattle on a 378 acre farm. He was featured in the January, 2017 issue of The Stockman Grass Farmer. He says, "A Tall Harvest pulled soil samples in my pastures and measured the total digestible nutrients in my forage to ensure our soil was nutrient balanced to provide the weight gain and health of our stock. I used A Tall Harvest this past year on five of my forage pastures and was very satisfied with the results. The forage crops I treated were rye grass for the winter annual followed by crab grass for the summer annual. I believe using products like A Tall Harvest with SumaGrow inside will allow me to build and maintain a healthy soil balance."

For more information, contact: A Tall Harvest, P.O. Box 1881, Hattiesburg, MS 39403, 601-466-7298, [www.atallharvest.com](http://www.atallharvest.com)



# PRODUCER PROFILE...

## Nerbas Bros. Angus



Arron & Shane Nerbas

**Name:** Gene, Cynthia, Arron and Shane Nerbas and Families

**Ranch:** Nerbas Bros. Angus

**Address:** Box 37, Shellmouth, MB R0J1Y0

**Contact:** 204-564-2540 or [agnerbas@gmail.com](mailto:agnerbas@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.nerbasbrosangus.com](http://www.nerbasbrosangus.com)

**Acres in pasture:** 5,000

**How long grass farming:** 40 + years

**SGF Subscriber:** 8 years

**No./Size of Paddocks:** 100 paddocks, 50 acres each. Use two portable fencing units for further splitting of paddocks when appropriate.

**Forages:** Legumes (alfalfa, clover, cicer milk vetch, sainfoin) Grasses (brome grasses, crested wheatgrass, native prairie grasses, timothy etc.)

**Centerpiece Operation:** Cow-calf and Angus seedstock

**Marketing:** online, blog, social media, print advertising

**Goals:** That the ranch is profitable, sustainable, enjoyable. Some environmental goals: improve soil health, fertility and productivity through improving management practices; increase biodiversity in forage stands to increase nitrogen fixation/overall health of grasslands; continue to decrease "days on feed" vs. grazing season (growing season and stockpiled); continue on path of "regenerative" management to leave the land in better condition.

**Philosophy:** Try to work with nature as much as possible with regards to the calving dates, grazing management, nutrient cycling etc. Some of the following has helped us get to where we are today:

1. Rotational Grazing: Cross fencing of existing pastures using single wire high tensile electric, planned grazing moves, high stocking density (much higher than traditional grazing), rest/recovery important to productivity/health of land, utilize two main cow-calf groups to maximize flexibility of grazing moves
2. Off Site Water Systems: Used to protect fresh water sources. We use solar and wind for pumping power, insulated troughs with suck holes for winter, pipelines used where applicable for paddocks; fence off riparian/sensitive areas and only graze with low impact in mind.

3. Bale Grazing: This is one of our most important practices to improve fertility of grazing lands. We use pod style format, with existing cross fencing. It's very healthy for cows during winter; sickness is minimal and cows are content. The soil/grass productivity is enhanced through increase in OM, thatch layer, water retention ability etc. Increases we see are 10 times the production and can last a very long time after, if managed accordingly (not season long).

4. Seeding Existing Pastures: We recently bought a Haybuster Drill and are re-introducing forage species into existing stands (legumes and native grasses). Attempted broadcast reseeding with mixed results. Cows also themselves reseed when grazing mature stands, through eating/digestion/feces or trampling and hoof action. Experimented with forage seed in salt/mineral mix to distribute through feces.

5. Extended Grazing: Our goal is to have cows graze as many days as possible. (Conservative goal: eight months of the year, with the remainder being "bale grazed".) Not only does extended grazing lead to a better bottom line, but reducing "mechanically generated feed" is better for the environment, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and our carbon footprint. We have over 1200 acres in stockpiled grass ready to extend the season this fall and next spring. (weather dependent)

### Resources We Love:

**Angus Cattle:** Perfect fit for our management system. Low maintenance, maternal cattle that can do it on their own.

**Great Portable Corral System:** Corral "Buddy" from Titan West. Inc. [www.titanwestinc.com](http://www.titanwestinc.com)

**Portable temporary fencing unit:** One of our most valuable assets is Power Grazer from Range Ward. [www.rangeward.ca](http://www.rangeward.ca)

**Arrowquip Portable Arrow chute system:** [www.arrowquip.com](http://www.arrowquip.com)

**Kelln Solar winter water system and summer off site water system:** [www.kellnsolar.com](http://www.kellnsolar.com)

**Medi-dart Crossbow System:** [www.telusplanet.net](http://www.telusplanet.net)

**For more recommendations, visit:** <https://twitter.com/NerbasBrosAngus>