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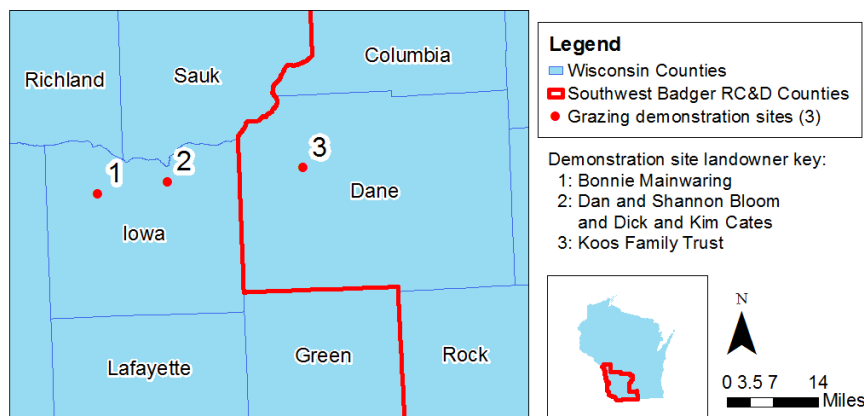
## SOUTHWEST BADGER RC&D SELECTS 3 GRAZING DEMONSTRATION FARMS IN SW WI

Properties selected will host demonstrations of well-managed grazing on rented land

DODGEVILLE, WI – Three sites in Southwest Wisconsin will host public examples of renting land for well-managed grazing during 2017-2019. According to Robert Bauer, Grazing Broker, “The landowners will install fences, lay plastic pipe to deliver water to livestock, and develop other infrastructure to prepare for rotational grazing of livestock on acres previously enrolled in the federal Conservation Reserve Program.”

The effort is part of the regional Grazing Broker project that enhances pastures and other grasslands by bringing together landowners and livestock producers in lease relationships.

The grazing demonstration sites, located in Cross Plains, Spring Green, and Avoca, Wisconsin, will be rented at reduced rates to beginning livestock producers. A total of 118 acres will be available to rent. Sites will also host educational events. Rental fees generated by the project will be invested in grazing education and implementation of grazing best management practices in Southwest Wisconsin.



Prescribed Grazing Demonstration Sites

Bauer said, “The sites’ prior enrollment in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and lack of existing grazing systems motivated our selection. The sites include upland areas that are sensitive to wind and water erosion, as well as streamside areas that are sensitive to compaction and water erosion. Our goal is to engage farmers in practices, such as grazing, that benefit fish and wildlife and lead to long-term reductions in nutrient loss from agricultural lands.”

Southwest Badger Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization working in the Southwest Wisconsin region. The organization’s mission is to implement natural resource conservation and rural economic development in the area through education and best practices relating to agriculture, grassland, forests, and surface waters.

The Grazing Broker connects landowners with livestock producers to keep grasslands intact. The project is funded by National Fish & Wildlife Foundation. Learn more at [www.swbadger.org](http://www.swbadger.org).

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