

Missouri Dairy Grazing Conference

Speaker Biography

David E. Baker, Assistant Dean of Agriculture Extension, University of Missouri



David Baker joined the University of Missouri, College of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources and University Extension on March 14, 1975, as Assistant Professor of Agricultural Engineering and State Extension Safety and Occupational Health Specialist. In 1994, Baker accepted the position of Assistant Extension Program Director in the CAFNR Deans Office and he currently serves as Assistant Dean and Program Director for Agricultural and Natural Resources Extension. In this role he provides the leadership for the development, implementation, coordination, and evaluation of the campus and statewide agriculture and natural resources extension program. Before coming to Missouri, he worked for the University of Illinois Extension Service from 1970 to 1975 as Assistant County Agent in Logan County and as Associate

County Agent in McLean County.

Ken Bartlett, LIC, New Zealand



Ken is a FarmWise Consultant for Waikato with a Masters Degree in Agricultural Science from Lincoln University. He has extensive experience in dairy farming and different dairy systems both in New Zealand and in countries which include Ireland, the UK, Australia, South Africa, Mexico, and the USA. He has been a full-time farm consultant for more than 25 years. Ken uses his experience and insight to help his clients enjoy their business by helping them increase the profitability of their business. He has set in place many tools to help analyze the farming business, plus an excellent relationship with researchers and extension agents in many different countries.

Dale Carter, Dairy Producer, Mountain Grove, Missouri



Dale is in his 14th year with developing a grass based dairy near Mountain Grove, MO. Dale's focus is on building the soil and improving the forages in order to minimize the use of grain and to create long-term sustainability. He currently has 200 dairy cows and is in his second year of being seasonal. He is working his 2 sons into a partnership which will include future expansion and eventual transfer of the dairy operation to the next generation.

Charles Fletcher, Dairy Producer, Purdy, Missouri



Charles and along with his family (Melissa, Tyler and Mikala) own and operate a 320-cow pasture-based dairy operation near Purdy, Missouri. They are hosting an optional farm tour at the end of the conference. They were recognized as the 2008 Innovative Dairy Farmers of the Year at the Dairy Forum in La Quinta, CA in January 2008. This award is sponsored by Dairy Today and the International Dairy Foods Association and recognizes U.S. dairy producers who apply creativity, excellence and forward thinking to achieve greater on-farm productivity and improved milk marketing.

Peter Gaul, Dairy Producer, Dexter, Missouri



Peter Gaul, from Canterbury, New Zealand, has been resident in the US since July 2007. A 963 acre cropping property in south east Missouri has been converted to pasture based irrigated dairying on behalf of a partnership with US and overseas investors. Peter's previous work experience has been in dairy farming, university lecturing, leading an extension team in the South Island of New Zealand, and private sector consultancy in dairying.

Peter was instrumental in establishing/developing the Lincoln University dairy farm, a high profile demonstration farm focused on high sustainable profit. Peter and his wife Jo live in Dexter, MO.

Stacey Hamilton, Dairy Specialist, University of Missouri Extension



Stacey is an Iowa Native, with a B.S. from Iowa State University and an M.S. and PhD in Dairy Science from the University of Missouri. He joined University of Missouri Extension in 1994 as a dairy specialist located in Southwest Missouri. Stacey and has focused his career on leading the movement toward grazing in Missouri's dairy industry. He works extensively with the seasonal, pasture based dairy at the MU Southwest Center in Mt. Vernon and with grazing groups that meet monthly in the region.

Jeff Hayes, Dairy Producer, Missouri



Jeff spent the first 21 years of his working career as a fiberglass re-enforced plastic tank fabricator. He made the change to his current dairy career as he was looking for something new, interesting, challenging and actually thought dairying might be easier! Jeff began working with Grasslands LLC in the fall of 2005 and became their first American share-milker in January 2008. His farm consists of a seasonal calving (Feb-April) 550 head crossbred (US and NZ genetics) herd on 378 acres of primarily perennial ryegrass and some summer forages.

Joe Horner, Dairy Economist, University of Missouri Extension



Joe Horner is a Beef and Dairy Economist with the University of Missouri's Commercial Agriculture Program. He works with beef and dairy producers in budgeting, financial planning and developing new systems leading toward enhanced farm profitability. Joe is a southwest Missouri native, with a B.S. Degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Missouri and an M.S. Degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of California - Davis. Joe has worked for University of Missouri Extension since 1988. He served as a regional farm management specialist in south-central, east-central and southeast Missouri before coming to his current position with the Commercial Agriculture Program in Columbia in 2001.

Rob Kallenbach, Forage Specialist, University of Missouri Extension



Robert Kallenbach is Professor and State Forage Extension Specialist for the University of Missouri. Dr. Kallenbach earned his B.S. degree from Missouri State University, his M.S. from the University of Missouri, and his Ph.D. from Texas Tech University. Dr. Kallenbach's research and extension programs focus on winter feeding systems for cattle and pasture-based dairy production. Dr. Kallenbach has served as the Editor of Crop Management for six years and Program Chair of the C-6 Division of the Crop Science Society of America. Dr. Kallenbach was raised on a hay and beef farm near Bolivar, MO.

Jason Karszes, Cornell University, New York



Jason Karszes is a farm management specialist with the PRO-DAIRY Program at Cornell University. Jason began working for PRO-DAIRY in 1998, after working the previous seven years as the farm management educator for Cornell Cooperative Extension on the Erie-Wyoming Dairy-Livestock Team. He began working for extension in 1991, after he had completed his B.S. and M.S. degrees in farm management and production economics from Cornell University in 1989 and 1991.

His extension, teaching, and research efforts have centered on financial performance analysis and decision making programs for dairy farms and the use of Cornell's Dairy Farm Business Summary and Analysis Program, working with a wide spectrum of dairy producers. Along with the whole farm financial analysis program, he has worked on developing management training programs for dairy producers and facilitates

several business discussion groups centered on financial performance. With a focus on management training, he coordinates the Cornell Dairy Executive Program.

Jason has also spent time working in the fields of business expansion, personnel management, estate planning, and dairy replacement analysis.

John Lory, Environmental Nutrient Management Specialist, University of Missouri Extension



Dr. John A. Lory, Associate Professor of Extension, University of Missouri. Member of the Plant Science Division and the Commercial Agriculture Program. I work with an interdisciplinary team of faculty focused on improving the competitiveness of Missouri agriculture. My program is focused on nutrient management planning, decision support tools for nutrient management, nutrient balance in grazing systems, phosphorus loss from agricultural fields, impact of proposed regulations on animal feeding operations and predicting nitrogen need in corn using remote sensing. Visit my website at <http://nmplanner.missouri.edu/>.

Tessa Marshall, Clinical Teaching Professor, Vet Medicine, University of Missouri



Tessa is originally from New Zealand where she trained and worked as a veterinarian for several years before coming to the USA to gain Board specialization in Dairy Practice. She is now teaching on the ambulatory veterinary service at University of Missouri. Tessa enjoys providing service to the local and statewide farmers needing assistance with disease outbreaks or routine herd health management.

Joel McNair, Editor, GRAZE Magazine



Joel McNair is editor and publisher of Graze, a magazine devoted to management-intensive grazing with an emphasis on dairy grazing. Joel, his wife, Ruth, and their children, Angus and Molly, graze sheep and dairy heifers on their farm near Brooklyn, Wisconsin.

Mike Meier, Dairy Producer, Monett, Missouri



Mike and his wife, Janan, own and operate a 61-cow pasture-based dairy near Monett, Missouri. They are hosting an optional farm tour at the end of the conference. Operation was a confinement dairy that was converted to a pasture-based system in 2005. The parlor is a 20+ year old double-6 herringbone with automatic takeoffs. This dairy converted to seasonal spring calving in 2008.

Randy Mooney, Missouri Dairy Producer, Chairman of National Milk Producers Federation and First Vice Chairman of DFA's Board of Directors



Randy is a member of Dairy Farmers of America, Inc. where he serves as vice chairman of the Corporate Board of Directors. Currently, Randy also serves on the local Midwest Dairy Association board representing farmers in southwestern Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma; and he chairs Dairy Promotion, Inc., serving on that board for seven years. Randy serves on the board of many state and national agencies, including the National Milk Producers Federation, where he serves as chairman. He lives in Rogersville, Missouri, where he, his wife Jan, and his partner Kent Miller milk 250 Holstein on their operation, M&M Dairy. The Mooney's also maintain a herd of beef cattle, and a cow/calf operation.

Clay McQuiddy, Dairy Producer, Mountain Grove, Missouri



Clay is a native of the Texas panhandle, where he grew up on a beef operation. He has a B.S. in Agricultural Economics from New Mexico State University. He and his wife Sue owned businesses in Austin Texas for 10 years before moving to the Ozarks in 1991. They have taken an old, worn out Ozarks hill farm and over the last 12 years, turned it into a productive and profitable grazing dairy. They are charter members of the University's South Central grazing group, and Clay is active on Grazersedge.

Michael Murphy, Dairy Producer, Ireland



Michael Murphy, 60, is a pioneer in high profit, grass based dairying in Ireland and around the world. His education includes a degree as a Qualified Farm Manager and a Masters in Business Administration. He is invested in farming operations in Ireland, New Zealand, Missouri, Chile and Argentina. Many of these ventures are equity partnerships or companies with 15-20 shareholders. In addition, he is a director of seven companies outside farming. For the last 11 years he has been involved in organizing and contributing to the 16-day Wealth Creation Course. Michael is founder and a regular contributor to the Positive Farmers Conference - Ireland's premier farming conference. Michael and his wife Geraldine have four grown children: Michelle, Nuala, Niall, and Brian. They live in West Cork, Ireland.

Michael Ouart, Vice Provost for Extension, University of Missouri Extension



Michael D. Ouart has served as University of Missouri vice provost and director of extension since December 2006. Since that time, he has articulated MU Extension's significant role in economic development statewide; advanced the University's interdisciplinary, continuing education and distance education programs; centered Extension within the University's strategic initiatives; and enhanced faculty development.

Ouart has more than 33 years' experience in faculty and administrative research and Extension positions at Iowa State University, University of Florida, and Mississippi State, Colorado State and Kansas State Universities.

Ouart earned bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. degrees in animal sciences and agricultural education from Kansas State University. He has authored or co-authored more than 120 scientific and popular publications.

An advocate for the outreach mission of land-grant universities, Ouart has served on national, regional and state committees and task forces of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities, including the Budget and Legislative Committee for the National Extension Committee on Organization and Policy.

As Vice Provost for Extension, he facilitates partnerships with state, federal and local agencies and an array of nonprofits and businesses to provide Missourians access to the resources they need to improve the economy of the state and their quality of life.

Thomas L. Payne, Vice Chancellor and Dean, CAFNR, University of Missouri



Thomas L. Payne has served as vice chancellor for agriculture and dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources since Jan. 1, 1999. His leadership at MU has contributed to growth in the College's research programs, recruitment of world-class faculty members, and an increase in private funds raised in support of the College.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in zoology from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and his master's and doctoral degrees in entomology and physiological psychology from the University of California, Riverside, in 1969, Payne joined the faculty in Texas A&M University's departments of Entomology and Forest Science (1969-1987). There, he served as the research coordinator for the U.S.

Department of Agriculture Southern Pine Beetle Program. He was professor and head of entomology at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1987-1993) before becoming the Ohio State University College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences associate vice president for agricultural administration, associate dean for research, and director of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (1993-1998).

Scott Poock, Dairy Veterinarian, University of Missouri Extension



Scott graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1987. He spent 19 years in private practice in Central Wisconsin. For the last three years Scott has worked in the veterinary extension program at the University of Missouri. His roles involve outreach, consulting, teaching (animal science as well as the veterinary school), and research. With his appointment with the veterinary college, commercial agriculture, and extension, he has made ~25 farm visits per year. The visits have been in regard to milk quality, nutrition, housing, transition cow, as well as reproduction (beef and dairy). The Commercial Agriculture dairy team has worked on estrus synchronization on dairy farms. They have developed a booklet to explain implementation of these programs on farm. Scott is a diplomat of the American Board of Veterinary

Practice, certified in both the Beef and Dairy Cattle Practice categories.

Ted Probert, Dairy Specialist, University of Missouri Extension



Ted grew up on a family dairy farm in southwest Missouri. He received a B.S. from the University of Missouri and an M.S. in reproductive physiology also from MU. He worked six years in the AI industry then joined University of Missouri Extension as a regional dairy specialist in south central Missouri in 1985. A major emphasis in Ted's extension work is pasture-based dairying. He works toward educating producers and helping them implement practices that will yield success on their pasture-based dairy operations.

Tony Rickard, Dairy Specialist, University of Missouri Extension



Tony is a native of Kentucky, receiving his B.S. from Western Kentucky University and his M.S. and PhD from Cornell University in ruminant nutrition. Following graduation he accepted a position as State Extension Dairy Specialist at the University of Maryland for five years then accepted his current position in 1982 as an Extension Dairy Specialist with University of Missouri Extension, headquartered in Barry County. During the past 15 years he has focused his efforts on helping producers evaluate a different means of managing a dairy operation, namely a pasture-based dairy system. During this time a seasonal, pasture-based dairy was established at the MU SW Research Center near Mt. Vernon that allowed for research and demonstrations that would help producers determine if this type of system would fit their

operation, as well as allow a visual appraisal of a pasture-based system. Since 2004 there has been nearly 10,000 new cows added to pasture-based systems and over \$100 million new investment in these systems

John Roche, Principal Scientist of Animal Science, DairyNZ Ltd., New Zealand



Dr. John Roche is Principal Scientist of Animal Science at DairyNZ, New Zealand dairy farmers' independent Research, Development, and Extension Company, where he manages a team of 12 people. He holds an honors degree in Agricultural Science, a Masters degree in Farm Systems and Pasture Management, and a PhD in Dairy Cow Nutrition, and has held science positions at the National Centre for Dairy Production Research in Ireland, the Department of Primary Industries in Victoria, Australia, the University of Tasmania, Australia, and DairyNZ's legacy organizations, DRC and Dexcel.

He is a highly sought after speaker and advisor at universities and farmer conferences all over the world.

He is also Managing Director of Down to Earth Advice Ltd, a consultancy company providing farm systems and nutrition advice in Europe, South Africa, Australia, and the USA. The company's vision statement is *Science into Practice*.

Dr Roche has significant experience of large scale dairy farming around the world. He owns a small 150 acre farm in Ireland, is an investor in a large dairy farming consortium in Canterbury, NZ, and was a founding partner in Tiller Investments, a partnership that has converted cropping land to two large-scale pasture-based dairies in SE Missouri, USA. He, therefore, has unique skills in adapting science to the core business principles of pasture-based dairying.

At 36, John is married to Jane, the world's most patient woman. They have two sons, Ryan and Dylan.

Richard Spelman, LIC, New Zealand



Richard Spelman is an animal geneticist with LIC (New Zealand), a dairy farmer owned, farm improvement company listed on the New Zealand stock exchange, which provides a diverse range of products and services to the dairy, beef and deer industries in New Zealand and around the world. The focus of LIC's business is animal performance management tailored to its wide range of products and services delivering profit to livestock farmers. Richard's specialist expertise is as a Quantitative Geneticist concentrating on QTL and gene discovery for application in industry. He has a Bachelor and Masters of Agricultural Science from Massey University and a PhD from Wageningen University in The Netherlands.

He has extensive experience both as a livestock analyst for industry application and as a researcher primarily focusing on major QTL and gene discovery projects for the dairy industry. In the past 2-3 years Richard has lead the LIC research team in bringing the science of genomic selection to a commercial product for dairy farmers.

Ron St John, Dairy Producer, Florida



Ron is managing partner of Alliance Dairies, Trenton, Florida, located 60 miles south of the Georgia state line and South Point Dairy, a grazing dairy in nearby Levy County.

St. John serves on the Board of Southeast Milk and is Vice Chairman of Farm Credit of North Florida

Larry Tranel, Dairy Specialist, Iowa State Extension



Dr. Larry Tranel spent 20 years working with Extension, helping devise grazing systems for beginning and transitioning dairy farmers. He spent 10 years in Wisconsin Extension and is in his tenth year working with ISU Extension in NE Iowa. Larry has authored many publications relative to low-cost facilities, parlor and is the author of the Dairy TRANS computer program, assisting dairy producers to manage their dairy farm finances. Dr. Tranel also practices what he preaches in that he owns a 70 acre dairy grazing operation, cash renting to a young couple who milk 120 cows there. He and his wife Tina have six children.

Bernie VanDalfsen, Dairy Producer, Reeds, Missouri



Bernie VanDalfsen is a host of one of the farm tours of this conference. He currently owns and operates a 400 cow seasonal grass based dairy near Reeds, Missouri. For more than ten years, he has followed the development of grazing dairies in the United States; testing and adapting hybrid management protocols on his own farm. Bernie has been a contributing columnist to GRAZE magazine and a member of the Pro-Grass-Tinators, a 17 member study group of some of the best pasture based dairy operations around the United States. Through this group, he has observed firsthand the performance of pasture based member dairies in climates as varied as New York, Georgia and California.

Kevin van der Poel, Dairy Producer, Harwood, Missouri



Kevin van der Poel is the example of the New Zealand dairy model. 16 years in the New Zealand dairy industry, he worked his way through the dairy industry as a dairy worker, share-milker, land-owner and now equity investor-partner. Kevin and his wife Cherie and two children, Hayden and Hannah, moved to Missouri in the spring of 2005 and began to build Focal Dairies LP beginning with the conversion Kitten Creek Dairies, a 3,000 cow grass-based dairy east of Nevada, Missouri.