

Producer Workshop: Improving the Production Efficiency of Tall Fescue-Based Forage Systems



Many farmers rely on tall fescue as the forage base of their livestock operations. While novel endophyte tall fescue varieties have the same agronomic and persistence benefits as traditional, toxic tall fescue, these newer cultivars keep livestock healthy and productive. In this two-part event series, researchers and extension specialists from across the country will share their latest management recommendations for farmers managing both types of tall fescue on their farms

Part 1: Feb 12 | Part 2: Feb 26

Time: 7-9 pm, ET

Online and Free!



Register Now

<https://TFVirtual2026.eventbrite.com>

For more information, visit www.grasslandrenewal.org/events or email us at grasslandrenewal@gmail.com

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Part 1: February 12

7:00 Welcome and agenda overview - Dr. Gabriel Pent, Superintendent, Shenandoah Valley AREC, Virginia Tech

7:05 - **History of tall fescue and toxicosis** - Dr. Joe Bouton, Professor Emeritus, Forage Breeder, University of Georgia

7:30 - **Selecting forage species for a changing environment** - Dr. Chris Teutsch, Forage Specialist, Princeton REC, University of Kentucky

7:55 - **Optimizing livestock selection in tall fescue-based systems** - Dr. Jared Decker, Wurdack Chair of Animal Genomics, University of Missouri

8:20 - **Economics of renovation update for today's cattle market** - Dr. Matt Poore, Ruminant Nutrition Extension Specialist, North Carolina State University

8:45 - Final questions and remarks

Part 2: February 26

7:00 - Welcome and agenda overview - Dr. Gabriel Pent, Superintendent, Shenandoah Valley AREC, Virginia Tech

7:05 - **Effects of ergot alkaloids on livestock physiology** - Dr. James Klotz, Research Animal Scientist, Forage Animal Production Research Unit, ARS-USDA

7:30 - **Winter management of tall fescue-based systems** - Dr. Katie Mason, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist in Nutrition Management, University of Tennessee

7:55 - **Forage management for improved reproductive outcomes** - Dr. Jordan Thomas, Beef Reproduction Specialist, University of Missouri

8:20 - **Weaning and backgrounding management in tall fescue-based systems** - Dr. Maggie Justice, Beef Systems Extension Specialist, Auburn University

8:45 - Final questions and remarks