



# Building Soil Health Through Livestock & Other Alternatives

Michael Thompson



Thou shalt inherit the holy earth as a faithful steward conserving its resources and productivity from generation to generation. Thou shalt safeguard thy fields from soil erosion, thy living waters from drying up, thy forests from desolation, and protect thy hills from overgrazing by the herds, that thy descendants may have abundance forever. If any shall fail in this stewardship of the land, thy fruitful fields shall become sterile stony ground or wasting gullies, and thy descendants shall decrease and live in poverty or perish from off the face of the earth.

11<sup>th</sup> Commandment by Walter Clay Lowdermilk

Conquest of the Land through 7000 years



# “Rain Follows the Plow!”



34<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**NATIONAL NO-TILLAGE CONFERENCE**  
January 6-9, 2026 • St. Louis, Mo.

**The Andersons**  
**Yetter**  
FARM EQUIPMENT  
SINCE 1930

**GO Seed**  
Semences, Semilla, Saad  
Novel solutions for growing concerns.  
**40 YEARS** TOTAL FARM MARKETING  
BY STEWART-PETERSON

**BioTill** Cover Crops  
Our Roots Run Deep  
**CopperheadAg** PRODUCTS

**MidWest Bio-Tech**  
**VULCAN**  
EQUIPMENT

**TITAN**  
**Martin Till**

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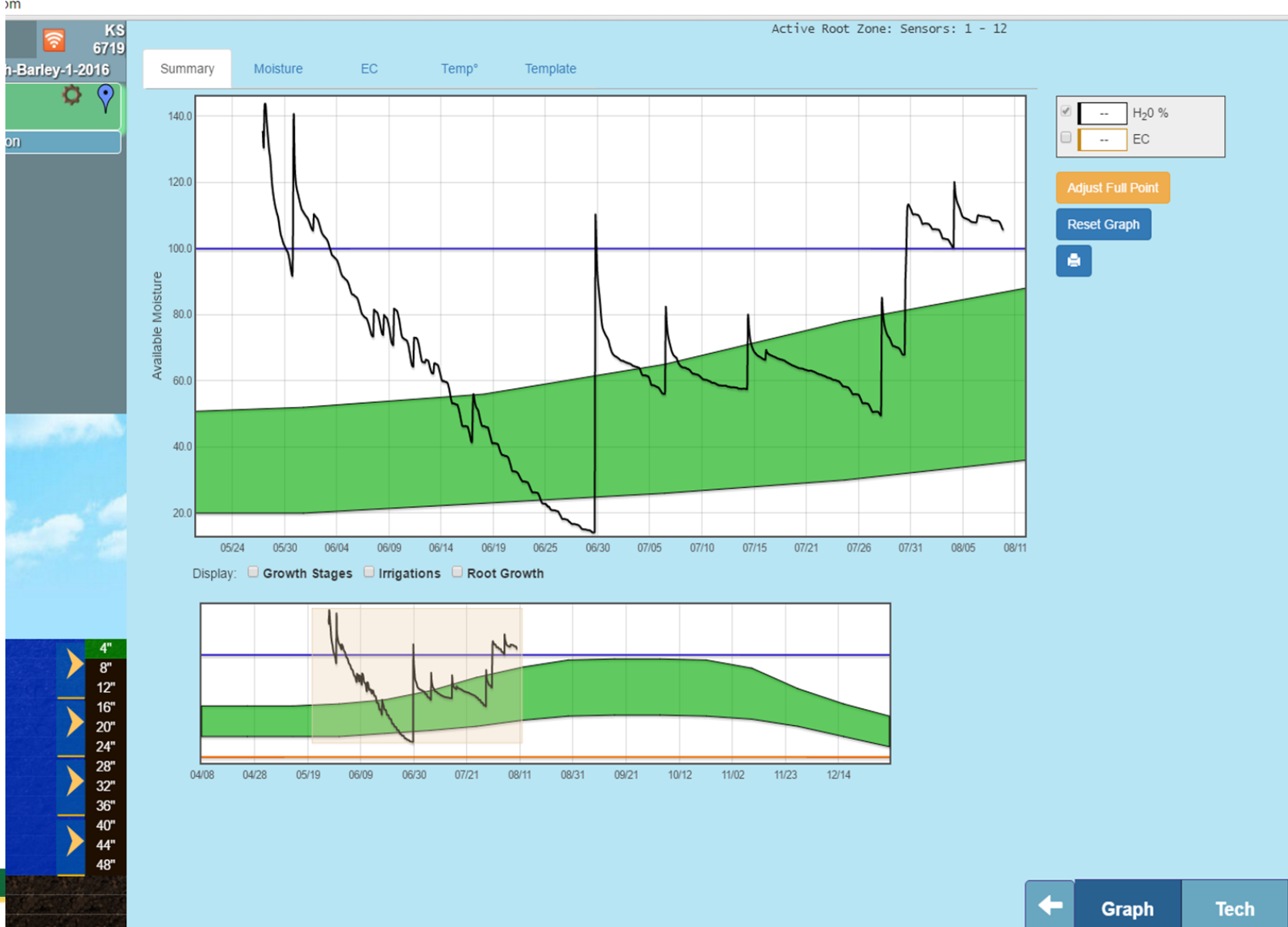
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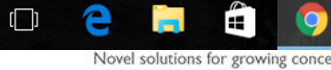
# Can We Fix a Broken Water Cycle?

- You can not conserve or regulate moisture without covercrops....period!
- There are more days with the potential to lose moisture than gain moisture
- Think about the natural system how was it managed until we decided to implement our management strategies
- Water Recovery for the Climate : The New Water Paradigm by Pokorny & Kravick



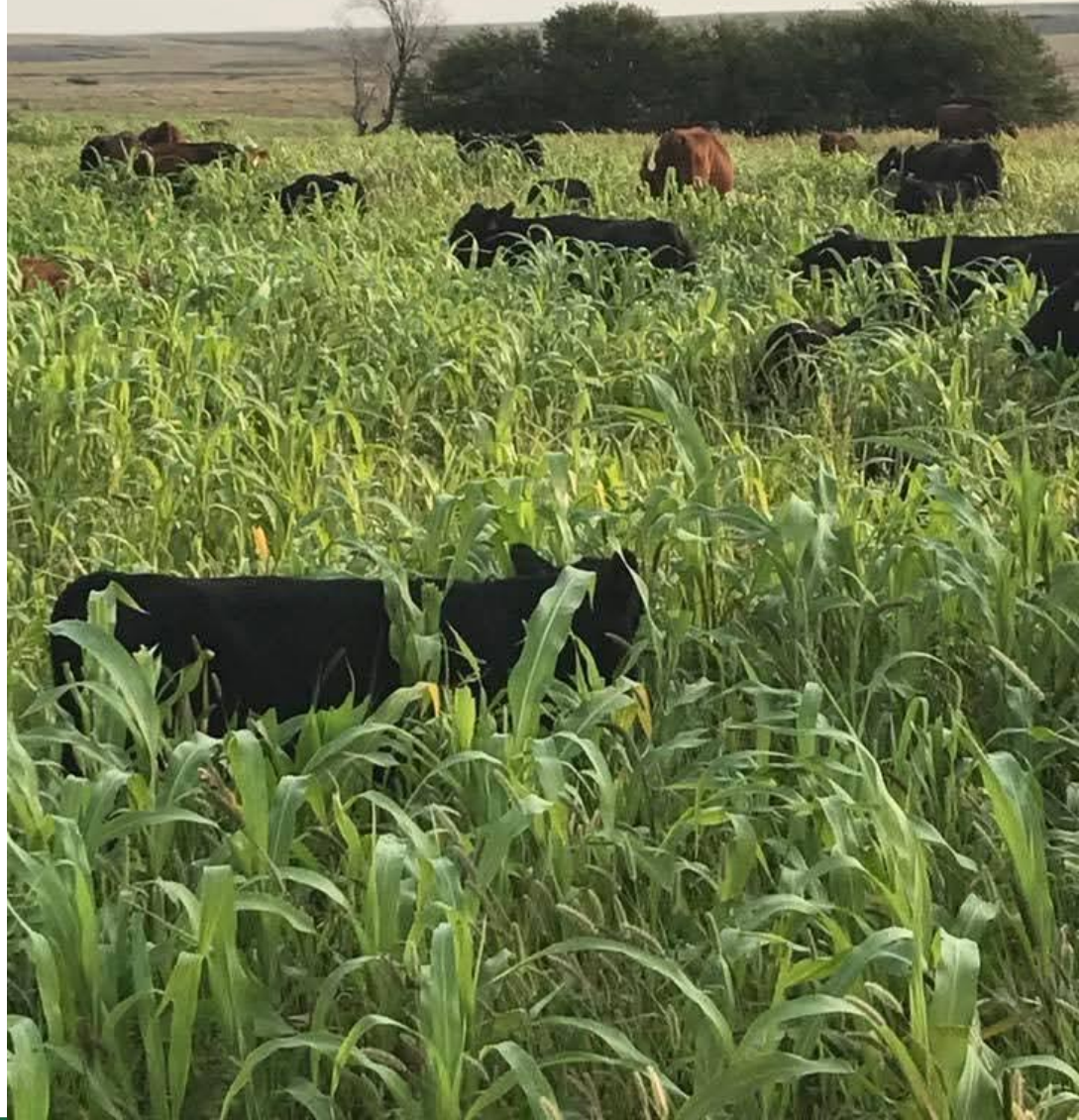


me anything.



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# Red Wiggler Compost Worms



# Aerway



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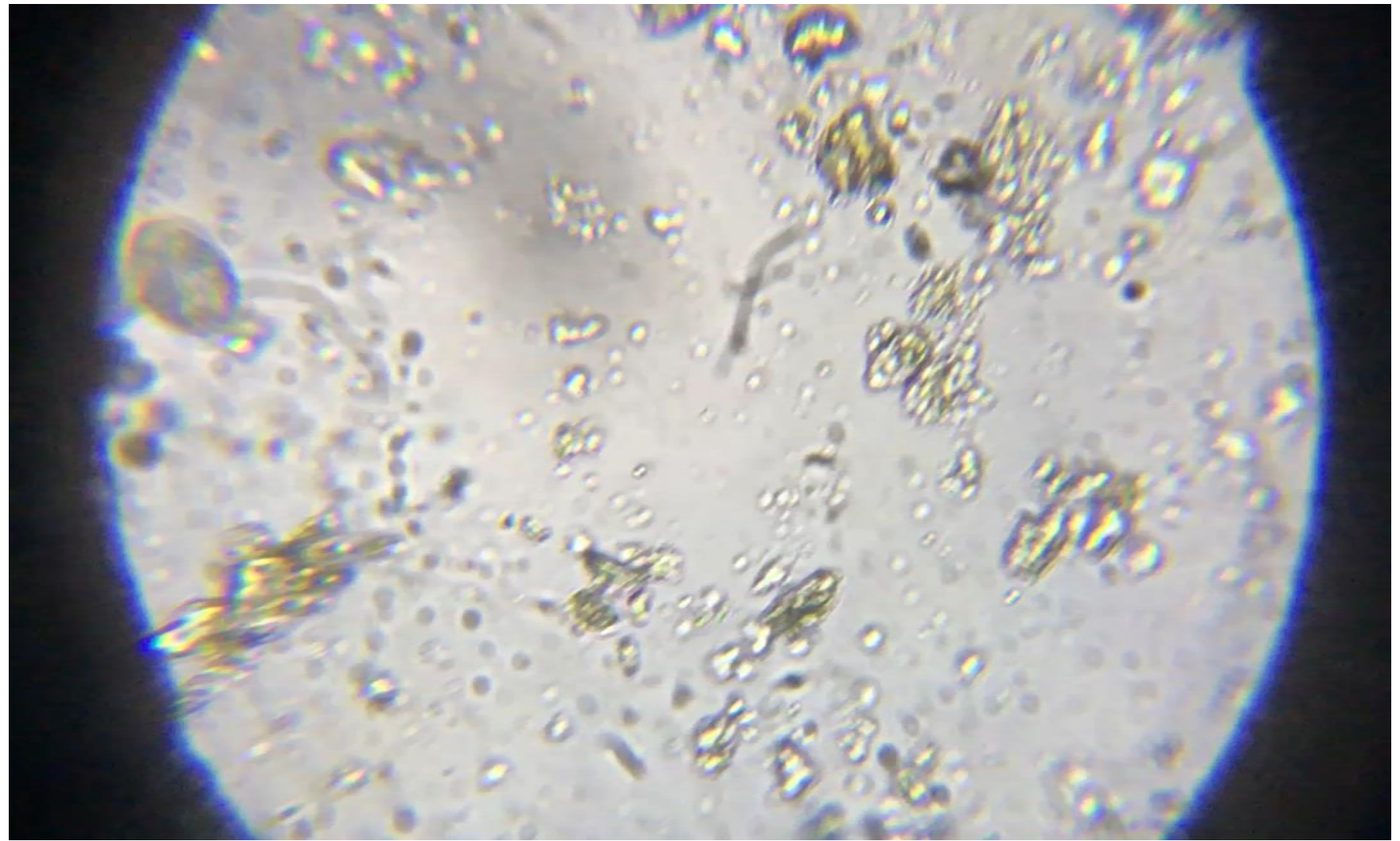
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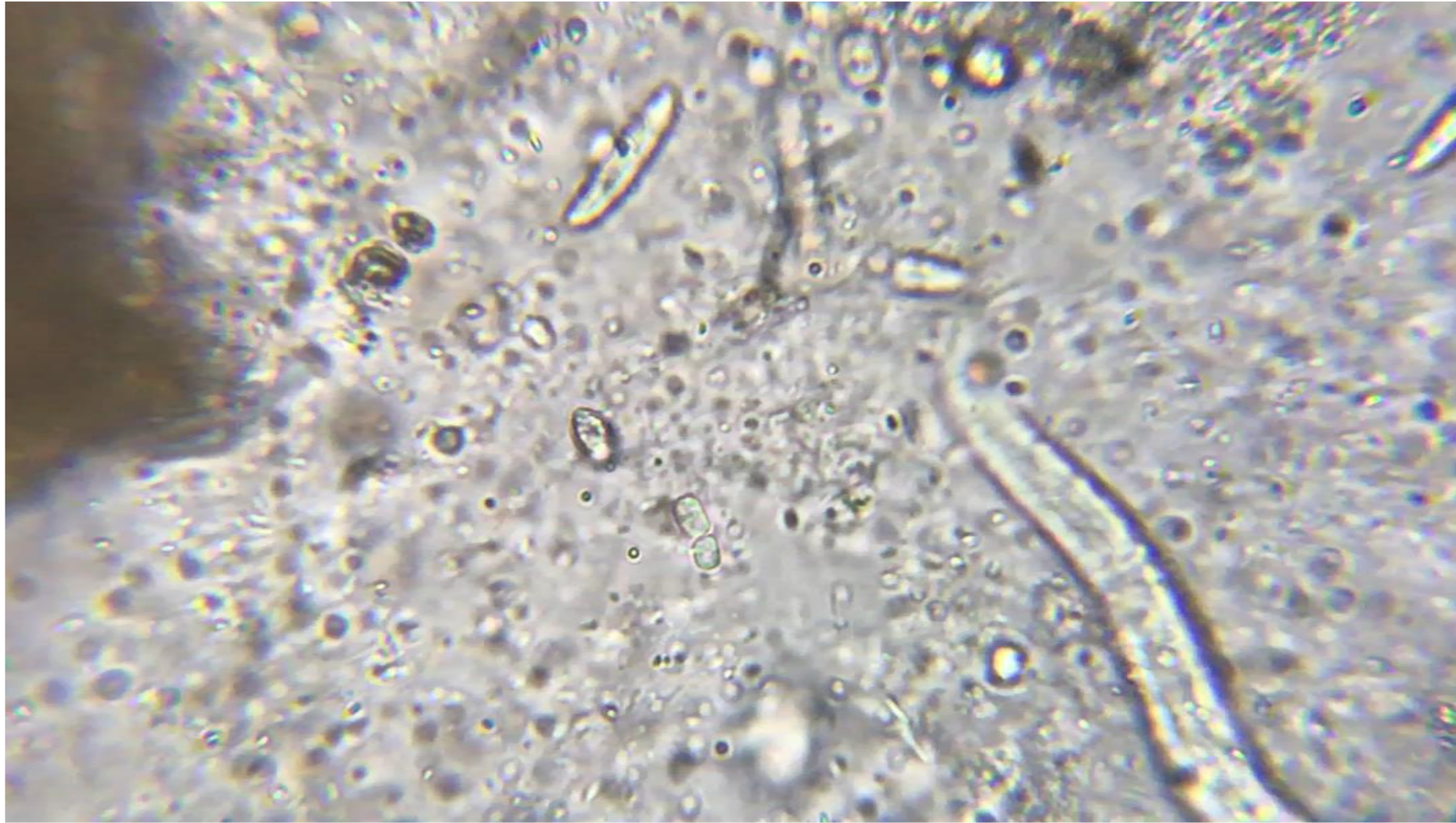
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# High Inputs



# No Till Grazing and Cover Crops



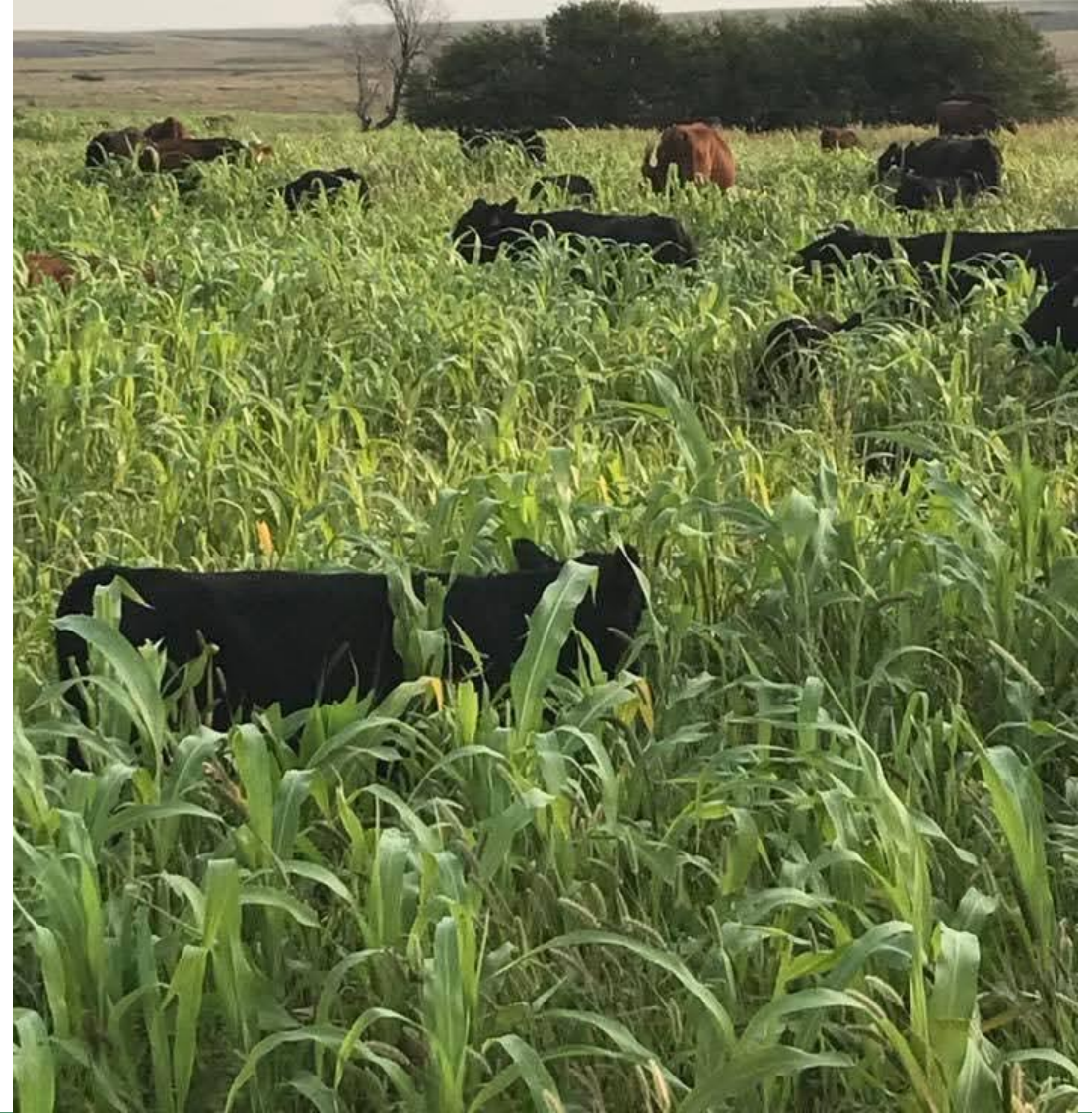


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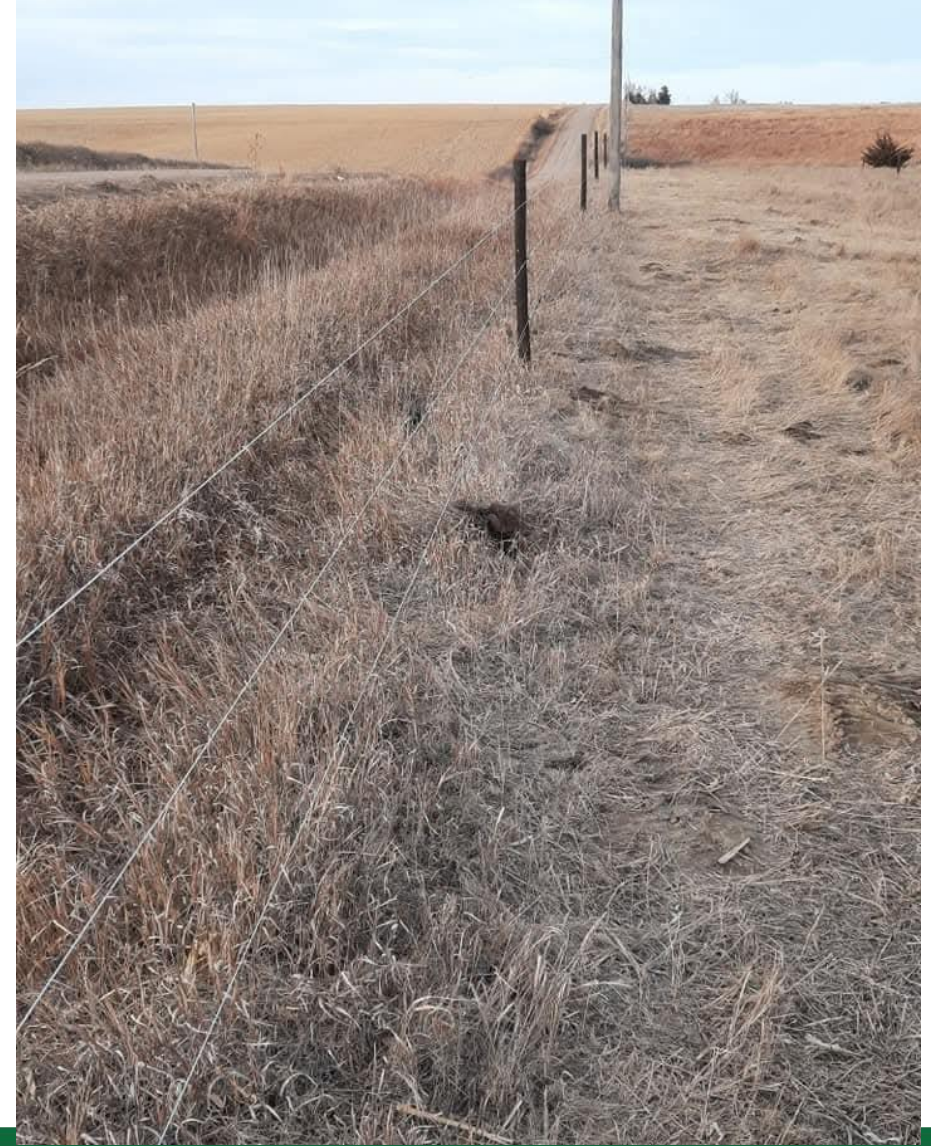


# Why Graze?

- Cow/Calf Pair Removes
  - 10# N 3# P 0.7 #K
- 4 tons of Hay/acre removes
  - 200#N 40#P 160 #K
- 9 tons of Hay/acre removes
  - 400#N 80#P 320#K
- Missouri Extension



# Fence





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# High-Tensile Fence

- Cost Effective
- 3-4" Creosote Posts \$13
- 4000' Wire is \$130
- Post Spacing is 30-50ft
- High Tensile fence \$2,235/mile
- Barb Wire fence \$12,255/mile



# Bale Grazing



# Grazing for Soil Building and Cattle Health





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# Pasture Recovery



# Summer Cover Crop



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# Grazing Pigs



# Biologicals/Soil Amendments



# Dry Humates



# Compost Extract





# Other biologicals

- Vermicast
- Yucca
- Kelp
- Lactobacillis





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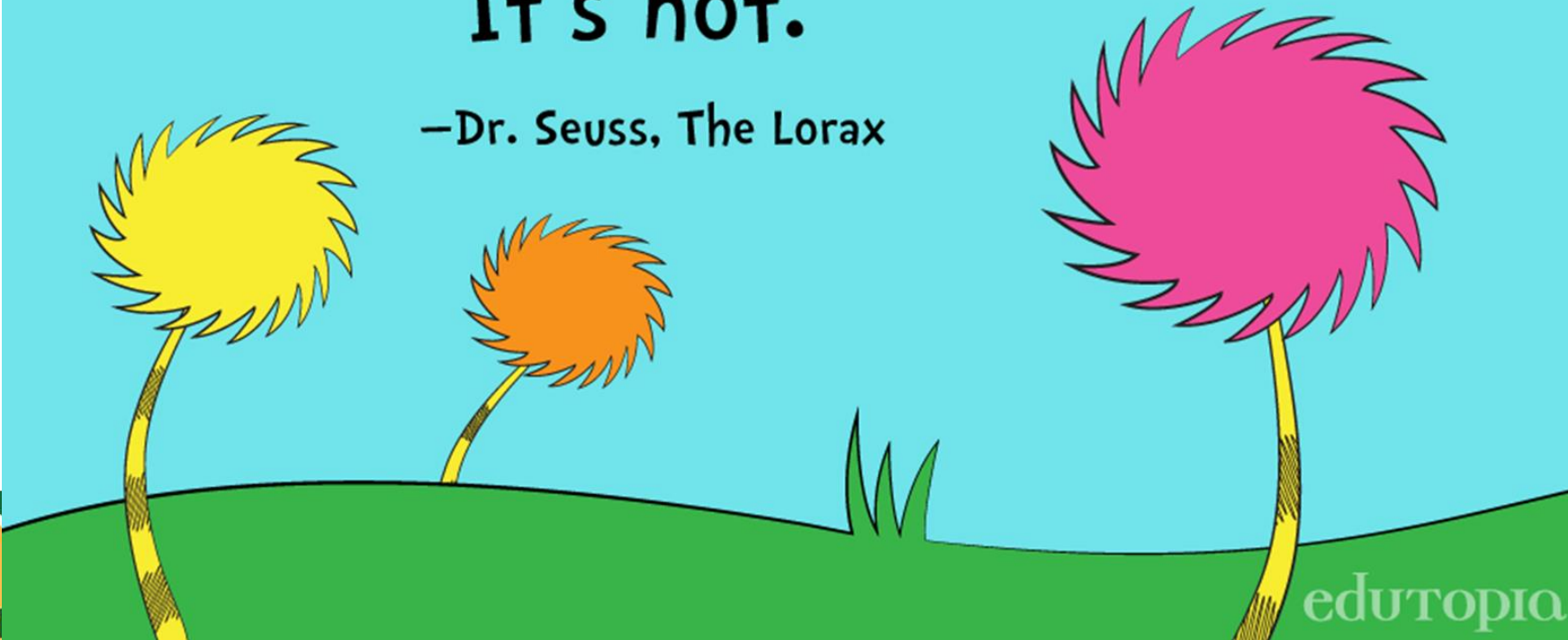
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Unless someone like you  
cares a whole awful lot,  
Nothing is going to get better.  
It's not.

—Dr. Seuss, The Lorax



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