

Press Release: For Immediate release – time dated material
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Pasture Management – Above and Below the Ground

Holistic Management’s Big Summer Grazing Conference to be held in Jefferson, Texas

“As above, so below.” Perhaps they were talking about heaven and earth, but the same principle can create heaven on earth when land is managed for maximum vitality both above and below the soil surface. Join Holistic Management Texas, top scientists and grazing gurus in Jefferson, Texas June 8-12, 2010 for clear explanations, practical tools and on-the-land examples of how to achieve optimum health and productivity on your own pastures.

June 8, 2010 – *Exploring Life Beneath The Soil* - A one-day class taught by Dr. Patricia Richardson, Ph.D., Research Fellow, Integrative Biology at University of Texas. Known widely as the dung beetle lady, Dr. Richardson has extended her dung beetle passion to the entire soil food web. All land managers, from small acreage farmers to large acreage ranchers, depend both short-term and long-term upon the health and productivity of their soil. This class will present and discuss the soil food web and integrate features of soil building and soil maintenance that affect production of food, fiber and meat. Dr. Richardson presents this material in an engaging way that make it come alive for the participant, using visuals from many hours of filming the life within the soil.

June 9, 2010 – *Resources and Strategies for Land Stewardship* – A one-day class taught by Dr. Richard Teague, Associate Resident Director and Professor at Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center, Vernon, TX. Dr. Teague will address the nature of agricultural systems; climate and natural resources; and the many aspects of resource management toward social, economic and ecological sustainability on both cultivated and rangeland pastures.

June 10-12, 2010 – *Creating a Successful and Sustainable Holistic High Density Planned Grazing Operation*, taught by Greg Judy of Rucker, Missouri, natural grazer of cattle, sheep, horses, goats, pigs, and chickens and author of 2 popular books: *No Risk Ranching* and *Comeback Farms*. Read more about Greg and Jan Judy at greenpasturesfarm.net. This class will cover: 1) Building A Holistic High Density Planned Grazing Operation, 2) Building Relationships With Landowners For Long Term Leases, 3) The Benefits Of Multi-species Grazing, and 4) Putting It All Together, The Economics Of Holistic Grazing.

June 11, 2010 – *Evening Social Gathering at the Jeffersonian* – The American Akaushi Association will sponsor a special evening of hors d'oeuvres, wine and cheese. The evening event will begin with food and drinks at 7:00 pm and conclude with a special viewing of *The First Millimeter: Healing the Earth*, a national release PBS documentary produced by seventeen time Emmy award winning director Chris Schueler. Telling the remarkable story of healing the land and the lives of people dependent on it, the film walks through the intricate ecological processes that occur at soil surface and how vital they are to the health of our land. The stories of ranchers and farmers who provide diligent stewardship of our earth offer powerful illustrations of what makes the land fertile and productive and why that is important to all of us. The public is invited and encouraged to join us for this fun and relaxing evening event. There is no charge to attend.

June 12, 2010 – *Lands-on Learning at Cypress River Ranch*, just minutes from the conference center. Owner Bob Sanders is integrating the knowledge from recent HMI Texas classes to improve the ranch with mob grazing. We will see the Heartbrand cattle, state of the art fencing systems and newly seeded native grasses.

The HMI Texas Summer Grazing Conference- Pasture Management – Above and Below Ground, takes place at the Jeffersonian Institute, 120 East Austin St., Jefferson, Texas 75657. Phone: 903-665-2700 <http://jeffersonianinstitute.org>. and at Cypress River Ranch. Accommodations are available by special arrangement at area bed & breakfasts. **Call Juanita Chitwood at 903/665-2672**. Fee to attend the entire 5-day event is \$500. Register online at hmitexas.org or call 830-868-2427. Do not wait; seating is limited. Deadline is June 2.