#### - FEBRUARY 25, 2021-

#### Pasture-Based Livestock:

Advancing Ecological, Economic & Emotional Resilience



- PRESENTED BY -

#### Paul Dorrance

Pastured Providence



Food Animal Concerns Trust

## Introductions





Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT) is a national nonprofit organization that works to ensure that all food-producing animals are raised in a humane & healthy manner, and that everyone will have access to safe & humanely-produced food.

#### Larissa McKenna

Humane Farming Program Director

Email: Imckenna@foodanimalconcerns.org

Website: foodanimalconcernstrust.org/farmer

FACT's services for livestock and poultry farmers include:

- Conference scholarships ongoing
- Customized handouts
- Free webinars
- Fund-a-Farmer Grants
- Humane Farming Mentorship Program

## Our Presenter



Paul Dorrance
Pastured Providence



# ADVANCING ECOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC & EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

Paul Dorrance

## MILITARY YEARS



## MILITARY YEARS





## PILOT TO PASTURE



## THE FARMSTEAD

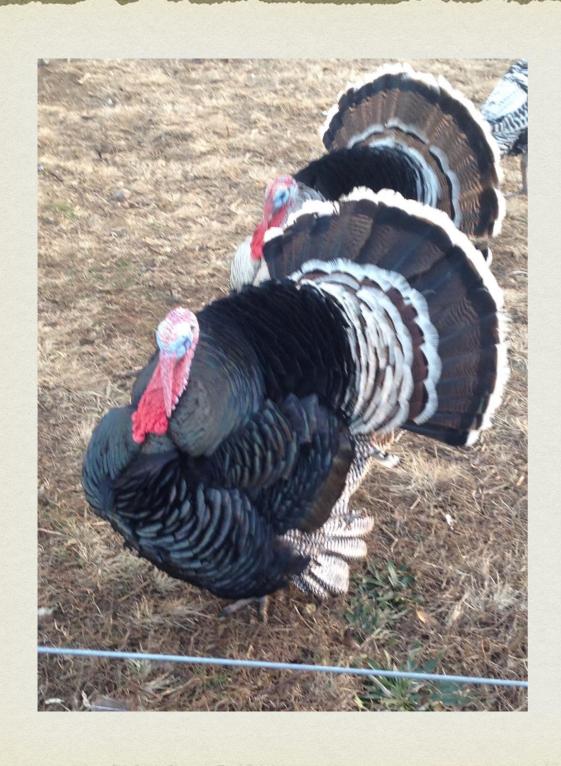


## THE FARMSTEAD





## THE FARMSTEAD





## DIRECT MARKETING





#### 1/4 PORK BUNDLE





We've heard from so many customers that love our pork products, but are either too intimidated by the "custom cut" process to give it a try, or simply don't need that much meat due to limited space, income, or dietary usage. We hear you, and have created a middle ground that gives customers the convenience and cost savings of buying in bulk, without having to worry about how to transmit your desires to the processor!

Introducing the 1/4 Pork Bundle, a collection of our most popular cuts and sizes (sorry, no substitutions) offered at a substantial savings compared to purchasing individual retail cuts.

All the meat is vacuum sealed, frozen, and labeled with the name of the specific cut.

Please note, you'll need approximately 2 cubic feet of freezer space available to store the 1/4 Pork Bundle. 1/4 Pork Bundle includes: - Bratwurst (4/pk) x 4

- Mild Breakfast Sausage x 4
- Bone-in Loin chop (4/pk) x 3
- Shoulder Roast (~2.5 lb)
- Cured Ham (~4 lb)
- Sliced Ham Steak (~0.7 lb) x 3
- Spare Ribs (~1.4 lb)
- Cured Bacon (~0.75 lb) x 4

The 1/4 Pork Bundle costs \$195, saving you \$33.84 over retail!

Contact us today to take advantage of this new method of purchasing, and start saving money on non-GMO pastured pork!!

## WHOLESALE MARKETS



## PURSUING THE "3 E'S"





## RESILIENCE IN THE "3 E'S"

**ECOLOGICAL** 

**ECONOMIC** 

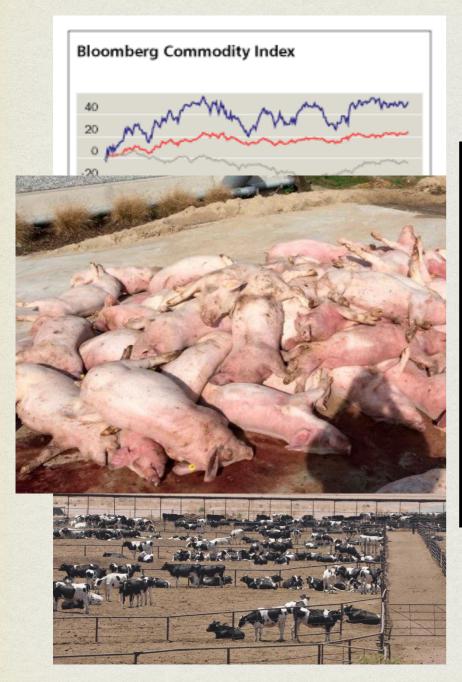
**EMOTIONAL** 

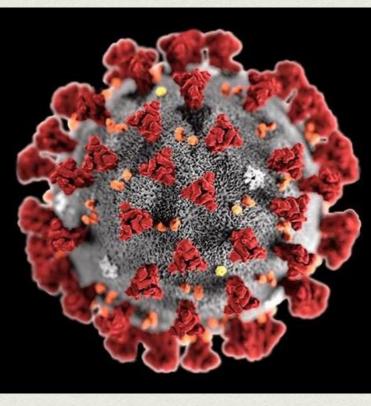






## FRAMING THE ISSUE



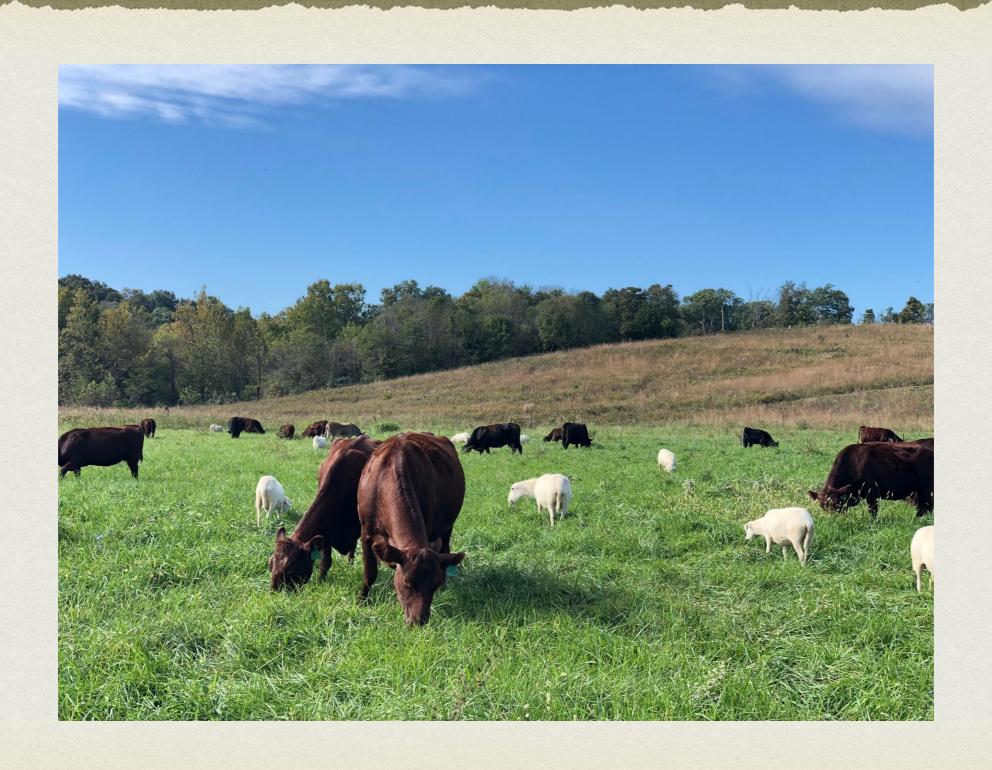




### FRAMING THE ISSUE

- Agriculture generates 10.5% of US, 33% WW GHG emissions
- 60 year clock is running, eroding soil 10x faster than replenish
- Market share of "Big 4" grew from 21% in 2002 to 53% in 2018
- In 2014, same 4 companies controlled 85% of beef processing
- Number of slaughter facilities has plummeted 70% since 1967
- Key commodity prices dropped 50% in last 8 years
- Farm debt jumped by 33%, to levels not seen since 1980s crisis
- Farmers have high suicide rates, 3.5 times general population

## A RAY OF LIGHT







#### 6 Regenerative Grazing Principles

- Pursue diversity
- Feed soil life with manure, compost, and plant residue
- Keep a living root at all times
- Minimize soil disturbance
- Avoid bare soil
- Hold water in place, instead of allowing to run off





#### Beef Production from a systems viewpoint

- Grass-fed cattle emit 20% more methane than grain-fed
- Carbon sequestration & systems perspective changes narrative
- Grass-fed beef
  - Managed rotations encourage forage growth
  - Manure is deposited and utilized in place
  - No fuel for feed, animal, or manure transport





#### Carbon Footprint @ White Oak Pastures

- WOP beef's carbon footprint is 111% lower than conventional
- Integrated systems 6x more carbon efficient than conventional
- Net negative emissions (-3.5), compared to:
  - Conventional beef (+33.0)
  - Beyond Burger (+4.0)
  - Soybeans (+2.0)











## ECONOMIC RESILIENCE



#### Demand for 100% Grass-fed Soars

- National beef consumption fell 2.3% per year 2006-2015
- Grass-fed beef sales grew 2x yearly, \$17M ('12) to \$272M ('16)
- Grass-fed beef commands up to a 70% premium over grain-fed
- Consumer seeking to support healthy, humane choices
  - 3x more O-3, 60% lower O-3:O-6, 3x more Vit E
  - Rejection of CAFO system is not a "food fad"



## ECONOMIC RESILIENCE



#### Grass-fed's Dirty Little Secret

- Inputs are next to nothing: water, mineral, veterinary, fencing
- Equipment and infrastructure costs are (relatively) low
- Margins are wide, so why/how do we get the premium price?
- The increased cost of grass-fed beef comes in
  - Time: +12 months to finished product
  - Management: lack of automation, daily-ish tasks



## ECONOMIC RESILIENCE







## EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE



"The capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness"

"A single strand of humanity is easily broken, but woven together with 10, 100, 1000 of its kind, it becomes an incredibly strong rope that can pull us away from the edge of the abyss."

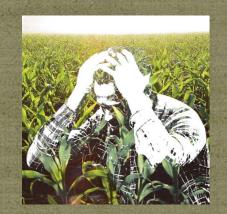


## EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

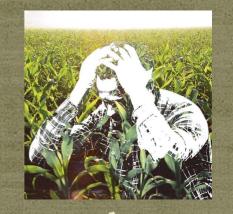


#### This Life Is Tough...

- Despite our toughness, farmers all struggle to balance internal desires, historical context, family constraints, community status, and national expectations
- Livestock and Mother Nature will always find ways to test our mettle, but what if there was a widely understood and adopted meat production method that saved strands in our rope?
- What if there was a method that \_\_\_\_\_\_



## EMOTIONAL RESILENCE





### ARAY OF LIGHT

#### Amidst the realities of a pandemic, we must...

- ... understand that regenerative principles apply to grazing too
- ... recognize that grass-fed represents a solution for our climate
- ... discern between production methods, in intent and practice
- ... meet the skyrocketing demand for healthy, humane meat
- ... champion methods that are emotionally fortifying for farmers
- ... pursue ecological, economic, and emotional resilience
- ... educate, encourage, and equip each other to care for the soil



## QUESTIONS?

Pastured Providence Consulting www.pasturedprovidence.com

#### Connect with FACT Food Animal Concerns Trust

#### **Upcoming webinars**

- ★ March 10: Federal Funding Opportunities for Livestock Farmers
- ★ March 22: Water Management for Pasture Grazing Systems with Steve Gabriel

#### Grants, Scholarships, Mentorship & More!

- Handouts on nutritional benefits of pasture-raised animals
- Scholarships ongoing
- ★ Sign up for emails @ <u>foodanimalconcernstrust.org/farmer/</u>

#### Join us on social media







