

American Galloway Assn.  
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Nov-Dec 2022

# American Galloway Journal

*Happy  
Holidays  
to our Galloway Family  
& Friends*

- On minerals - Is TM Salt enough?
- Silvopasture, double cropping with trees
- World Beef Expo
- World Galloway Conference Place & dates





New AGBA member Stephanie Ollis of Afton, TN out chorin' in her Galloway gear.

Behind Stephanie is her all star line up of purebred Galloways.

Lucky Paws farm, white American Galloway is where you can find her farm on Facebook if you would like to check it out.

## Essential Galloway Gear

**Black** T shirt 100% cotton, Black Galloway design on back of shirt, AGBA logo printed on front left chest.

Mediums and larges have no pocket, XL and XXL have a pocket.

SIZES: MD, LG, XL **\$22.95 ea.**

XXL **\$24.95 ea.**

*Plus shipping*



Order form is on AGBA website:  
[Americangallowaybreeders.com](http://Americangallowaybreeders.com)



**Stonewashed Green** 100% cotton, White Galloway design printed on the FRONT of shirt.

SIZES: MD, ~~LG~~, XL **\$16.95 ea.**

XXL **\$19.95 ea.**

*plus shipping*

Membership Matters, looking forward to a great 2023.

Your continued membership helps to fund outreach and promotional activities for the AGBA. We need your help to continue to get the word out about how good our Galloway cattle are.

Maintaining a professional website and simple advertising in any printed publication takes substantial amount of money. The costs are high and we want to continue to be seen and be counted. You may already know that the meat is exceptional and what wonderful mothers Galloways cows are, and the great hybrid vigor afforded by the Galloway bull, but we need to keep sharing what we know with others.

Possibly even more important than membership we need your help in terms of keeping the Galloway breed itself on the map so to speak. We can breed Galloways and say to ourselves, "well, I know they are purebred, I don't need to register them" but truth be told if you don't register your Galloways they are technically lost from the recorded breed. The American Galloway breed is no more than the group of registered Galloway cattle we have standing on the ground today plus whatever is stored in frozen genetics. If we don't register our animals we'll narrow down the usable genetics going forward. We want diversity in our cattle, we don't want to lose genetic options. Registration of animals is relatively inexpensive, especially when compared to filling your gas tank these days! Registering means so much in terms of us maintaining a breed. Please consider doing a little paper work and getting those cattle registered. New Year's resolution perhaps?

Remember that **DNA is required on bulls in order to register their offspring**, Get in touch with a lab, Neogen, Zoetis or UC Davis have easy to find contact numbers for online. Order some sample collectors, get the tail hairs in the sample collector, after that you can decide which tests you want run. SNP will be the dDNA profile to use going forward, there will be a year or two of trying to match SNP profiles to STR (older shorter list of markers) but the first step is tail hairs with roots in a sample collector. We just use a pliers to gather about a pencils' diameter of hairs, get up close to the tail and give a quick yank upward. It's easy to do.



# The AGBA NEEDS YOU!

**Membership is for the calendar year and is due January 1st of each year.**

\$80.00 for the year and you'll receive a discount on registrations which in turn pays for membership after you register two animals.

Tax deductible business expense.

Just head over to the CLRC website [www.CLRC.ca](http://www.CLRC.ca) and you can renew online or mail a check payable to the CLRC

To: Canadian Livestock Records Corporation  
2417 Holly Ln, Ottawa, Ontario K1V OM7 CANADA



# World Galloway Congress 2023

Looking for an excuse to take a little trip to Europe? Well, you are in luck!

The World Galloway Congress will be held approximately 10 months from now in Bern, Switzerland.

WHEN: September 16th to September 21st 2023

WHERE: The Hotel National [www.nationalbern.ch/en/hotel-en](http://www.nationalbern.ch/en/hotel-en)

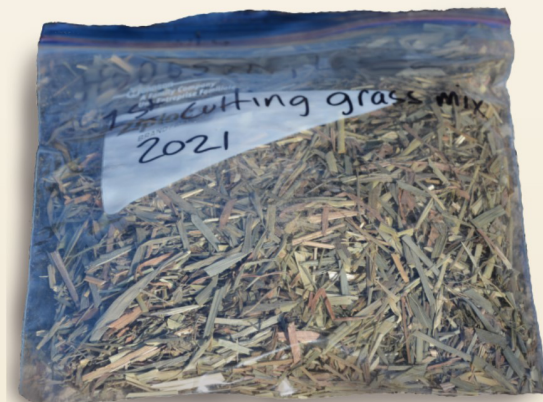
**Deadline to register :** February 28th, 2023

INFO: [www.beltedgalloways.co.uk](http://www.beltedgalloways.co.uk) home page "EVENTS"

## Samples & Sampling

**Hay & Forage** Check with your county Extension or feed co-op to see if there is a hay probe that you can borrow. If you want to own one of your own the kit shown below was \$171.60 before shipping and taxes. You can put your cordless drill on this hay probe to make it much easier to pull a sample from the bale. Even with a drill it's tough going at times. [www.soilsamplers.com](http://www.soilsamplers.com)

You can also grab a hay sample with your hands and cut it up into little pieces as shown on the right, but remember that your results will only be reflective of the sample you collected in your hand. If you reach in and grab a handful of leaves without stems you're test may come back looking better than your hay really is. You'll get more accurate results by using a hay probe.



**DNA** Decide which lab you want to use. Neogen, Zoetis or VGL at UC Davis. Neogen appears to be the most flexible at this point in that they currently do **both types** of DNA testing which will make cross reference and communication with older **STR** reports possible. If you have older reporting on your genetics it is likely in **STR** form which Zoetis has discontinued. You can stay with Zoetis if the type of test is not an issue for you.

Zoetis and Neogen will both do the **SNP** reports going forward.

When you get DNA reporting done please ask the lab to forward the results to our registrar Caleigh Jerry at the CLRC.



Neogen 877-443-6489

Zoetis 877-233-3362

To order some sample collectors today!

## On the cover

With the summer sun beaming from behind the clouds Ed Grywusiewicz is doing a little rope work out in the corral. AGBA board member Christa Grywusiewicz was the photographer behind the lens on this July evening, while her husband Ed was aiming to catch the heels of a steer. Ed & Christa enjoy working with livestock both bovine & equine and trained the mare, Tilly, that Ed is using here. Tilly is a good sized draft cross ranch mare who will handle the full compliment of riding, roping, packing, driving and grandkids.

Christa and Ed raise white Galloways outside of Banner, Wyoming.









## Maintenance: Thin, seed, graze, mow & repeat.

Mowing & weed whacking is not really what we have in mind when we picture the bucolic scene of the cows lazily grazing amongst the trees, but is most likely necessary to prevent woody species from encroaching on the forages, especially in the beginning. If you want to integrate goats into your cattle herd they will “browse” while they are in with the cows. This is basically written from the perspective of not using herbicides. If you don’t want to use goats and you are okay with herbicides then you’d spray to manage the vegetation. We have been using our Galloways and a 7’ rotary mower. We are on the lookout for a flail type mower as they chop (mulch) the trimmings, dropping them below the mower rather than throwing them into a heavy windrow the way our rotary mower does.

It’s great outdoor exercise and a lot fun giving yourself license to spend time out in the woodlot and with your livestock. Some folks pay money to “forest bathe” and we can just call it Silvopasture.



# Silvopasture (Forest + Pasture)

## A win-win for your cattle and your land

Are you always looking for a way to get more for your efforts? Consider this; use your cows as forestry tools while you improve the value of your woodlot. A lot of times the “woods” on a farm go unnoticed until it’s deer hunting season, when we make our way out and quietly contemplate how much noise a little red squirrel can make and whatever else comes to mind, looking around maybe we notice just how fast an invasive small tree species, like Buckthorn, *Rhamnus cathartica* in our case, can grow in a year’s passing.



If you have cattle and trees you might consider employing a management system called Silvopasture. There are two ways to go about a Silvopasture project; one way is to thin an existing woodland and incorporate grasses and livestock into it, and the other is to plant trees into an existing pasture/grassland/field. We will be doing the former by thinning and cleaning up a previously unmanaged woodland and converting it into more

valuable land by fostering and planting desirable tree species with the ability to grow forages and graze livestock.

It is a big project, removing or reducing the many invasives that have colonized our woods. Putting the cows to work on a large percentage of the area will allow us to focus on smaller areas of concern. In this example, we are talking about roughly 33 acres of previously logged hardwoods on a west slope with at least 3 ravines too deep to cross with equipment. There is a remnant of a 3 wire barbed wire line fence, the posts are still there, while some of the fence resembles a fence there are long stretches where the wire is in or on the ground and frequently grown into the middle of a tree.

When most of our oaks were harvested years ago the forest canopy was opened up allowing more sunshine in to the forest floor. The predominant species coming into the openings were faster growing species. Some of the most commonly found in our forest type are Oak seedlings, Green Ash, American Elm, Black Cherry, Ironwood, Basswood, Hackberry and last but definitely not least the very fast growing, drought tolerant and hardy, Boxelder. Open ground, sunshine, decent young trees coming in and a good sampling of oak seedlings. What’s the problem you might ask?

**ALBERT LEA SEED**  
EST. 1923

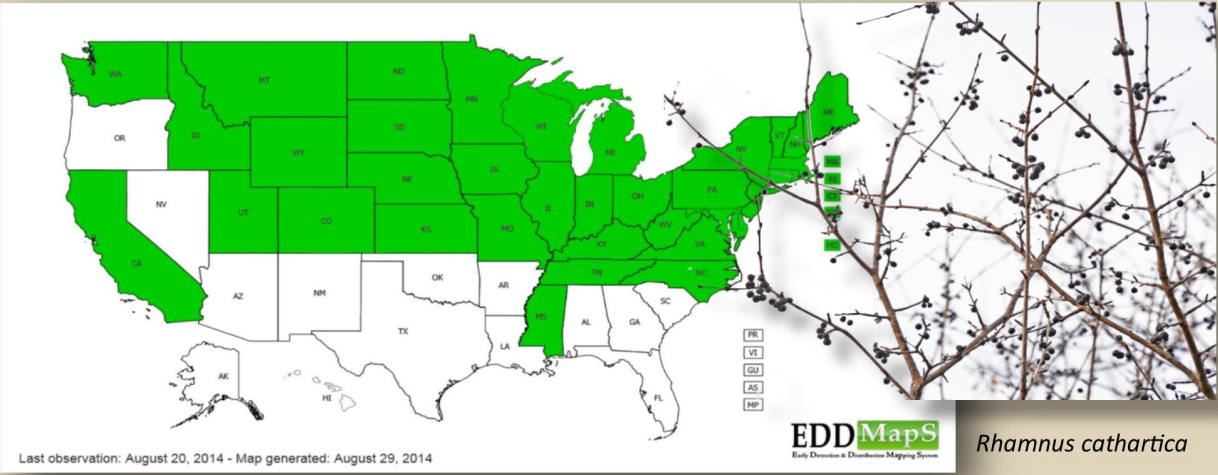
**SEED FOR FORAGE AND ALL YOUR FARMING NEEDS**

Family-Owned, Farmer-Focused

800.352.5247 | [ALSEED.COM](http://ALSEED.COM)



Buckthorn! Buckthorn is the problem, a nasty, invasive, super easy germinating fast growing small tree. It leafs out early in the spring and retains its leaves late into the fall giving it the light gobbling competitive advantage over your native and typically less aggressive, and more desirable young trees, shrubs and forages.



Map was used with permission from the University of Georgia’s Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health [www.eddmaps.org](http://www.eddmaps.org)

**The Design:** Our design is based on our needs and wants and what’s available. We need to stop the Buckthorn, and we need more shady grazing for the cows during the breeding season. We want \$50,000 worth of forestry equipment, and what’s available is a skid loader, a 4WD utility tractor, a chainsaw, polywire & fencers, some matches and a bunch of cows, tame Galloway cows specifically.

Your design will depend on your goals. Are you interested in fast growing trees for firewood and shade, nut bearing trees like Hybrid Chestnut, Hickory or Walnut for food and lumber? Windbreak Hazelnut shrubs alternating with trees allowing for grazing between rows? Trees that are spaced farther apart will grow a larger diameter and a wider canopy, trees grown closer together will grow taller and straighter. Clumps, rows or evenly spaced all over the grazing area, lots to think about. Internet searches will give you lots of ideas for designs, related techniques to search would be agroforestry and permaculture.

For the piece of woods in our example the patch of woods is oriented north to south we will first open up canopy in mostly north south “alleys” to allow the most hours of sunshine into the grassed openings. Then we will work perpendicular to those alleys to form groups of trees creating islands of desirable trees with grazing in between. It has been something like making a trail and then going out and making the trail wider. Some trees are more shade tolerant than others and grass does best with sun. Thought should go into the design with regard to the temporary fencing you’ll need to protect selected trees from the cows. On the one hand you can use the cows to damage and retard the existing unwanted vegetation, but on the other hand they’ll do the same to the trees you want to keep. It’s not too hard to do a lot of semi-temporary fencing in a little time. Using solar fencers will give you the flexibility to get electricity out to remote areas, and 1” black plastic water line will get water out to where you’ll need it.



**Seed:** Choose forages that will grow well in your area and take into consideration the sunlight you have in your design. Do some of your grasses need to be shade tolerant? Are there some grasses that can handle the hoof traffic better than others? You may choose to plant a nurse crop to help suppress weeds because some desirable forage plants are slow to become established. We used quite a lot of the “Shady pasture mix” from Albert Lea seed, a good diverse blend that we have been happy with.

We waited for about 6” of growth on the new seeding and then put cattle through it to graze and trample. Not having the space for a tractor and mower in some areas will require alternate methods of controlling the woody understory brush. Goats will coexist well with cattle and could be our next step.



Another easy seeding technique is to broadcast seed right before sending the cattle in and let them walk the seed into the soil surface. This works quite well, as they are beating up the weeds while incorporating another layer of forage seed.







BEFORE

## Stage 2: Site preparation and preparing for forage seed.

Using the tree pulling attachment will churn up a lot of soil which is helpful in terms of a fresh seed bed to spread seed into. Following the tree pulling with a drag section behind something with a 3pt is helpful to smooth out the soil. The reason for putting the drag on a 3pt is that you can't back up with a drag section just lying on the ground being pulled. If you want to dig deeper Land Pride makes an implement called a scarifier. A section of a harrow on the back of that drag would help to break up the dirt clods. There are many specialized pieces of equipment a person can build, buy or rent.



AFTER



Once you have any of the seedbed ready don't delay on getting seed down on it. The "weeds" that like to grow out there will immediately take off so you'll need your forages jumping right up with them to compete if they are going to succeed.

Broadcast seeding is the easiest method to use on rough terrain. It gives the most complete coverage of the soil especially if you lay the seed down heavy. Herd makes broadcast seeders that are easy to use and can mount on just about anything. Following the broadcast seeder with a harrow and a roller assures the seed to soil contact necessary for good germination. Drills work well for seed that you need to plant a little deeper, but you'll have that 6" empty space between rows of seed. We have used either depending on the situation at hand.

**Stage 1: Roughing it out.** Using a tree pulling attachment mounted on the front of the skid steer and a chainsaw we began roughing out an opening. First on the removal list are the medium sized, 3-4" Buckthorn that are too big to drive over. Next we remove anything else that isn't going to be of value to our long term design like certain young trees that are very crooked or damaged. The three main tools in use are a chainsaw, the skid loader equipped with a tree puller and the set of two handled loppers that I carry constantly.

After clearing out an area go ahead and use the cattle to come in and abuse the remaining smaller understory that was soon to be bigger and out of control. Run a medium duty fence (two wire on white fiberglass posts) that can be moved again later as your work expands. Get the cattle in there on a hot summer day with flies bothering them and they'll walk around through the brush to get the flies off. If they don't specifically eat what you are trying to eradicate they do have a large impact on it by trampling it. It won't take long to transform the area.



Jenkins brand Tree pulling attachment

One exception to the trampling treatment is Eastern red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*). Eastern red cedars are invasive while also being a native plant, the cows can't do much with them even if they nearly destroy them, which can be good or bad depending on your intended purpose. We resort to the chainsaw and lopper for those trees where we don't want them, but leave some in strategic places for nearly cow proof shade trees and protection from wind. Eastern red cedar is the tree that gives us the aromatic red cedar for closets and chests, their wood is valuable once they become large enough to harvest. There is a place for a good tree that can grow faster than a cow can kill it.

Continued pg. 10





# The American Galloway Show at 2022 World Beef Expo, West Allis, WI

## Highlights



Grand Champion Galloway Bull  
Brady Strand  
Strand's Jackpot S1J

Grand Champion Galloway  
Cow /calf pair  
Brad Hodgson  
RPG Francie



Grand Champion Galloway Heifer  
Eli Berry  
Berry's Jade 15J

## Ring shots

*Thank you!  
To our photographer at large Laura Strand.*

