23 States Report Priority Areas
The National Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) Steering Committee recently reviewed a summary of grazinglands research and education priority areas as reported by twenty-three states responding to a survey issued by the committee. A total of 315 individual items were identified by states responding. Items ranked highest in priority on most surveys included:

✓ Advantages/disadvantages of excluding livestock from streams and ponds
✓ Additional training for agency employees
✓ Development of biological control programs for invasive weeds
✓ Legume management and availability of better cultivars
✓ Multispecies grazing as an approach to diversification
✓ Seminars and field days on Management Intensive Grazing
✓ Better monitoring techniques and decision evaluations
✓ Improved forage varieties
You've heard Robert Mitchum talk about them. You've heard Aaron Copland's "Hoedown" from "Rodeo: Four Dance Episodes from the Ballet" accompany them. Now you can try one of the great-tasting nutritious beef recipes from the beef industry's television and radio commercials. This month's selection is Campfire Meatballs.

Campfire Meatballs
Preparation Time: 30 Minutes

1 pound ground beef
1/4 cup dry bread crumbs
1 egg, slightly beaten
3/4 teaspoon garlic salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
Heavy duty aluminum foil
2 medium zucchini, cut lengthwise in half, then crosswise into 1/2-inch thick slices
2 cups prepared spaghetti sauce
Grated Parmesan cheese
Garlic bread sticks (optional)

1. In medium bowl, combine ground beef, bread crumbs, egg, 1/4 cup water, garlic salt and pepper, mixing lightly but thoroughly. Shape into 24 (approx. 1-1/4-inch) meatballs.

2. Cut four 18x12-inch long sheets heavy duty aluminum foil. Place equal amounts of meatballs and zucchini in center of each, top each with 1/4 cup spaghetti sauce. Bring shorter edges of foil together over the center; fold down loosely to seal, allowing room for heat expansion and circulation. Fold in open ends to seal.

3. Place packets on grid over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill, uncovered, 16 to 18 minutes or until meatball centers are no longer pink and zucchini is tender, turning packets over once.

4. To serve, carefully unfold ends an tops of packets; sprinkle cheese over meatballs. Serve with garlic bread sticks, dipping into sauce, if desired. MAKES 4 SERVINGS.

Grazing Lands Success Stories

Jerry Hammer is intensifying private grazing land management on his ranch to overcome some of the economic hardships of making a living off grazing lands through open space housing developments.

The Gallatin River Ranch has overcome some of the economic hardships of making a living off grazing lands through open space housing developments.

Joe Skinner has intensified his grazing management of riparian areas for the last twelve years and has a detailed monitoring system.

Tom Milesnick is improving riparian areas without fencing them out from livestock grazing while still protecting one of Montana's best fisheries.

Tidbit

USDA continues to predict a slight decrease in beef production in 1997, as cattle numbers continue to decline cyclically.
What is the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative?

The Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) is a national grassroots effort that began in 1991 to enhance assistance available to owners of private grazing lands.

Driving GLCI is a coalition of private grazing land owners and managers partnering with several national conservation, environmental, scientific, and producer organizations.

This voluntary program assists private land owners identify priority issues, finding solutions and effecting change to improve private grazing lands.

Are You Interested in Receiving More Information on the Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative?

Contact these affiliated organizations:

American Farm Bureau Federation
Herb Manig
(847)685-8785

American Forage and Grassland Council
Dr. C. Pat Bagley
(601) 566-2201

American Sheep Industry
Tom McDonnell
(303) 771-3500

Dairy Industry
John Roberts
(602) 462-2252

National Association of Conservation Districts
Robert Raschke
(303) 988-1810

National Cattlemen's Beef Association
Bob Drake
(405) 389-2177

Society for Range Management
Dr. Charles "Bud" Rumburg
(303) 355-7070

Soil and Water Conservation Society
Douglas Kleine
(515) 289-2331, ext. 13

The Nature Conservancy
Diane Vosick
(520) 779-2802

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Dennis Thompson
(202) 720-5010
Grazing Lands Organizations Focus on Potential of Our Grazing Lands Resource

Grazing Lands Organizations seek to:

✓ Strengthen partnerships among producers, conservation entities, and governmental resource agencies.

✓ Respect and protect private property rights.

✓ Encourage diversification to achieve multiple land-use benefits.

✓ Provide grazing lands support and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers on a voluntary basis.

✓ Emphasize training, education, and increased public awareness.

GLCI News