



Our Beef is...

100 % grass-fed. No grain

All natural. No hormones or antibiotics.

Certified by A Greener world as 100% Grass-fed and Animal Welfare Approved.

Using Science in Ranching

As many of you know, I am an analytical chemist by trade and that continues to be my day job. So, I also enjoy the scientific aspect of ranching. As part our certification through A Greener World, we are obligated to do some testing of our animals and our land. This is the time of the year that we do our testing in preparation for the spring and summer months.



For the herd, we test our herd for parasites. As you can guess, this is a less than glamorous job. It involves circling the herd during feeding time and collecting fresh manure samples. The samples are sent off to a laboratory for fecal egg counts and identification of parasites. Our parasite load is usually very load due to the nature of our operation (i.e., rotational grazing). We will then deworm the herd as needed, using a

dewormer that is approved by our certifier.

We also test our soil on a regular basis, which is also required periodically for our certification. Soil testing can be an important part of maintaining soil (and grass) health. Soil testing will provide the following information.

- pH—The measure of the acidity or alkalinity of the soil
- Major nutrients — nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium
- Secondary nutrients — zinc, sulfur, calcium, magnesium
- Minor nutrients — iron, manganese, copper, boron, molybdenum, chlorine



Rotational grazing practices is an important part of managing the soil. This practice will reduce soil compaction issues and increase organic

carbon content. However, sometimes nutrients can get depleted and the soil will need to be supplemented. Once we received our soil tests back from the testing laboratory, we will discuss any issues with our county extension agent and A Greener World and developed a plan to balance and improve our nutrients in the soil and in turn, improve the quality of our grass.



Finally, genetics plays a big part in our operation. Our bulls are tested for a variety of characteristics and we only purchase bulls that have the characteristics desirable for 100% grass-fed beef. Additionally, the performance of our cows and calves are tracked and monitored so we can retain only the best performing breeding stock. Its not exactly rocket science, but there is more to ranching than just blood, sweat, and tears!

(Note: The column on What's New On the Ranch is on Page 2)

Beef Updates:

BULK BEEF

Whole, half, or quarter beef

- We are currently sold out of our pre-sales for 2024. We will put those still interested on a waiting list.
- The way it works is: 1) You tell us you want a quarter, half, or a whole. 2) We will follow up with you with additional details. 3) You can confirm your interest and send a deposit (\$100) to reserve your beef
- Please contact us with any questions.

RETAIL BEEF

Cuts directly from MJ Ranch

- We are suspending our retail beef operations here at the ranch. Please consider purchasing our bulk beef (quarters, halves, and whole beef).



What's New on the Ranch

Last month I was complaining about the weather, and this month we are grateful for the warmer weather. We are busy preparing for spring. Fencing is being built and repaired, maintenance is being performed on the equipment, and hay fields are being fertilized as needed. The herd is anxious to move from their winter pastures, but we will be holding them in there for a couple more weeks to try to get the grass growing...if possible.



We have sold out of our presale orders for 2024 and are putting those interested on our wait list.. We always hold back a few head from pre-sales in the event of a fatality, loss, or just wandering off the ranch never to be seen again (none of which happen often). These will be released for sale in August. Just let us know if you would like to be on our waiting list.

Our beef is all 2-year old, 100% grass-fed Angus beef, that has **never** been fed grain, always been kept on pasture, never in a feedlot, no growth hormones or antibiotics, and always been given humane care....as certified by A Greener World. We have 2 certifications: Animal Welfare Approved (humane care) & Certified Grass-fed (fed only grass/hay)!



Connect with us!

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