

# Livestock Research Protocols

## Controlling Invasive Species Using Different Management Methods

**Objective:** To compare three types of invasive species management in woody pastures; chemical, mechanical, and livestock.

**Farmer-cooperators will:**

- Conduct a baseline analysis on three, two acre timber plots before any treatment takes place. Using the transect method; conduct plant species counts on each plot.
- Plot 1: Define a chemical protocol and record date(s) of herbicide application.
- Plot 2: Record type used and date(s) of mechanical management.
- Plot 3: Graze goats following a management plan, ensuring goat density is always consistent. Use NRCS EQIP guidelines to inform your grazing management plan.
- One year after baseline data was collected, use the transect method to conduct a plant species count again. Keep track of new species that may have appeared within the year.
- Track all of the costs associated with each method of management.

<p><b>Herbicide Application</b></p>	<p><b>Mechanical Management</b></p>	<p><b>Browsing Goats</b></p>
<p><b>PLOT 1</b></p>	<p><b>PLOT 2</b></p>	<p><b>PLOT 3</b></p>

**Practical Farmers of Iowa will:**

- Monitor progress of project and provide support when needed.
- Analyze the data and publish results in a PFI research report, on PFI website and potentially other outlets.
- Pay the Farmer Cooperators \$550 at the conclusion of the project in 2016 and in 2017.

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