

Become a Corporate Member of VFGC today

Corporate Membership is a minimum of \$350.00 annually (Jan 1st – Dec 31st). Membership includes: ad (3x2) in the quarterly newsletter and your organization is listed in programs as a sponsor at meetings, workshops, and seminars.

If interested in joining the Virginia Forage and Grassland Council, complete the application form below and mail with membership dues to the address on the form.

Purpose

Forages are the foundation of the state's animal agriculture and contribute multi-million dollars annually to Virginia farms. Forages are produced on 75% of farms and it is estimated that 3 million acres of pasture and 1.5 million acres of hay and silage are annually harvested in Virginia. This acreage represents 70 % of the open farmland in the state. Over 75 and 65% of marketed beef and dairy products respectively are derived directly from forages, and forages provide even larger proportions of all feeds consumed by sheep and horses. In gross value, hay is considered the state's third largest crop.



In Virginia, a viable animal agriculture depends on forages. The VFGC acts as a voice for forage-based agriculture and strives for more efficient use of land resources in ways that protect natural resources and the environment. In these achievements, the quality of life for all Virginia is improved.

Organization

The Virginia Forage and Grassland Council is comprised of people dedicated to forages and animal agriculture and its role in the quality of life in Virginia. The VFGC is governed by twelve directors representing farmers and agribusiness and six non-voting technical advisors representing governmental and educational organizations. Directors are elected by the membership for three-year terms and are limited to two consecutive terms. The council president, secretary, and treasurer are elected by the directors.



Technical advisors are appointed for three-year terms by the directors. Officers, directors, and technical advisors receive no financial compensation for their services. Activities are directed by standing committees and organization by-laws. The VFGC is an affiliate member of the American Forage and Grassland Council, an affiliate member in the Virginia Agribusiness Council, and a non-profit organization of the Commonwealth.

The council was formed June 9, 1977, at Afton, Virginia, as the resolve of twenty-five individuals representing Virginia agriculture. Activities of the council are financed by dues from individual and sponsoring members and gifts.

Activities

Activities of the VFGC include:

- Educational meetings to learn and exchange ideas on the production, utilization, and conservation purposes of forages;
- Forage tours to observe research and extension programs and practical farm and industry experiences with forages;
- Newsletters and other publications dealing with forage activities and information;
- Awards program to recognize outstanding forage producers and leaders;
- Cooperation with other state and national organizations to promote forages;
- Assistance to state agencies and educational institutions in forage research, education, and development programs.



Objectives

The objectives of the VFGC are to:

- Promote and expand the utilization of forages to improve the economic and social well-being of all Virginians;
- Provide a forum for identifying opportunities to expand forage-animal agriculture;
- Promote forages for desirable and efficient means of utilizing land resources for food and fiber production;
- Coordinate efforts of agricultural services, supply and production functions to increase farm profits and efficiency of agricultural production;
- Direct and encourage research and education to expand forage production, utilization, and marketing;
- Promote the value of forage crops for soil and water conservation, abatement of air and water pollution, and enhancement of Virginia's natural beauty;
- Educate consumers on the benefits derived from an efficient and profitable forage/animal agriculture;

- Encourage outstanding achievements in the forage industry through recognition programs; and
- Develop vigorous leadership in activities beneficial to the forage industry and Virginia agriculture.



CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Corporate Member - \$350 minimum

VIRGINIA FORAGE AND GRASSLAND COUNCIL

(Please Print Legibly Changes Below)

Please "x" Appropriate Box

<u>Membership Renewal</u> →		<u>New Membership</u>→	
Name:		Company:	
Street Address:		City <u>and</u> State:	
Telephone:	Fax:	Zip: (very important)	
E-mail:			

Please "x" Appropriate Box

Corporate Member - \$350 minimum

Please check all that apply:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef | <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equine | <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep | <input type="checkbox"/> Ag Business/Industry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goat | <input type="checkbox"/> State Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Please make checks payable to VFGC. Remit with membership application to:

**Ms. Margaret J. Kenny
VFGC
3599 Indian Oak Road
Crewe, Virginia 23930**