

# Agricultural Sustainability

Personal Environmental Leadership  
for your Home or Homestead



Planbook to help students learn concepts and practical applications  
plus plan and take action to grow healthy foods sustainably

Dr. David Dyson  
Triple D Ranch and Farm  
Home of Life Leaders Ranch and Farm Education (nonprofit)



Guest lectures in UM classes of  
Professors Caplow and Crider with  
Dr. David Dyson, Life Leaders  
Institute and Triple D Ranch & Farm

Learn principles and best practices you can  
use—now and after college—  
to grow good food you like  
save money  
help the planet  
expand your capacities as a person....

Plan for your best-self to put into actions  
ideas you value—for this seminar, this  
course, college, profession...

Take at least 1 seed from the jar—take 3 if  
you want to try planting them.  
Take your planbook and sample farm flier.



Name of plant?

Country of  
origin?

Uses?

Where are the  
seeds?



Benefits of this  
plant?

When to plant  
in Central  
Alabama?

When to  
harvest?

How to harvest  
and store seeds?



# Mission

To inspire **knowledge and action applying principles and best practices** of healthy sustainable agriculture and personal environmental leadership.

# Vision

1. Students **grow healthy food** using the best of traditional practices plus innovation.
2. Students write plans to implement actions on values and lessons learned.
3. Students write Plans for School & Life and universities teach and reward this best practice.

# Goals

1. Present principles and **practical applications you can use in your plan.**
2. Help students improve *Plans for School & Life* with applications for *ag*.
3. Share possibilities as well as examples of what's working and not so you can **pick actions you value—now and after college.**



# Preview

1. Your Planbook and Plan (page 17)
2. Ranch & Farm flier (handout) shares a sample of what you may consider
3. Operationalize to improve your performance
4. Meet some of the ranch animals—the main WHY for the farm/plants
5. Plants and Paradigms
6. Ideas for what you could do now, soon
7. What will you do a result our work today?



# Meet some of the animals at Triple D Ranch and Farm

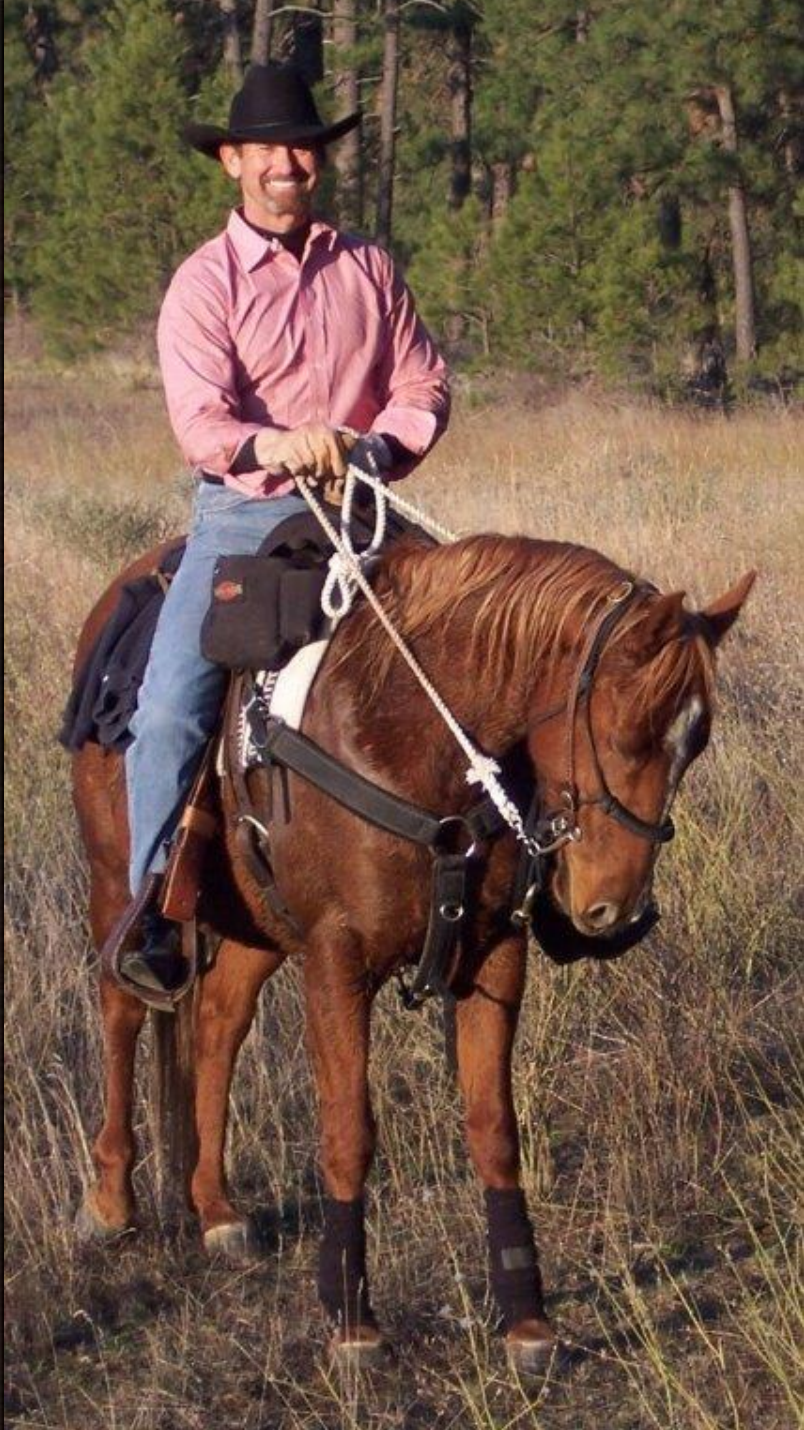
the main WHY for more land,  
which added motivation for growing more plants

Ag on a homestead often includes animals and plants.

Patriot and Indy bowing=>  
(learned by giving them a carrot behind their front legs)







# Star of the Bar (2003 American Quarter Horse)

<=Washington State, our first big ride.  
With her new little girls (for 6 years).  
South Dakota on our trip home to Alabama.







Star reunited  
with her  
herd: Indy,  
(her adopted son)  
and Patriot.

Notice her ears (part of  
horsemanship to observe)

Indy was a colt when last with  
Star—now bigger, he returned  
to following her, putting her  
#2 in the herd pecking order.





**Patriot** (Anakus Flynn)  
(2001 Morgan Horse, WA)

Day 1 new home.

Carrying David (after  
lots of trust building)

Last ride in Washington.

Pulling limbs.





# Indian Legend (Indy)

(Paint, Born Washington)

<=2 hours after birth.

1<sup>st</sup> week, picking him up for conditioning and trust building.

He brings his bowl when hungry☺







**Jill** (part miniature donkey).

<=when a baby the first time I saw her after her herd broke in to my pasture for food.

She lives with grandmother (June) and the patriarch (Honk).

They often eat and sleep in the pile of hay under the Magnolia trees (with canopy raised so they can walk under for shelter).



More of the  
herd.

They mow the  
pastures and  
cut the grass.







Adopted after being abandoned (great dogs)—it's best to adopt almost every time.

**Buck** (part Pyrenees & guard dog)

**Cowgirl** (part Border Collie, herding dog)

**Chief** (part German Shepherd)  
**Lady**

(part Jack Russell & “champion lap dog”)







## Cats (3 of 8 siblings and cousins) in their *Freedom Fence*

They can go outside with fencing over the top to protect them from predators and dangers and walk up to the screened porch.

Use: 4x4 posts, 2x4 framing, 2x4" welded wire...wooden ramp to screened porch where they eat and sleep...inside through cat door when they want, especially cold.

Catwalks at 5' high above the dogs though all are friends.





## Life Leaders Ranch Day

Patriot helping me  
teach a beginner  
clinic with students,  
ages 6-12,  
Camp Rockhurst.

They also enjoyed a  
picnic, discussed plans  
for life, fished, hiked....





# Visitors:

this is an animal sanctuary—no hunting.







Blueberries





Pears





Plum Blooms, fruit Summer





# Moonflowers

(look like silk silver dollars)

bloom in the evening and close during the day....

got a plant at a Botanical Garden sale 20+ years ago,  
and harvest seeds each fall and plant each summer.





Experimented for you growing  
seeds inside:  
snow peas  
tomato (left center and above)  
microgreens  
germinated and growing...

Planted, no visible results—yet:  
eggplant, watermelon,  
cantaloupe...cucumber started.



# Let's use our planbooks

Plan, page 17

Summary pages 4-7

Pages 8-16:

- income ideas: 84-101
- No/low cost gardening: 141-150
- reminder: you asked about ethical growing: ideas 230-236

Your questions, comments, interests—how can I help?



# A NEW U.N. REPORT CALLS FOR URGENT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

- A third of all edible food produced is wasted, with industrialized countries accounting for 56 percent of this waste....
- Despite all of this waste, many areas of the world struggle with food security.
- With a rapidly expanding global population set to hit nine to 10 billion by 2050, the U.N. calls for policymakers to improve food system productivity by 50 percent....



Choose to

“Be the Change You Wish to See in the World.”

*Now, what will you do?*



If you want to follow the animals and plants  
at Triple D Ranch and Farm

Website: [TripleDRanchAndFarm.com](http://TripleDRanchAndFarm.com)

Facebook: Triple D Ranch and Farm

Instagram soon