

# SILVOPASTURE ESTABLISHMENT

## PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service—Practice Code 381



### SILVOPASTURE ESTABLISHMENT

Silvopasture is an agroforestry practice specifically designed and managed for the production of trees, tree products, forage, and livestock on the same acreage. Silvopasture results when forage crops are deliberately introduced or enhanced in a timber production system or timber crops are deliberately introduced or enhanced in a forage production system. As a silvopasture practice, timber and pasture are managed as a single integrated system.

### PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice applies on any lands suitable for the production of the desired tree/shrub and forage plants. The purposes of silvopasture include:

- Providing forage for livestock and producing wood products
- Increasing carbon sequestration
- Improving water quality and reducing erosion
- Enhancing wildlife habitat
- Reducing fire hazard

- Providing shade for livestock

Silvopastures can provide cost-effective economic returns while creating a sustainable system with many environmental benefits. Silvopasture practices are designed to produce a high-value timber component, while providing short-term cash flow from the livestock component. The interactions among timber, forage, and livestock are intensively managed to simultaneously produce useful timber products, quality forages, and profitable livestock operations.

### COMMON ASSOCIATED PRACTICES

Silvopasture Establishment is commonly applied as part of a Conservation Management System with practices such as Forest Stand Improvement (666), Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), Tree/Shrub Pruning (660), Pasture and Hayland Planting (512), Prescribed Grazing (528), and other grazing and forestry practices.

For further information, refer to the practice standard in the local Field Office Technical Guide and associated practice specifications and job sheet