

2019
Pennsylvania
Warm Season Grass Producers
Directory



Association of Warm Season Grass Producers

www.awsgp.org

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The 2019 Pennsylvania Warm Season Grass Producers Directory is a cooperative effort among the following partners:

**Association of Warm Season Grass Producers
AWSGP
c/o PO Box 155
Moscow, PA 18444
www.awsqp.org**

**Penn Soil RC&D Council
4000 Conewango Avenue
Warren, PA 16365
www.pennsoil.org**

**Penn State Extension
The Pennsylvania State University
College of Agricultural Sciences
323 Agricultural Administration Building
University Park, PA 16802
<https://extension.psu.edu/>**

**Northeast SARE
Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education
University of Vermont
140 Kennedy Drive, Suite 201
South Burlington, VT 05403
<https://www.northeastsare.org/>**

Preface

This directory is a compilation of farmers and other producers in Pennsylvania who grow and market warm season grasses for various purposes. Primarily, warm season grasses include the following:

- **switchgrass**
- **big blue stem**
- **Indian grass**
- **miscanthus**

A few years ago a group of producers, individuals, and related businesses met at the urging of Penn State Extension to discuss how to improve markets for warm season grasses, especially within Pennsylvania's farm community. The Association of Warm Season Grass Producers (AWSGP) resulted from that effort.

The Association has four primary objectives:

- **To promote the planting and use of warm-season grasses**
- **To work to maximize the profitability of these crops for farmers**
- **To assist in educating growers on the implementation of best practices for managing and harvesting these crops**
- **To support and encourage entrepreneurial activities that further develop the use of warm-season grasses in all areas of agriculture**

Growing warm season grass has appeal as both a conservation and a commercial crop. Its perennial growth behavior and robust rooting system makes it a versatile crop for controlling soil erosion, preventing nutrient runoff, and sequestering carbon in the soil. With few inputs it grows capably on marginal lands. High yields of this perennial crop (up to 5 tons/acre/year) makes it an attractive option for fiber markets. It has been used as a feedstock for bioenergy production, as forage material, and as a substitute for wheat straw and similar feedstocks in many applications, including livestock bedding, mulch, and landscape erosion prevention.

The demand for warm season grasses currently exceeds known supply. The Association is conducting this survey to locate grass producers in Pennsylvania. Through the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, the Association received a grant to do this survey, exhibits, and other outreach activities under subaward number ONE18-320. The grant helped determine who is producing, numbers of acres planted, and if these acres are enrolled in government programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program. All this information will help us to better market warm season grass throughout Pennsylvania's farm community.

Future Participation

The Association continues to locate and survey other Pennsylvania warm season grass producers. Grass growers are encouraged to contact the Association with names of other growers. If others would like to be included in this directory, if errors are found within this directory, or if other suggestions can be made to improve the directory; please send contact information and suggestions to the Association of Warm Season Grass Producers at www.awsqp.org

Bedford County

Ervin Reiff

142 Elder Lane
Bedford PA 15522
717-629-7436
ervin@reiffconcrete.com

GPS Location: 39°50'04.1"N 78°37'51.1"W (39.834460, -78.630862)

I grow **4 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX**. Increasing to **20 ACRES...**
I DON'T HARVEST YET...
Can make **ROUND** or **SMALL SQUARE BALES...**
Harvest in **SPRING**

Bucks County

Michael Kramer

1288 Roundhouse Road
Quakertown PA 18951
610-694-8445
michael.kramer@boschrexroth-us.com

GPS Location: 40°30'10.2"N 75°16'07.3"W (40.502826, -75.268705)

I grow about **5 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX ...**
I DON'T HARVEST

Bucks County (continued)

Nathan Crooke

Windybush Hay Farms LLC
108 Irish Meetinghouse Rd.
Perkasie PA 18944
267-446-5518 Nathan
215-353-7439 Gail
windybushhayfarmsllc@gmail.com

GPS Location: 40°24'18.1"N 75°12'06.3"W (40.405040, -75.201754)

We manage **80 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS** growing on Pennypack Park lands in Montgomery County...
Make **LARGE SQUARE BALES**...
Harvest in **SPRING**

Columbia County

Rodney Leighow

135C Rarig RD
Catawissa PA 17820
570-317-4319
rbleighow@verizon.net

GPS Location: 40°54'23.6"N 76°23'16.1"W (40.906568, -76.387816)

I grow about **16 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS** ...
Make **ROUND BALES** ...
Harvest in **BOTH FALL** and **SPRING**

Columbia County (continued)

Mike Stewart

1838A SR254
Orangeville PA 17859
570-394-2607
mstewart@ap.org

GPS Location: 41°07'53.5"N 76°26'14.6"W (41.131525, -76.437401)

I grow about **20 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS ...**
Make **SMALL SQUARE BALES ...**
Harvest in the **FALL**

Nathan Moss

192 Cabin Run Road
Berwick PA 18603
570-912-8915
NRM3635@gmail.com

GPS location: 41°04'13.0"N 76°22'13.1"W (41.070277, -76.370318)

I grow about **140 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS ...**
Make **BOTH ROUND BALES** and **SMALL SQUARE BALES ...**
Harvest in **BOTH FALL & SPRING ...**
Expand my planted acreage **EVERY YEAR**

Crawford County

Ernst Seed, Inc

8884 Mercer Pike
Meadville PA 16335
814/333-3860
dan@ernstseed.com

GPS Location: 41°35'18.8"N 80°09'12.3"W (41.588562, -80.153413)

We grow approximately **3,000 ACRES SWITCHGRASS**
300 ACRES INDIANGRASS
650 ACRES BIG BLUESTEM ...

Make **ROUND BALES**
Harvest in **BOTH FALL & SPRING**

Luzerne County

Will Brandau

31 Smith Mountain Road
Wapwallopen PA 18660
570-814-0195
willbrandau@gmail.com

GPS Location: 41°05'08.0"N 76°07'11.4"W (41.085563, -76.119839)

I grow about **40 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX ...**
Make **ROUND BALES, SMALL & LARGE SQUARE BALES ...**
Harvest in the **SPRING ...**
Can process **MATERIAL FOR BEDDING**

Luzerne County (continued)

Leonard Reggie

56 Deer Path Lane
Wyoming PA 18644
570-696-3754
bhswood46@yahoo.com

GPS Location: 41°18'42.6"N 75°50'14.8"W (41.311832, -75.837433)

I grow about **6 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS** ...
Make **SMALL SQUARE BALES** ...
Harvest in **BOTH FALL** and **SPRING** ...
Can **MILL** and **BAG GRASS** for **ANIMAL BEDDING** ...

Daniel Chorba

153 Zosh Road
Dallas PA 18612
570-477-3407
dan@sweetvalleydoitbest.com

GPS Location: 41°19'32.4"N 76°03'11.7"W (41.325658, -76.053241)

I grow about **20 ACRES** in grass in the **CREP PROGRAM** ...
which I **DO NOT HARVEST** ...
Have additional fields in cool season grass that I plan to convert to warm season grasses

Bruce Trumbower

21 Bonham Road
Hunlock Creek PA 18621
570-606-9573
bruce.trumbower@gmail.com

GPS Location: 41°13'26.7"N 76°09'57.1"W (41.224084, -76.165855)

I grow about **7 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX**
(SWITCHGRASS, BIG BLUE STEM, WILDFLOWERS) ...
Grow **35 ACRES** of grass in the **CREP PROGRAM** ...
Make **ROUND BALES, SMALL & LARGE SQUARE BALES** ...
Harvest in the **SPRING**

Luzerne County (continued)

Chris Miller

261 Jackson Rd.
Shavertown PA 18708
570-406-2639
ChrisMilleraaaa@Gmail.com

GPS Location: 41°18'16.8"N 75°59'35.0"W (41.304657, -75.993063)

I grow about **3 ACRES** of each of the following grasses:

SWITCHGRASS, GAMAGRASS, BLUESTEM ...

All grass acreage is in the **CRP PROGRAM ...**

I DO NOT HARVEST: do not have cut and bail machinery ...

Please contact me if anyone in the Shavertown area is willing to cut and bail

Stephen Chest

62 Jeanette Street
Mocanaqua PA 18655
570-762-4401
sixgun22@netzero.net

GPS Location: 41°07'11.3"N 76°06'58.8"W (41.119806, -76.116322)

I grow about **30 ACRES** of **CONSERVATION MIX**

(SWITCHGRASS, MISCANTHUS, INDIAN GRASS, BIG BLUE STEM)...

Make **ROUND BALES...**

Harvest in the **FALL**

Montour County

Joe Woodruff

1022 Wagner Drive
Danville PA 17821
570-441-1534
Dirtfarmerjoew@gmail.com

GPS Location: 40°57'51.8"N 76°31'32.7"W (40.964399, -76.525755)

I grow about **12 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS ...**
Make **ROUND BALES ...**
Harvest in the **SPRING**

Northampton County

Matt Glennon

1200 Books Hill Rd
Pen Argyl PA 18072
610-248-4725
glennon@ptd.net

GPS Location: 40°48'45.6"N 75°15'47.8"W (40.812660, -75.263288)

I grow about **90 acres** of **SWITCHGRASS, INDIAN GRASS, BIG BLUESTEM & LITTLE BLUESTEM ...**
Make **LARGE SQUARE BALES ...**
Harvest in **BOTH FALL & SPRING ...**
Use custom labor ... Aim for **FALL HARVEST ...**Bringing more fields into production ...
2016 = 100 tons. 2017 = 105 tons. 2018 = 149.

Somerset County

Craig Coleman

779 Walker School Road
Somerset PA 15552
814-267-5197
Coleman2008@yahoo.com

GPS location: 39°52'21.3"N 78°57'52.4"W (39.872581, -78.964561)

I grow about **15 acres** of **SWITCHGRASS** ...
Make **ROUND BALES** ...
Harvest in **FALL**

International Conservation Center (Pittsburgh Zoo Elephant Mating Farm)

Patricia Vitullo Manager
1299 Glen Savage Rd
Fairhope PA 15538
814-267-4764
pvitullo@pittsburghzoo.org

GPS Location: 39°53'36.3"N 78°48'05.3"W (39.893422, -78.801484)

We grow about **45 acres** of **SWITCHGRASS** for bedding and feed for elephants here at the Mating Farm and Pittsburgh Zoo...
MAKE ROUND BALES and **SMALL SQUARE BALES...**
Harvest in **SUMMER**

Tioga County

Jim Unruh

248 Hager Rd
Roaring Branch PA 17765
570-250-0533
Jim.unruh567@gmail.com

GPS Location: 41°37'18.8"N 76°54'12.5"W (41.621882, -76.903467)

I grow about **25 ACRES** in **SWITCHGRASS ...**
Make **ROUND BALES ...**
My acreage is out of the **CRP Program**

Westmoreland County

Tom Stickle

P.O. Box 612
Ligonier PA 15658
412-398-9604
tstickle@verizon.net

GPS Location: 40°14'35.1"N 79°14'16.4"W (40.243093, -79.237889)

I grow **200 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS...**
Make **LARGE SQUARE BALES...**
Harvest both **SPRING & SUMMER...**
Sell grass, manage it for bird, wildlife, and pollinator habitat...
Maintain warm/cool season grass contour strips for biodiversity and wildlife habitat needs...located in the rolling hills of western Pennsylvania

Grass Producers, Other States, Marketing In Pennsylvania

Joey Massey (Greene County, Arkansas)

33 Greene Rd 747
Paragould AR 72450
870-573-6712
joey2massey@yahoo.com

I grow about **125 ACRES** of **MISCANTHUS ...**
Make **LARGE SQUARE BALES ...**
Harvest **BOTH FALL & SPRING**

Sara Calhoun (Anne Arundel County, MD)

Ivy Neck Farm/Restoration Foods
PO Box 365
Harwood MD 20776
410-353-3882

I grow **20 ACRES** of **SWITCHGRASS...**
Make **ROUND BALES...**
Harvest **BOTH FALL & SPRING...**
Bale 70 5'x4' net-wrapped bales of switchgrass, several times a year...
Planting more acres... looking for buyers

Ben Chaffee (Chautauqua County, New York)

7247 North Hill Road
Sinclairville NY 14782
814-688-5276
Bgchaffee@gmail.com

I grow about **75 ACRES** in **HAY MIXED GRASS ...**
Make **ROUND BALES & SMALL SQUARE BALES ...**
Harvest in **BOTH FALL & SPRING**

Grass Producers, Other States, Marketing In Pennsylvania (continued)

Ian Paddock **(St. Lawrence County, New York)**

227 County Route 6
Hammond NY 13646
315-751-4727
ian@farm4energy.com

I grow about **1 ACRE** of **SWITCHGRASS** ...
Also grow about **40 ACRES** of **HAY** ...
(TIMOTHY, BROME GRASS, CANARY GRASS) ...
Make **SMALL SQUARE BALES**





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