

MAKE FORAGES PAY

Forages.....

Pasture, hay, or silage should be thought of as a crop. Where treated correctly with lime and fertilizer, pasture lands in Missouri are yielding four tons of grass hay per acre, and six tons of alfalfa or alfalfa-grass mixtures. Nutrients in four tons of grass are equal to that in 94 bushels of corn. Digestible protein equals an 80 bushel corn crop. For six tons of grass-alfalfa, nutrients equal 153 bushels of corn, and protein equals 231 bushels of corn.

Your Opportunities.....

If you have land best suited to growing forages, and can use it to produce livestock, the *Missouri Livestock Forage Manual* can help you choose the right forage and livestock production system to fit your situation, and use the forage to increase your income.

Where to go for Information.....

More detailed information is available at your County University of Missouri Extension Center.

The Missouri Livestock Forage Manual Can Help You.....

- Fit the right forage and livestock production system to your farm.
- Select the right hay and silage handling equipment.
- Answer questions on producing an adequate quality and quantity of forage and distributing production throughout the year.
- Maintain productive stands.
- Consider the economic questions in fitting a forage program to your farm.

Some eight million acres of land in Missouri that are best suited to pasture and other forage crops represent a large, under-used resource. Returns can readily be doubled from these unimproved or only partially improved acres.

Production of forages has not kept pace with other crops. Profitable increases in forage crops on a scale comparable to what has been done with grain crops will give Missouri's economy a substantial boost.

On land not suitable for row crops, forage crops can be grown successfully. The physical features making these soils undesirable for cultivated crops are not serious limitations to the successful production of cool season grasses and legumes. For more information, see your County University of Missouri Extension Center.



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