

UK Grazing News



OCTOBER 2012

Freeze Effects on Forages

As temperatures continue to decrease, it is important to know and understand how various species of forages react to frosts and freezes in order to best utilize these forages and to avoid possible health problems.

Assess Past Grazing Season and Plan Ahead

As the grazing season comes to an end, take time to reflect on and assess the past grazing season. It is important to continually make an effort to improve and advance a managed grazing system.

Farm Highlight: Buddy Smith

Buddy Smith owns and manages a beef cattle and hay operation on over 400 acres in Anderson County and does an exemplary job of managing his unique grazing program.

Western KY Dairy Pasture Walk

The Western KY Grazing Network held their third pasture walk of the 2012 grazing season on September 26, 2012.

Important Reminders for October

- Use caution when grazing certain summer annuals after a frost to reduce threat of cyanide (prussic acid) poisoning.
- Apply phosphate, potash, and lime according to soil test



Additional Resources

- [Master Grazer Website](#)
 - [UK Beef Extension Website](#)
 - [UK Goat Extension Website](#)
 - [UK Dairy Extension Website](#)
 - [UK Forages](#)
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recommendations.

- Consider use of a winter feeding area or a sacrifice area to reduce damage to pastures. Identify potential sacrifice areas. These may be areas that will be renovated in the spring.
- Assess current grazing system and start planning for changes that will be implemented next spring.
- Do not graze or cut alfalfa during October to allow adequate time for plants to replenish root reserves.
- If grazing crop residues, check herbicide restrictions.
- October is an excellent time to control many cool season annual and perennial weeds. Assess pastures for weed species and quantity.

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