

Estimating Forage Yields For Pastures

Management Intensive Grazing			
The following are expected yield ranges for different soils and fertility levels when utilizing management intensive grazing systems. Yields can increase or decrease by 1 ton when increasing or decreasing soil fertility			
Species *	Good Soils & High Fertility Levels	Average Soils & Average Fertility Levels	Poor Soils & Poor Fertility Levels
Orchardgrass with a moderate yielding legume species (25 to 40%)	7.0 tons/ac/yr	5.0 tons/ac/yr	2.5 tons/ac/yr
Perennial Ryegrass with a moderate yielding legume species (25 to 40%)	5.0 tons/ac/yr	3.5 tons/ac/yr	2.0 tons/ac/yr
Timothy or Bromegrass (no legume present)	6.5 tons/ac/yr	4.5 tons/ac/yr	3.0 tons/ac/yr
Kentucky Bluegrass with 25 to 40% legume present	4.0 tons/ac/yr	2.5 tons/ac/yr	1.5 tons/ac/yr
Reed Canarygrass	8.0 tons/ac/yr	5.5 tons/ac/yr	3.5 tons/ac/yr
Orchardgrass	8.0 tons/ac/yr	5.5 tons/ac/yr	3.5 tons/ac/yr

Rotational Grazing	
The following are expected yield ranges for management and soil fertility levels when utilizing rotational grazing systems.	
Good Management & High Yielding Soils	Poor Management & Poor Yielding Soils
4 to 5 tons/ac/yr	2 to 3 tons/ac/yr

Continuous Grazing

The following are expected yield ranges for management and soil fertility levels when pastures are continuously grazed or mismanaged.

Good Management & High Yielding Soils	Poor Management & Poor Yielding Soils
2 to 2.5 tons/ac/yr	1 to 1.5 tons/ac/yr

Stockpiling

The following are expected yield ranges for management and soil fertility levels when stockpiling forages for grazing.

Good Management & High Yielding Soils	Poor Management & Poor Yielding Soils
4 to 6 tons/ac/yr	2 to 4 tons/ac/yr