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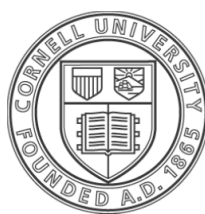
Of Chenango, Fulton, Herkimer,
Montgomery, Otsego,
Saratoga and Schoharie Counties
and the
Central New York Dairy and Field Crops Team

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First Cutting Forage Quality Summary for May 26, 2015

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Herkimer County
5657 State Route 5
Herkimer, NY 13350

First Cutting Forage Quality Summary for May 26, 2015



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This is the third and last monitoring report for 1st cutting quality for this year. If you are not familiar with our procedures we use alfalfa height to predict Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) for alfalfa, alfalfa/grass mixed and grass stands. Alfalfa height has proven to be a reliable indicator of NDF values in the field.

Here are numbers that are helpful when using alfalfa and grass height as an indicator of NDF content:

In general we say 100% grass stands should be cut when nearby alfalfa is 14 inches tall to achieve the desired 50% NDF.

Begin cutting 50/50 mixed alfalfa and grass stands when nearby alfalfa is 22 inches tall for the desired 44% NDF.

Begin cutting 100% alfalfa stands when alfalfa is 28 inches tall for the desired 40% NDF.

The desired NDF for all grass fields is 50%, 50/50 mixed alfalfa and grass fields is 44%, and pure alfalfa stands is 40%. Predicted days to cut are based on daily NDF increases for grasses of 1% point, 50/50 mixed stands of .8% points and alfalfa of .5% point. Typically NDF increases about 0.8 to 1.2/day for grasses expecting the lower end of that range in cooler weather and the higher end in warm. Alfalfa NDF increases about 0.4 to 0.7/day again figuring the lower end of that range with cool temperatures and the higher in warm. Predictions are adjusted for the coming week's weather and right now we are assuming normal growth.

This third and final week of monitoring shows that 37% of all fields are cut. All grass fields should have been cut by now and if they aren't consider letting grass fields go to harvest later for a lower quality feed to allow time to put in higher quality forage. Most mixed and pure alfalfa stands should be harvested by now so look at your fields and measure your own alfalfa to make management decisions appropriate for your farm. Know your conditions!

Hope this information has been timely and valuable to your operation.

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Summary of Alfalfa Height and Prediction of % NDF - May 26, 2015

County	Town	Road Name	Elevation	Alfalfa Height Inches	Predicted Grass % NDF	Predicted 50/50 Mix % NDF	Predicted Alfalfa % NDF	Predicted Date to Cut Grass	Predicted Date to Cut Mix	Predicted Date to Cut Alfalfa
Chenango	Afton	County Road 26	966	28	61.2	48.3	38.1	5/14/15	5/20/15	5/25/15
Chenango	Earlville	Coye Road	1080	27	60.3	47.5	37.4	5/15/15	5/21/15	5/27/15
Chenango	Greene	State Route 12	919	29	62.1	49.2	38.8	5/13/15	5/19/15	5/24/15
Chenango	Guilford	Ives Settlement Road	1450	Cut						
Chenango	Oxford	County Road 32	956	30	62.9	50.1	39.5	5/13/15	5/18/15	5/23/15
Chenango	Oxford	County Road 32	1030	24	57.7	44.9	35.3	5/18/15	5/24/15	5/31/15
Chenango	Sherburne	County Road 24	1354	20	54.3	41.4	32.5	5/21/15	5/29/15	6/6/15
Chenango	Sherburne	Cush Hill Road	1190	28	61.2	48.3	38.1	5/14/15	5/20/15	5/25/15
Chenango	Sherburne	Furman Mills Road	1350	22	56.0	43.2	33.9	5/19/15	5/27/15	6/3/15
Chenango	Sherburne	New Turnpike Road	1300	29	62.1	49.2	38.8	5/13/15	5/19/15	5/24/15
Chenango	Sherburne	Schmidt Road	1590	19	53.4	40.6	31.8	5/22/15	5/30/15	6/7/15
Chenango	Sherburne	State Route 12	1050	33	65.5	52.7	41.6	5/10/15	5/15/15	5/18/15
Chenango	Sherburne	State Route 80	1190	Cut						
Chenango	Sherburne	West Hill Road	1303	26	59.5	46.6	36.7	5/16/15	5/22/15	5/28/15
Chenango	Smyrna	County Road 14	1078	30	62.9	50.1	39.5	5/13/15	5/18/15	5/23/15
Chenango	Smyrna	County Road 20	1090	36	68.1	55.2	43.7	5/7/15	5/11/15	5/14/15
Chenango	Smyrna	Flat Iron Road	1180	Cut						
Chenango	Smyrna	Howard Hill Road	1256	26	59.5	46.6	36.7	5/16/15	5/22/15	5/28/15
Fulton	Ephratah	County Road 140	675	Cut						
Fulton	Johnstown	State Route 67	765	Cut						
Fulton	Oppenheim	Youkers Bush Road	845	32	64.6	51.8	40.9	5/11/15	5/16/15	5/20/15
Herkimer	Columbia	Jordanville Road	1586	27	60.3	47.5	37.4	5/15/15	5/21/15	5/27/15
Herkimer	Danube	Cramer Road	821	31	63.8	50.9	40.2	5/12/15	5/17/15	5/21/15
Herkimer	Fairfield	Top Notch Road	1183	Cut						
Herkimer	German Flatts	Robinson Road	1372	23	56.9	44.0	34.6	5/19/15	5/25/15	6/1/15
Herkimer	Salisbury	State Route 170A	1232	29	62.1	49.2	38.8	5/13/15	5/19/15	5/24/15
Herkimer	Schulyer	Carder Lane	446	32	64.6	51.8	40.9	5/11/15	5/16/15	5/20/15
Herkimer	Winfield	North Winfield Road	1243	27	60.3	47.5	37.4	5/15/15	5/21/15	5/27/15
Montgomery	Canajoharie	Maring Road	851	Cut						
Montgomery	Florida	Cemetery Road	605	30	62.9	50.1	39.5	5/13/15	5/18/15	5/23/15

Summary of Alfalfa Height and Prediction of % NDF - May 26, 2015, *continued...*

County	Town	Road Name	Elevation	Alfalfa Height Inches	Predicted Grass % NDF	Predicted 50/50 Mix % NDF	Predicted Alfalfa % NDF	Predicted Date to Cut Grass	Predicted Date to Cut Mix	Predicted Date to Cut Alfalfa
Montgomery	Florida	Mohr Road	840	29	62.1	49.2	38.8	5/13/15	5/19/15	5/24/15
Montgomery	Minden	Airport Road	653	30	62.9	50.1	39.5	5/13/15	5/18/15	5/23/15
Montgomery	Minden	Schuyler Road	574	Cut						
Montgomery	Mohawk	Hickory Hill Road	420	Cut						
Montgomery	Palatine	Dygert Road	550	Cut						
Montgomery	Palatine	State Route 5	329	30	62.9	50.1	39.5	5/13/15	5/18/15	5/23/15
Otsego	Milford	County Road 35	1200	24	57.7	44.9	35.3	5/18/15	5/24/15	5/31/15
Otsego	New Berlin	County Road 29	1210	Cut						
Otsego	New Lisbon	State Route 51	1254	29	62.1	49.2	38.8	5/13/15	5/19/15	5/24/15
Otsego	Otego	State Route 7	1060	Cut						
Otsego	Unadilla	State Route 8	980	Cut						
Otsego	Cherry Valley	County Road 32A	787	24	57.7	44.9	35.3	5/18/15	5/24/15	5/31/15
Otsego	Cherry Valley	State Route 166	1291	28	61.2	48.3	38.1	5/14/15	5/20/15	5/25/15
Otsego	Maryland	Tromp Road	1288	26	59.5	46.6	36.7	5/16/15	5/22/15	5/28/15
Otsego	Plainfield	County Road 18	1118	28	61.2	48.3	38.1	5/14/15	5/20/15	5/25/15
Otsego	Richfield	Jordan Road	1712	Cut						
Otsego	Springfield	Briar Hill Road	1583	22	56.0	43.2	33.9	5/19/15	5/27/15	6/3/15
Saratoga	Charlton	Jockey Street	635	32	64.6	51.8	40.9	5/11/15	5/16/15	5/20/15
Saratoga	Galway	Crane Road	830	30	62.9	50.1	39.5	5/13/15	5/18/15	5/23/15
Saratoga	Moreau	Burt Road	245	Cut						
Saratoga	Northumberland	West River Road	256	Cut						
Saratoga	Saratoga	County Road 68	225	Cut						
Saratoga	Stillwater	Burke Road	382	Cut						
Schoharie	Broome	Woods Road	1168	Cut						
Schoharie	Fulton	State Route 30	617	Cut						
Schoharie	Middleburgh	Amelia Lane	631	Cut						
Schoharie	Middleburgh	Clauverwie Road	665	Cut						
Schoharie	Richmondville	Warnerville Cutoff	953	34	66.4	53.5	42.3	5/9/15	5/14/15	5/17/15
Schoharie	Seward	Lowe Road	1181	26	59.5	46.6	36.7	5/16/15	5/22/15	5/28/15
Schoharie	Wright	Rickard Hill Road	1065	25	58.6	45.8	36.0	5/10/15	5/16/15	5/23/15