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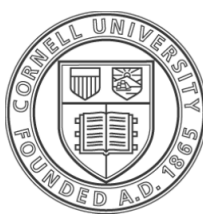
Of Chenango, Fulton, Herkimer,
Montgomery, Otsego,
Saratoga and Schoharie Counties
and the
Central New York Dairy and Field Crops Team

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**First Cutting
Forage Quality
Summary for
May 10, 2016**

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

**First Cutting
Forage Quality Summary
for May 10, 2016**



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We have begun monitoring of 1st cutting for quality 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.

Many of the lower elevation all-grass fields should be cut in the next few days. Growth was slow to normal this past week but temperatures look to rise over the next few days so NDF levels may rise faster than normal as grass growth gets accelerated. Check your fields! It may be time to park the corn planter to start harvest and take advantage of the grass quality or find some extra help to do both. Hay fields that are a 50/50 mix are a week away.

Next summary will be out Tuesday, May 17, 2016.

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Summary of Alfalfa Height and Prediction of % NDF - May 10, 2016

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	Bainbridge	Robinson Road	1660	7	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early
Chenango	Oxford	County Road 32	950	11	46.5	33.7	26.2	5/13/16	5/22/16	6/2/16
Chenango	Sherburne	Cush Hill Rd	1242	9	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early
Chenango	Sherburne	Schmidt Rd	1550	9	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early
Chenango	Sherburne	State Route 12	1050	11	46.5	33.7	26.2	5/13/16	5/22/16	6/2/16
Chenango	Smyrna	County Road 14	1080	9	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early
Fulton	Ephratah	County Road 140	633	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Fulton	Johnstown	State Route 67	765	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16
Herkimer	Columbia	Jordanville Road	1586	10	45.6	32.8	25.5	5/14/16	5/24/16	6/4/16
Herkimer	Danube	Tibbits Road	580	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Herkimer	German Flatts	Robinson Road	1372	10	45.6	32.8	25.5	5/14/16	5/24/16	6/4/16
Herkimer	Norway	State Route 170A	1207	11	46.5	33.7	26.2	5/13/16	5/22/16	6/2/16
Herkimer	Schulyer	Carder Lane	466	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16
Herkimer	Winfield	North Winfield Road	1243	11	46.5	33.7	26.2	5/13/16	5/22/16	6/2/16
Montgomery	Canajoharie	Maring Road	890	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16
Montgomery	Florida	Cemetery Road	580	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Montgomery	Florida	Mohr Road	860	15	50.0	37.1	29.0	5/10/16	5/18/16	5/28/16
Montgomery	Minden	Airport Road	653	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Montgomery	Minden	River Road	417	15	50.0	37.1	29.0	5/10/16	5/18/16	5/28/16
Montgomery	Minden	Schuyler Road	610	12	47.4	34.5	26.9	5/12/16	5/21/16	6/1/16
Montgomery	Mohawk	Hickory Hill Road	470	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16
Montgomery	Mohawk	Old Trail Road	570	17	51.7	38.8	30.4	5/8/16	5/16/16	5/25/16
Montgomery	Palatine	Dygart Road	584	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Montgomery	Palatine	State Route 5	329	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Montgomery	St. Johnsville	Crum Creek Road	668	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16

Summary of Alfalfa Height and Prediction of % NDF - May 10, 2016, *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
Otsego	Cherry Valley	Dugway Road	796	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16
Otsego	Maryland	Muehl Road	1320	10	45.6	32.8	25.5	5/14/16	5/24/16	6/4/16
Otsego	Morris	State Route 51	1126	12	47.4	34.5	26.9	5/12/16	5/21/16	6/1/16
Otsego	New Lisbon	NY State Highway 51	1255	11	46.5	33.7	26.2	5/13/16	5/22/16	6/2/16
Otsego	Otego	State Route 7	1070	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Otsego	Otego	Phoenix Mills Cross Road	1257	10	45.6	32.8	25.5	5/14/16	5/24/16	6/4/16
Otsego	Pittsfield	Burdick Rd	1136	11	46.5	33.7	26.2	5/13/16	5/22/16	6/2/16
Otsego	Plainfield	County Highway 18	1212	12	47.4	34.5	26.9	5/12/16	5/21/16	6/1/16
Otsego	Richfield	Jordan Road	1713	9	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early
Otsego	Springfield	Briar Hill Road	1638	9	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early	Too Early
Otsego	Unadilla	County Road 1	1058	12	47.4	34.5	26.9	5/12/16	5/21/16	6/1/16
Saratoga	Charlton	Jockey Street	643	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16
Saratoga	Galway	Crane Road	833	12	47.4	34.5	26.9	5/12/16	5/21/16	6/1/16
Saratoga	Saratoga	County Road 68	225	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16
Saratoga	Saratoga	Southard Rd	227	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Saratoga	Schuylerville	927 County Route 32	217	15	50.0	37.1	29.0	5/10/16	5/18/16	5/28/16
Saratoga	Schuylerville	Schulerville Road	78	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Saratoga	Schuylerville	West River Road	170	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Saratoga	Stillwater	Burke Road	382	12	47.4	34.5	26.9	5/12/16	5/21/16	6/1/16
Schoharie	Middleburgh	Amelia Lane	631	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Schoharie	Richmondville	Warnerville Cutoff	953	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16
Schoharie	Schoharie	State Route 30	687	13	48.2	35.4	27.6	5/11/16	5/20/16	5/30/16
Schoharie	Seward	Bush Street	1181	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16
Schoharie	Wright	Rickard Hill Road	1065	14	49.1	36.3	28.3	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/29/16