

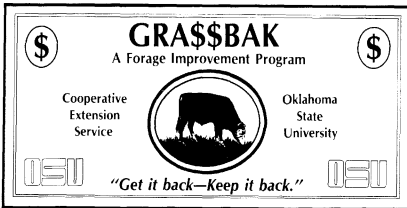
# Current Report

Cooperative Extension Service • Division of Agriculture • Oklahoma State University

## Grass\$bak - A Forage Improvement Program

Robert L. Woods  
Area Extension Agronomy Specialist

Loren Rommann  
Extension Pasture & Forage Specialist



### Pasture Planning

Pasture planning (budgeting) is essential for any grass or forage based livestock program. Planning is necessary to project forage requirements, plan lowest cost alternatives to reach the established goals and to identify weak spots in the forage program. Weak spots can be inadequate green forage when growing conditions are favorable or inadequate carryover (lifeboat) during adverse weather conditions such as drought or long winters.

The guidelines and spreadsheet provided in this current report will help determine both forage requirements and forage production. It can be used monthly, seasonally or annually to identify forage deficiencies, surplus or set stocking rates all of which are needed to develop an efficient cost effective forage system. Good pasture records should be kept in order to see how closely production is following the plan. Adjustments may be necessary.

Following this guide will determine the quantity of forage needed. Management will determine quality. Several facts are available providing information on a grazing, harvest or storing forage to maintain adequate quality.

### Estimated Annual Forage Yields With and Without Nitrogen Fertilization (Tons Per Acre)

(dry matter basis)

	Nitrogen rate (lbs per acre)				
	0	50	100	150*	200*

### Forage Species

Bermudagrass	1.0	1.8	2.8	3.4	3.9
Weeping Lovegrass (Sandy soil)	1.0	2.0	2.9	3.6	4.0
Old World	1.0	1.9	2.7	3.3	3.7
Bluestems					
Tall Fescue (Eastern Oklahoma)	0.8	1.7	2.4	3.0	3.5
Native Range	0.8				
Sudangrass	1.5	2.5	3.5	4.3	5.0
Small Grain	1.0	1.5	2.1	2.6	3.0

\*Forage production at nitrogen rates of 150 lbs. per acre or greater may be limited by lack of rainfall during the growing season.

### Forage Dry Matter Needed/Animal/Day

#### Calves\*

300 lb....12 lbs.	Bull.....32 lbs.
400 lb....14 lbs.	Horse.....32 lbs.
500 lb....17 lbs.	Sheep.....5 lbs.
600 lb....19 lbs.	Goat.....4 lbs.

#### Cows

Wet.....30 lbs.
Dry.....25 lbs.

\*Considers growth and increased consumption over 180 day period.

Time Covered by this forage plan: From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

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Forage Needed/Animal

Type of Livestock:	Time Kept:	Consumption Lbs/Per Day X No. Days =	Lbs/Per Animal
_____	J F M A M J J A S O N D	_____ X _____ =	_____
_____	J F M A M J J A S O N D	_____ X _____ =	_____
_____	J F M A M J J A S O N D	_____ X _____ =	_____
_____	J F M A M J J A S O N D	_____ X _____ =	_____
_____	J F M A M J J A S O N D	_____ X _____ =	_____
_____	J F M A M J J A S O N D	_____ X _____ =	_____

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Pasture Identification	Forage Species	Pasture Size (Acres)	X	Production Per Acre	=
1. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=
2. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=
3. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=
4. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=
5. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=
6. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=
7. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=
8. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=
9. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=
10. _____	_____	_____	X	_____	=

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Total Forage Requirement \_\_\_\_\_

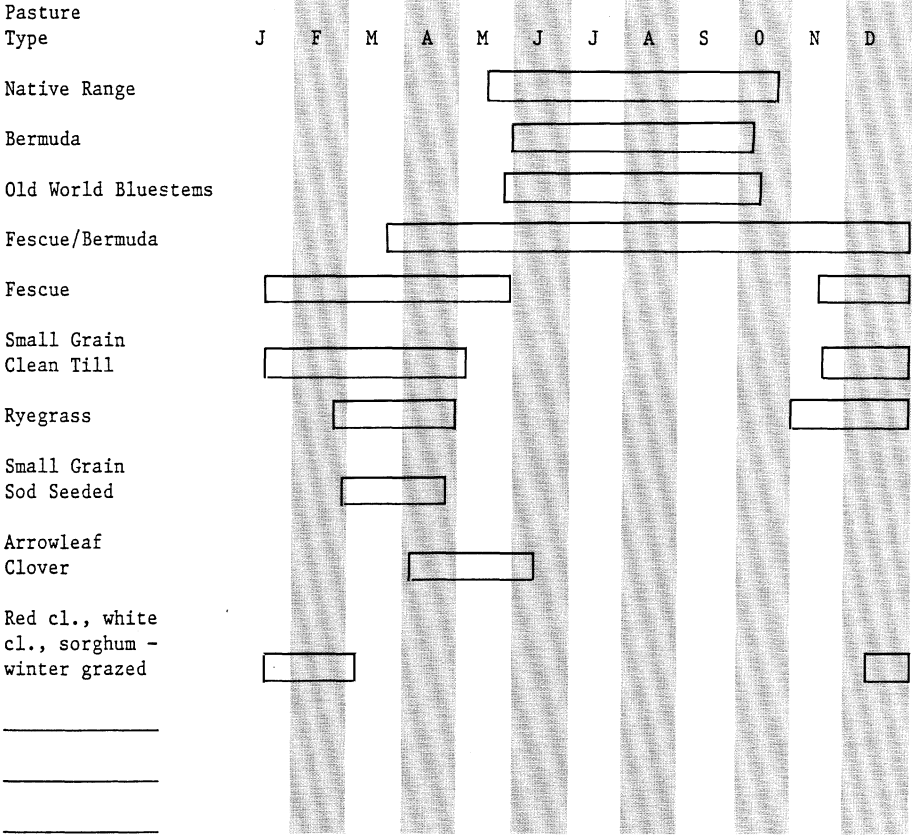
- Forage Production \_\_\_\_\_

= Surplus or Deficiency \_\_\_\_\_



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Grazing Period



Hay Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

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For assistance in designing your Grazing Plan,  
see your nearest OSU Cooperative Extension Office.

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