Mrs. Dot Caldwell

L-258

WINTER TEMPORARY PASTURES

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
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WINTER TEMPORARY PASTURES

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WINTER TEMPORARY pastures are the only dependable source of green grazing in the late fall, winter and early spring Green grazing permits beef gains and increased milk production during the winter and reduces hay, grain and veterinary bills.

Establishment

Proper seedbed preparation and fertilization are prerequisites for successful temporary pasture production. A soil test is the best means of determining the type and amount of fertilizer needed for a given field. General recommendations may be obtained from the leaflet for the specific type of farming area. (Example, L-228, "Fertilizer Recommendations for the East Texas Timbers.")

All small grain seed should be treated with the proper amount and kind of seed disinfectant to insure germination and good stands. Legume seed should be inoculated with the proper culture immediately before planting.

Small grains should be planted at the proper time to provide grazing as early as possible, even though this may require dusting them in. Some risk is involved with this practice, especially with wheat and rye. If dusted in, these small grains should be planted deep enough to prevent germination with light rains. Legume inoculant may be killed if the seed remain in dry soil for a long period.

Sod seeding, planting small grains in Bermuda or Dallisgrass sods, is suggested only in areas of high rainfall. This practice is justified only where the amount of cultivated land available does not allow planting enough winter temporary pasture and in fields where seedbeds

may be too wet to graze for long periods. Sod-seeded small grains produce less grazing than those seeded on a prepared seedbed. Sod seedings should be made in November, or when the summer grass is dormant or nearly so. Such seedings made too early likely will fail because of competition from established summer grass for moisture and plant nutrients. Use of ample fertilizer is essential. Sod-seeded small grains should be planted in 20 to 24-inch rows with a drill designed to do minimum damage to the sod. The cool-season grass should be kept grazed closely or clipped when it is time for the warm-season grass to begin growth to prevent damage to the summer plants. At best, the summer grasses may be less productive in the growing season following sod-seeded small grains.

Varieties

Grass and legume recommendations in this publication are for the areas shown on the map. Temperature, moisture and soil differences have been considered.

The recommendations are based on the use of these plants for grazing only. Small-grain varieties and dates and rates of seeding are not necessarily the same as for grain production, although they may be similar in some cases.

Small grain varieties are listed in the order of expected earliness of grazing and not according to expected total production. When two or more varieties have the same degree of earliness, they should be used in the order listed, provided seed supply and cost are not a factor. Rye is not recommended where oats, barley or wheat give satisfactory production. Under most conditions barley should not be planted on soils likely to become waterlogged. Wheat normally does not produce as much grazing as oats or barley, except in areas H and G and the northern portions of areas I and E. (See map.)

Each small grain variety and legume is rated according to degree of earliness of grazing. The

symbol denoting degree of earliness is the first letter following the varietal name.

E - Early

I - Intermediate

L - Late

These ratings are relative and will vary with temperature and moisture conditions. With cold weather, the intermediate and late varieties tend to be later in producing grazing. The warmer the weather, the less difference there is among varieties in earliness of grazing. In general, upright-type oats require a heavier seeding rate than the prostrate type because they tiller less.

Each variety has been rated as to disease susceptibility. These symbols follow the symbol denoting earliness of grazing.

C - Susceptible to leaf rust.

S - Susceptible to stem rust.

H - Susceptible to Helminthosporium victoriae blight.

M - Susceptible to mildew.

Damage from disease is of greater importance in the southern areas. Diseases are not as great a factor in grazing as in grain production in northern areas. Alamo and other varieties highly susceptible to Helminthosporium victoriae blight should not be planted on the same land for 2 years in succession. In addition, rotation greatly reduces damage by winter grain mites.

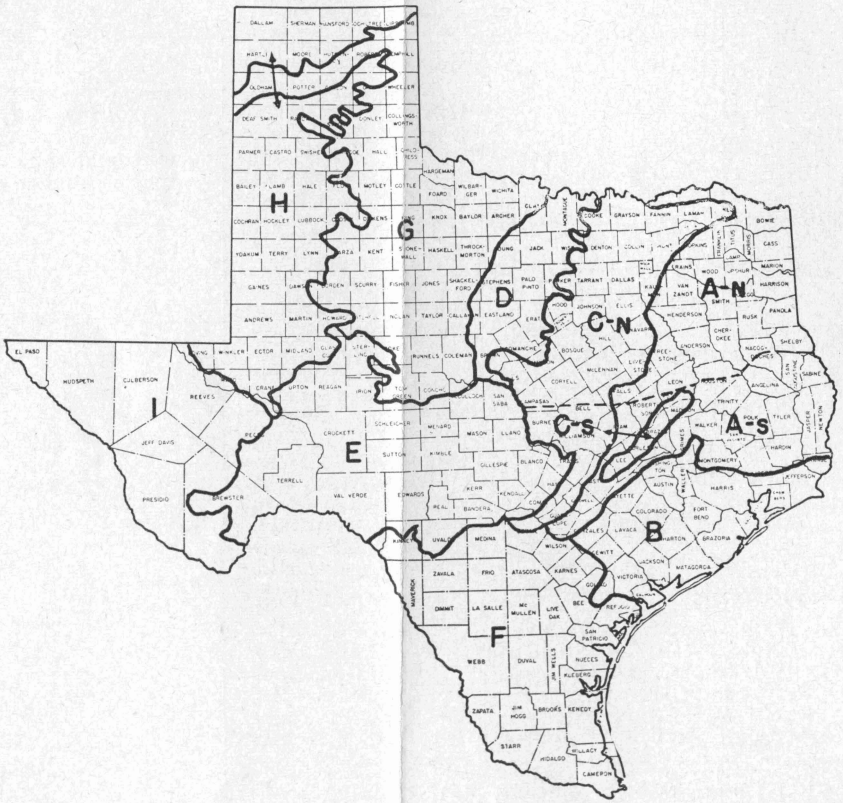
Mangement

Planting more than one variety or type of small grain is a good practice when maximum grazing is needed. Adapted, upright types such as Goliad barley, provide grazing 4 to 6 weeks earlier than cold-resistant winter types. Alamo oats give earlier pasture than most other oats in South Texas. Barley or upright-type oats give early grazing, but usually do not give sustained production through the winter. For areas outside the High and Rolling Plains, about 20 percent of

the planned winter pasture acreage could be seeded to an adapted barley or an upright-type oat if it provided early grazing. The rest of the acreage could be seeded to an intermediate-type oat to provide the bulk of the midwinter to spring grazing.

Small grains should become well established before being grazed. Upright growth-type plants such as Alamo oats and Goliad barley should be 8 inches high before being grazed. Prostrate types like Mustang oats may be grazed when they have reached a height of 4 to 6 inches and have established a good root system. The upright types should not be grazed down closer than 4 inches, for they make poor regrowth when grazed closely. None of these crops will produce well if grazed too closely. Rotation grazing to allow regrowth between grazings is recommended.

Forage not needed for grazing should be utilized as hay or silage. In areas A and B, spring rainfall often prevents making good quality hay and excess forage can be utilized best as silage.



A. East Texas Timbers

A-n North section
A-s South section

B. Gulf Coast Prairie

C. Blackland and Grand Prairie

C-n North section
C-s South section

D. West Cross Timbers

E. Edwards Plateau and Central Basin

F. Rio Grande Plain

G. Rolling Plains

H. High Plains

I Mountains and Basins

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AREAS	OATS	BARLEY	WHEAT	RYE	RYEGRASS	LEGUME
A. East Texas Timbers A-n North Section Plant September 1-15	New Nortex ICS Traveler IS Other Red Rust Proof Varieties ICS Mustang LSH	Cordova ECS Wintex ECSM Texan ECS Harbine ICS	Quanah I Frisco I Knox I	Abruzzi L Balboa L	Common LC	Hairy vetch L, 10-15 lb/acre Crimson clover I, 10-15 lb. hulled seed Singletary pea I, 40-50 lb/acre (Do not graze when setting seed.) Red clover L, 10-15 lb/acre
A-s South Section Plant September 15-30	Alamo EH Camellia ES New Nortex ICS Victorgrain ISH Traveler IS Other Red Rust Proof Varieties ICS Alber IS Mustang ISH 2-2½ bu. alone 1½ bu. with legume Camellia and Alamo-seed ½ bu. more	Goliad E 1¼-1½ bu. alone 1 bu. with legume	Not recommended 1-1¼ bu. alone ¾ bu. with legume	Abruzzi L Balboa L 1-1½ bu. alone ⅔ bu. with legume	Common LC 25 lb. alone 20 lb. with legume	Hairy vetch L, 10-15 lb/acre Crimson clover I, 10-15 lb. hulled seed Singletary pea I, 40-50 lb/acre (Do not graze when setting seed.) Red clover L, 10-15 lb/acre Burclover L, (From Grimes co. west only) 5-7 lb/acre
B. Gulf Coast Prairie Includes southern extremities of East Texas Timbers (Parts of Goliad, Dewitt, Lavaca, Colorado, Austin and Waller counties) and Blackland Prairie (Parts of DeWitt, Gonzales, Fayette, Washington and Grimes Co.). Plant October 1-20. Small grains alone may be planted 15 days earlier.	Alamo EH Camellia ES Victorgrain ISH Alber IS New Nortex ICS Mustang ISH 2-2½ bu. alone 1½ bu. with legume Camellia and Alamo-seed ½ bu. more	Goliad E 1½-1¾ bu. alone 1-1¼ bu. with legume	Not recommended	Abruzzi L 1-1½ bu. alone ⅔ bu. with legume	Common LC 25 lb. alone 20 lb. with legume	Floranna or Hubam sweetclover L, 8-10 lb/acre Hairy vetch L, 10-15 lb/acre Crimson clover I, 10-15 lb. hulled seed Red clover L, 10-15 lb/acre (Sweetclovers and vetch not recommended East of Harris Co.)
C. Blackland and Grand Prairies C-n North Section Plant September 15-30	New Nortex ICS Mustang LSH	Cordova ECS Texan ECS Harbine ICS	Quanah L Comanche L Triumph L Frisco L Knox L	Abruzzi L Balboa L (Rye on sandy soils only)	Common LC	Hubam and madrid sweetclover L, Spring plant 8-10 lb/acre Common alfalfa 5-7 lb/acre Hairy vetch L, 10-15 lb/acre
C-s South Section (For southern extremities see Gulf Coast Prairie) Plant October 1-15	Alamo EH New Nortex ICS Mustang LSH 2-2½ bu. alone 1½ with legume Alamo seed ½ bu. more	Goliad E Cordova ICS 1¼-1½ bu. alone ¾ bu with legume	Quanah I 1-1¼ bu. alone ¾ bu. with legume	Not recommended 1-1½ bu. alone ⅔-¾ bu. with legume	Common LC 25 lb. alone 20 lb. with legume	Hubam and Madrid sweetclover L, Fall plant 8-10 lb/acre Common alfalfa 5-7 lb/acre Hairy vetch L, 10-15 lb/acre
D. West Cross Timbers Plant September 15-30	New Nortex ICS Mustang LSH 1½-2 bu. alone 1 bu. with legume	Cordova ECS Harbine ICS 1-1¼ bu. alone ¾ bu. with legume	Triumph I Wichita I Quanah I Comanche I 1 bu. alone ¾ bu. with legume	Abruzzi L Balboa L 1-1½ bu. alone ⅔-¾ bu. with legume	Not recommended	Hairy vetch L, 10-15 lb/acre Hubam and Madrid sweetclover L, plant in spring 8-10 lb/acre. (Sweetclovers on heavier soils.)
E. Edwards Plateau and Central Basin Plant September 15-30	New Nortex ICS Mustang LSH 1½-2 bu. alone 1 bu. with legume	Cordova ECS ¾-1 bu. alone ¾ bu. with legume	Quanah I ¾ bu. alone ¾ bu. with legume	Not recommended	Not recommended	Hubam and Madrid sweetclover L, Spring plant 5-7 lb/acre Common alfalfa, 3-5 lb/acre Hairy vetch L, 10-15 lb/acre Legumes should go in better-watered or bottomland areas only.
F. Rio Grande Plain Plant October 1-15	Alamo EH Camellia ES Victorgrain ISH Alber ICS Ranger ISH New Nortex ICS Other Red Rust Proof Varieties ICS Mustang LSH **DRYLAND** 1½-2 bu. alone 1 bu. with legume **IRRIGATED** 2½ bu. alone 2 bu. with legume Camellia and Alamo-seed ½ bu. more	Goliad E **DRYLAND** 1 bu. alone ¾ bu. with legume **IRRIGATED** 1½-1¾ bu. alone 1-1¼ bu. with legume	Not recommended	Not recommended	Not recommended	Floranna or Hubam sweetclover L, 8-10 lb/acre drilled or 3-4 lb. in 38-40 inch rows Alfalfa 2-3 lb. in 38-40 inch rows Varieties: Indian, African, Hairy Peruvian and Texas, Southwestern or Barstow Common
G. Rolling Plains Plant September 1-15	New Nortex ICS Mustang LS 2 bu. alone 1¼-1½ bu. with legume	Cordova ECS Wintex ECSM Texan ECS Harbine IS 1 bu. alone ¾ bu. with legume	Quanah L Wichita L Triumph L Westar L Concho L Comanche L Ponca L ¾ bu. alone ¾ bu. with legume	Abruzzi L Balboa L 1-1½ bu. alone ⅔-¾ bu. with legume	Not recommended	Hairy vetch L, 10-15 lb/acre
H. High Plains Plant August 15-September 15	Mustang L Wintok L (Oats will kill in severe cold.) **DRYLAND** 1½ bu. alone **IRRIGATED** 2½ bu. alone 2 bu. with legume	Kearney I Reno I Ward I **DRYLAND** ¾ bu. alone **IRRIGATED** 1½ bu. alone 1 bu. with legume	Wichita L Triumph L Westar L Comanche L Concho L **DRYLAND** ½-¾ bu. alone **IRRIGATED** 1-1½ bu. alone 1 bu. with legume	Not recommended	Not recommended	**IRRIGATED ONLY:** Hairy vetch L, 10-15 lb/acre or Madrid sweetclover L, 4-5 lb/acre, fall planted Common alfalfa 2-3 lb/acre
I. Mountains and Basins (Irrigated only) High Altitudes Plant September 1-15 Low Altitudes Plant October 1-15	Mustang ICS New Nortex LSH 2½-3 bu. alone 2 bu. with legume	Cordova ECS 1¼-1½ bu. alone 1 bu. with legume	Not recommended	Not recommended	Not recommended	Common alfalfa L, 2-3 lb/acre or Madrid sweetclover L, in high altitudes and Hubam sweetclover L, in low altitudes, fall seeded at 4-5 lb/acre

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