PASTURE MANAGEMENT

Pasture management can reduce fertilizer needs, boost pastureland productivity, improve water quality, and soil health.



BENEFITS:

- Lower cost of production
- Reduced supplemental feed costs
- Improved herd health
- Increased forage availability
- Increased nutrient utilization
- Improved soil and water quality

DESCRIPTION

Pasture Management is a best management practice (BMP) used to improve a pastures forage production. Pastures that are grazed uniformly are more productive, have healthier soils, and experience less erosion. The goal of an improved pasture management system is to lower production inputs, increase farm productivity, and improve water quality within local watersheds.

TECH NOTES

- Work with your local Conservation District to establish a site specific pasture management plan.
- Assess current forage and soil health.
- Develop a grazing system for livestock that allows for equal utilization of all pastureland on farm.
- Determine long term management goals and farming operation needs.

MAINTENANCE

- Remove livestock from pasture when vegetation is grazed down to four inches.
- Provide grazed vegetation adequate recovery time before reintroduction of livestock.
- Provide adequate drinking water to facilitate equal grazing distribution.
- Follow your site specific grazing plan.



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Rotational Grazing

Healthy Pasture



UPPER DELAWARE CONSERVATION DISTRICT