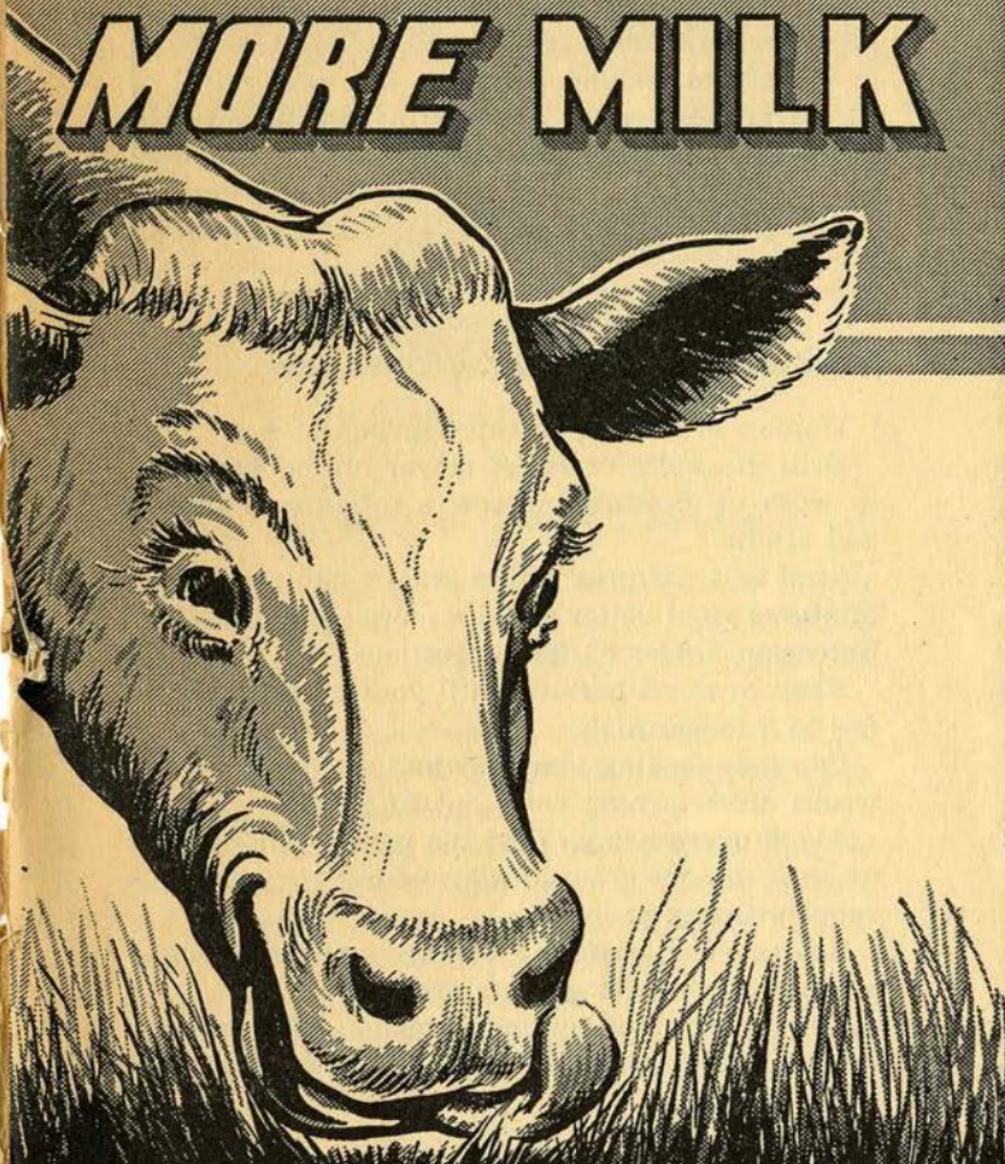


94

BULLETIN ROOM
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AMERICA NEEDS MORE MILK



GRASS WILL DO IT BEST

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Agricultural Extension Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Current information available from University of Minnesota Extension: <http://www.extension.umn.edu>

**Get
More Milk**

PROVIDE PLENTY

Pasture Pays Twice Over

1. Grass is nature's choicest as well as cheapest dairy feed.
2. Pasture feeding is by far the most effective way for the dairy farmer to cut down labor. Cows can harvest nearly half of their yearly feed needs themselves if provided with good pasture for 5 or 6 months.

Pointers for Good Pastures

Manure in late fall or early spring.

Drill in alfalfa or sweet clover on old pastures, or work up pasture and sow a mixture of brome and alfalfa.

Seed new pastures with a grass-legume mixture. Mixtures yield better and are more palatable. See Extension Folder 62 for suggestions.

Keep cows off pasture until young fresh growth is 4 to 6 inches high.

Continue feeding some hay and grain for several weeks after turning cows out to pasture.

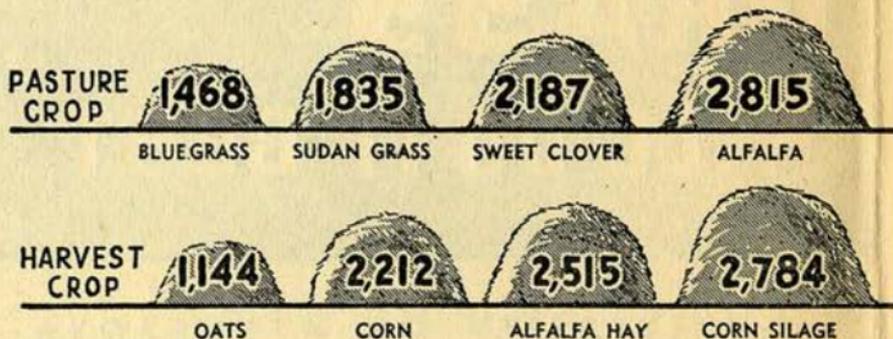
Avoid overgrazing. Rest the permanent pasture when it doesn't grow in midsummer by providing supplementary pasture.

Rotate your pasture. Pasture one area while another is recovering grass growth.

Don't waste feed by undergrazing. If cows cannot keep pasture down, fence off a part of it and cut it for hay.

Yields More

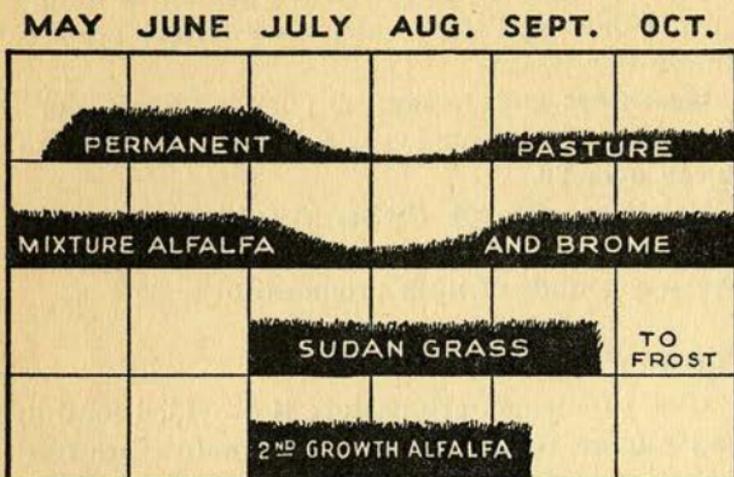
ALFALFA IS YOUR



DIGESTIBLE FEED IN POUNDS PER ACRE

ITY OF PASTURE

Cut
Down Labor



PASTURE CALENDAR

Don't Have a July Letdown

Don't let your cows down in July and August when grass pastures are low. Once milk flow has dropped, it is impossible to bring it back even with the best feeding.

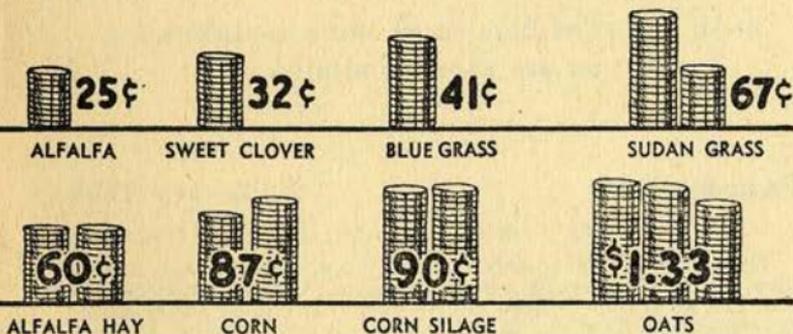
A good rotation pasture with plenty of alfalfa seeded with grass will usually provide enough pasture for July and August.

If you are using a permanent pasture be prepared with a temporary pasture of Sudan grass or second growth alfalfa. Mixtures of brome or timothy in alfalfa reduce bloat danger.

Sow Sudan grass late in May—two acres for five cows. Start feeding when Sudan is foot high; quit at first frost.

YOUR BEST BET

Costs Less



COST PER 100 POUNDS DIGESTIBLE FEED

Extra Feeding Necessary

ON GOOD PASTURE

Low producers won't pay for extra feed while on pasture.

Cows producing a little over a pound of butter-fat per day need some extra feed—either grain or alfalfa hay.

Guernseys and Jerseys—2 pounds of grain or 3 pounds of alfalfa for every 5 pounds of milk produced over 20.

Holsteins, Brown Swiss, Ayrshire, or Short-horns—2 pounds of grain or 3 pounds of alfalfa for every 5 pounds of milk produced over 25.

ON POOR PASTURE

If no supplementary pasture is provided for July and August, cows will need even more extra feed.

Feed cows all the alfalfa they want with poor pastures. Alfalfa is far superior to silage for supplementary summer feeding.

If no alfalfa or clover is available, feed high-producing cows a grain-mixture at the rate of one pound to every 3 to 5 pounds of milk produced.

A good mixture is:

300 pounds of corn, barley, oats, and bran—any or all of them mixed in any proportion they are available

plus

100 pounds of a high protein feed such as linseed or soybean meal.

Prepare for Winter

1. Cut hay early for higher protein content and greater palatability—alfalfa when it's one tenth in bloom.
2. Cure hay carefully.
3. Save the leaves and the green color. Leaves are 60 per cent of the value of alfalfa.
4. In the corn belt, grow some soybeans for hay if you are short of alfalfa.

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