



“Perennial Forage Variety Evaluation and Demonstration at Multiple Sites in Alberta”

QUANTIFYING YIELD AND QUALITY OF PERENNIAL VARIETIES AND MIXTURES

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Background: Producers are increasingly interested about perennial forage varieties and mixtures. While some yield and agronomic data may be available on these varieties from seed companies, regional data specific to soil type and growing conditions has been limited due to very little participation in the Western Forage Variety Testing System in recent years. In addition, quality data is seldom available. Over 34 species, varieties and mixtures will be grown at seven sites in Alberta.

Objectives: The objectives of this study are to:

1. Provide unbiased, current and comprehensive regional data regarding establishment, winter survival, yield, quality, and economics of specific species and varieties of perennial forage crops

2. To identify perennial crop species and varieties that demonstrate superior establishment, hardiness, forage yield and nutritional quality characteristics in different eco-regions of Alberta
3. To assess any benefits from growing mixtures of selected species
4. To demonstrate the regional adaptability of various forage species and varieties alone and in mixed stands.

Implications of the Research: This project will provide yield, quality.

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