



The Forage Leader

A Publication of the American Forage and Grassland Council

This issue of The Forage Leader is sponsored Dow AgroSciences LLC.

Considerations for selecting summer annual grasses

Chris D. Teutsch and W. Mac Tilson, Virginia Tech's Southern Piedmont AREC

In the past, recommendations for choosing a summer annual variety were to find a reasonably priced, locally available variety, and focus on management. While good management is absolutely critical for optimizing productivity and animal performance, recent data indicates that yield potential and digestibility should also be considered.

A trial conducted at Virginia Tech's Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Extension Center evaluated the yield and digestibility of 22 varieties of summer annual grasses including conventional and BMR forage sorghums, sudangrasses and sorghum-sudangrass hybrids, and pearl millet. The study was planted on June 1, 2009 and all plots received 75 lb nitrogen per acre at seeding and 60 lb nitrogen per acre after the first harvest. Plots were harvested on July 27, September 10, and October 21, 2009.

At the first harvest, yields for species-variety combinations differed by 1.5 ton per acre, ranging from 1.9 to 3.4 ton per acre. In vitro true digestibility also varied at the first harvest, ranging from 54 to 75%. The first harvest represented approximately 70% of the total yield. The total yield for the growing season differed by 1.7 ton per acre, ranging from 2.4 to 4.1 ton per acre. A weighted average for digestibility ranged from 59 to 75% for the 2009 growing season. What was most interesting is that the highest yielding variety in the trial was also one of the most digestible. This indicates that high yield and digestibility may not be mutually exclusive traits. In fact, when digestibility was graphed against yield for the species-variety combinations used in this trial, no relationship was found (Figure 1).

To better understand how to use yield and digestibility data when selecting or recommending a summer annual grass species-variety combination for livestock operations, the difference from average for the yield and digestibility was graphed and the graph was divided into four quadrants (Figure 2). The upper

right hand quadrant includes varieties that have above average yield and digestibility. These species-variety combinations would be the most desirable to include in a forage production system. Varieties in the upper left hand quadrant have above average digestibility, but below average yields. While digestibility is good and animals may perform well on these varieties, dry matter production is lower. In the bottom left hand quadrant, species-variety combinations with below average yield and digestibility are found. These varieties would likely be the last choice for including in forage production programs. The final quadrant located in the bottom right hand side of the graph, includes varieties that have above average yield and below average digestibility. These varieties might be suitable for operations focused primarily on yield with less emphasis on animal performance.

Suggestions for selecting and utilizing summer annuals

Consider yield. Variety-species combinations should perform well in replicated, independent trials. At least two years of data

**Summer Annual Grasses
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The Gavel Exchange



*Miles Kuhn, President
AFGC*

It's hard to believe that my term as president for AFGC has almost come to an end. To be honest, it does not seem like it has been almost a year ago that we were in Grand Rapids, MI attending the 2009 annual conference. I hope that all of you are making plans to attend the 2010 conference in Springfield, MO June 21-23, 2010. The

folks in Missouri have been working extremely hard getting ready to host our annual conference. As always, there is something for everyone to enjoy: educational tours and presentations, student competitions, a forage spokesperson competition, awards banquet, and many more activities to choose from. Final plans are being executed and waiting for your arrival in Springfield. I hope to see you there!

This past year has been an extremely humbling experience for me. Being the president of AFGC has not been something that I have taken lightly. I have been honored to have been nominated and elected into this position. I hope that I have done the position justice. The main thing that I will cherish most from this past year will be the opportunity that I have had to work alongside the members of the board of directors and the many conversations on the phone and face to face with the many members of AFGC. This organization is full of a lot of great people that are genuinely interested and want to be a

part of advancing our forage industry. I think that the key to our success in doing just that is having all three sectors of our membership: producer, public, and industry working together to make that happen.

I would like to report that the executive director transition from Bandy and Associates to our new director Tina Bowling is complete. I would like to thank Michael and Dee Dee Bandy for working with Tina and the members of the executive committee to make this transition as smooth as possible. When the Bandy's informed us of their decision to step aside from AFGC last November, I made it our goal to have this transition complete before our annual conference in Springfield. I am extremely pleased with the progress that we have made up to this point. The other person that I would like to thank is Tina. Throughout this entire transition she has done a wonderful job keeping the day to day business of AFGC moving forward. She brings a lot of knowledge to the table that will continue to benefit our organization. I look forward to working with Tina long into the future. The executive committee is the other group of people that need to have a huge thank you. This committee has done a fantastic job working together through the entire interview and hiring process.

I have been involved with AFGC since the early 1990's. I continue to be amazed at what this group of people that share the same interests can do when they put their heads together and set a plan into motion. Whatever you do don't stop. Let's keep working together to make our organization stronger. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as president of AFGC. Hope to see you all in

AFGC Event Calendar

For the latest AFGC, AFGC Affiliate Council and related events, please visit the AFGC web site at www.afgc.org. AFGC welcomes all suggested event postings. Affiliate Councils, in particular, should send their meeting details via e-mail to tina.bowling@afgc.org. Please be sure to include dates, times, locations, contact information and a brief summary.

2010 AFGC Annual Conference

Mon Jun 21, 2010 8:00 AM - Wed Jun 23, 2010 10:00 PM

For more information, contact: Tina Bowling; Phone: 800.944.2342; E-mail: tina.bowling@afgc.org

Illinois Forage Expo

July 21, 2010 For more information, go to www.illinoisforage.org

PA Ag Progress Days

August 17-19, 2010 For more information, contact: Richard Hann; E-mail: hannr54@comcast.net

PFGC 50th Anniversary

November 22, 2010 For more information, contact: Richard Hann; E-mail: hannr54@comcast.net

AFGC News and Updates

AFGC Gets a New Home

Effective immediately, the new contact information is:

AFGC
PO Box 867
Berea, KY 40403
Tel: 800.944.2342 (AFGC)
Fax: 859.623.8694

Please make a note of this information to help avoid delays in processing submitted items.

AFGC Affiliate Highlight

Beginning with the next edition of The Forage Leader, we will highlight an affiliate council. If you would like for your council to be considered please contact Tina Bowling at tina.bowling@afgc.org or at 800.944.2342.

This is your chance to let fellow members know what is happening in your area!



WWW.AFGC.ORG

2010 Sponsors

Dow AgroSciences
America's Alfalfa
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Syngenta Seeds, Inc.
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2010 Exhibitors

Agri-King/Analab
Allen Press, Inc.
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Columbia Seeds, LLC
DLF International Seed
GrassWorks Weed Wiper LLC
Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI)
K-Line Irrigation NA
Missouri Dept. of Conservation
Missouri Forage and Grassland Council/Grazing
Land Conservation Initiative
Mix30 by AGRIDYNE
National Center for Appropriate Technology
Oregon Clover Commission
PasturePro (a division of Green Forest Composites)
Pennington Seed
PowerFlex Fence
Progressive Forage Grower
Smith Seed Services
Summit Seed Coatings
Truax Company, Inc.
USDA-NCRS

AFGC 2010 Annual Conference Schedule

SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2010

8am-5pm Set up
7am-5pm Cool Season Grass Initiative Workshop (Invitation Only)
4pm-7pm Forage & Grassland Foundation Board of Directors Meeting

MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2010

8am-Noon Set up
8am-Noon AFGC Board of Directors Meeting
9am-5pm Registration Open
1pm-3pm CGP Exam
1pm-5pm Exhibit Hall Open, Hay Display Open, Silent Auction Open
1pm-5pm Poster Session Presentations:
Evaluation of Annual Medics for Forage and Seed Production
Evaluation of Components for a Hardwood Silvopasture Systems for Cow-Calf Operations in Southeast US
Comparison of Genetic Diversity and Symbiotic Efficiency of Commercial Rhizobial Inoculums and Indigenous Rhizobia from Nodules of Annual Medics Grown in Different pH Soil
Timing and Rate of N
Chapparral Herbicide Application for Suppression of Seedhead Emergence in Tall Fescue Pastures and Possible Alleviation of Fescue Toxicosis
Estimating Sward Forage Mass and Crude Protein with a Moving Plate and Greenseeker
Nutritive Value Response of Forage Chicory to Phosphorus Fertility
The Effects of Planting Date and Seeding Rate on Switchgrass Establishment and Yield
The Effect of Late Planting Date on Pearl Millet Forage Yield
Yield Performance of Cool-Season Grasses Under Irrigated and Dryland Conditions in the Great Plains of Wyoming
2pm-3:30pm Opening Session & Keynote
3:30pm-4pm Break in Exhibit Hall
4pm-6pm Forage Bowl
6pm-7:30pm Reception in Exhibit Hall
7:30pm-9pm Past President's Reception (Invitation Only)

TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2010

8am-12:30pm Registration Open, Exhibit Hall Open, Hay Display Open, Silent Auction Open
8am-12:30pm Poster Session Presentations:
Qualitative Assessment of Nitrate Presences by County Extension Agents Utilizing a Diphenylamine/Sulfuric Acid Solution
Forages and Grazing for Beef Cattle
Using Non-Traditional Rates of Poultry Litter for Forage Production
Comparison of Novel Endophyte Tall Fescues for Stocker Cattle in Southern Arkansas
Response of Summer Dormant and Active Cool Season Perennial Grasses to Stockpiling
Integration of Winter Pea as Alternative Legume in Winter Annual Grass--Legume Forage Production
Performance, Forage Mass, and Fecal Egg Count When Goats were Finished on Chicory, Red Clover or Birdsfoot Trefoil Pastures
Digestibility of Heat-Damaged Crabgrass Hay
USDA-NCRS Remote Sensing Labs-Leaders in NRI Data Collection & Interpretation
Teff: Exploring its Potential Use As a Forage Crop
8am-9:30am Symposiums and Breakouts:
Ryzup Smart Grass: A New Tool for Managing Grass Growth in Early Spring and Late Fall
The Ryzup Smartgrass Experience in New Zealand and Australia
Ryzup Smart Grass and Nitrogen Fertility, Yield, Forage Quality and Economics
Ryzup Smartgrass®: The Pennsylvania Experience
Ryzup Smartgrass: Grower Experience in USA, the Valent USA Demonstration Program
Harvested Forages and Energy
Raising Oats Twice a Year for Grazing and Baling
Production of Forage Soybeans in Southwest Louisiana
Does Seeding Rate Affect Southern Soybean Silage Production
Use of Novel Endophyte Fescue for Cows
Sheep & Goat
Cultivar Preference of Lambs Grazing Forage Chicory in Ohio
Anthelmintic Potential of Chicory Forage is Influenced by Sesquiterpene Lactone Composition
Effects of Ergot-Endophyte Infected Fescue Seed on Physiological Parameters in Mature Female Meat Goats
Effects of Ergot-Endophyte Infected Fescue Seed on Physiological Parameters in Mature Female Meat Goats
Effect of Macronutrient Deficiency on the Antioxidant and Condensed Tannin Accumulation of Lespedeza Cuneata and Lotus Corniculatus
Fencing to Control Sheep & Goats, Reduce Predation and Improve Grazing Management
Making Pasture and Forages Work for Sheep

Conference Schedule Continued

	Beef Quick-N-Big--A New Variety Forage Crabgrass Rhizobia Strain Evaluations on Ball and Rose Clovers Comparison of Seeding Rates and Coating on Seedling Count, Root Length, Root Weight and Shoot Weight of Crimson Clover Pasture and Grazing Management Spreadsheet Tools Pasture and Grazing Management in the Northwest: A New Guidebook
9:30am-10am	Break in Exhibit Hall
10am-12:30pm	Forage Spokesperson Competition
1pm-6pm	Professional Tours
6pm-8pm	Missouri Night at Southwest Research Center
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2010	
7am-3pm	Registration Open, Exhibit Hall Open, Hay Display Open, Silent Auction Open
7am-8:30am	Industry/Affiliate Council Breakfast
7am-12:30pm	<u>Poster Sessions:</u> Beef Cow Production Efficiency Relative to Cow Weight and Calving Date Beef Cow Weight Relative to Body Condition and Hip Height Comparisons of Alfalfa-Tall Fescue Row Orientation on Establishment and Mixed Stand Composition Persistence Under Livestock Grazing Annual Ryegrass Response to Increased Seeding Rate and Nitrogen Fertilization Evaluation of Multiple Herbicides Applied to Various Summer Legumes Fescue Toxicosis and Management Evaluation of Switchgrass Cultivars in Sheep Feeding Trials Comparison of Traditional and Non-Traditional Fertilizers for Bermudagrass Forage Yield Alfalfa-Grass Mixture Yield and Quality: Grass Species, N. Fertilization and Seeding Ratio Effects Biosolids Nutrient Recycling In Pastures: Rainfall Simulations Quantify Nutrient And Bacterial Runoff From Biosolids And Mineral Fertilizers
7am-8:30am	<u>Symposiums and Breakouts:</u> Pasture Management and Forage for Equine Beef Summer Forage Evaluation in Southern Oklahoma and North/South Texas Performance of Selected Forage Legumes in the Lower Midwest Yes You Can: Forages and Grazing for 100% Grass Fed and Finished Beef Cattle Evaluation of Annual Ryegrass in Two Fall Grazing Systems on Forage Quality and Stocker Calf Performance in Northern Minnesota Evaluation of Alternative Forage Species to Reduce Risk for Cow-Calf Production Systems Dairy Nitrogen Fertilizer Replacement Value of Alfalfa Grown in Northern Illinois Binary Mixtures of Alfalfa and Prairie Grass Under Conventional and Organic Management Grazing Frequency and Intensity Effects on Temperate Grass Growth Pasture-based Dairying in Missouri Horses & Grass NIRS Calibration for Equine Diet Composition on Cool Season Pastures Effect of Ergovaline Ingestion on Recovery of Horses Subjected to a Standard Exercise Test in Hot Humid Climates Tall Fescue for the Twenty-first Century: A Comprehensive Presentation on the Science and Uses of Tall Fescue
8:30am-9am	Break in Exhibit Hall
9am-11am	Emerging Scientist Competition
11am-12:30pm	<u>Symposiums:</u> Soil Health/Soil Building with High Density Grazing Tall Fescue Endophyte Management Low Stress Stockmanship Techniques Pasture Management and Forage for Equine (Continued)
12:30pm-1:30pm	Luncheon
1:30pm-3pm	<u>Symposiums:</u> Soil Health/Soil Building with High Density Grazing (Continued) Tall Fescue Endophyte Management (Continued) Low Stress Stockmanship Techniques Pasture Management and Forage for Equine (Continued)
3pm-3:45pm	Affiliate Council Meeting
3:45pm-4:45pm	AFGC Business Meeting
5pm-8pm	Awards Banquet
THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2010	
8am-Noon	AFGC Board of Directors Meeting

Summer Annual Grasses
Continued From Page 1

from your particular geographic region should be used to select a variety, but three or more years of data is preferable.

Consider digestibility. In the past, digestibility data for summer annual varieties has been limited, but current breeding and marketing efforts have placed a renewed emphasis on this trait (Figure 3). In order to select or recommend the best possible summer annual species-variety combination, it is important to ask your local seed supplier for both yield and digestibility data.

Consider price. Cost is always an important consideration when selecting any input for forage-livestock systems. However, seed cost needs to be considered on a relative basis. For example, an inexpensive variety that has low yield and digestibility may actually cost you more in the long run. One way to put seed cost on a relative basis is to consider seed cost as a function of variety performance. For example, if the seed cost was \$35 per acre for both varieties A and B, but digestible yield was 2.7 and 1.7 ton per acre, respectively, then the relative seed cost of variety B would be about 1.6 times higher than for variety A.

Manage for optimum performance. In comparison to perennial forage species, annuals cost more to grow, especially if they are poorly managed. Therefore, it is critical to manage summer annual grasses properly. This includes not only selecting a high performing variety, but also planting at the proper seeding date and rate, using good establishment techniques, properly fertilizing, and managing grazing/haying.

The data presented in this article represents only one growing season and was used primarily to illustrate the importance of considering yield and digestibility when selecting improved summer annual species-variety combinations. Make sure to remember that variety selection should be based on two, but preferably three or more, years of data from your geographic region. For more information on selecting and managing summer annuals grasses contact your local extension office or visit with your local seed supplier.

Chris Teutsch and Mac Tilson are an associate professor and a research associate located at Virginia Tech's Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research and Extension, Blackstone, Va.

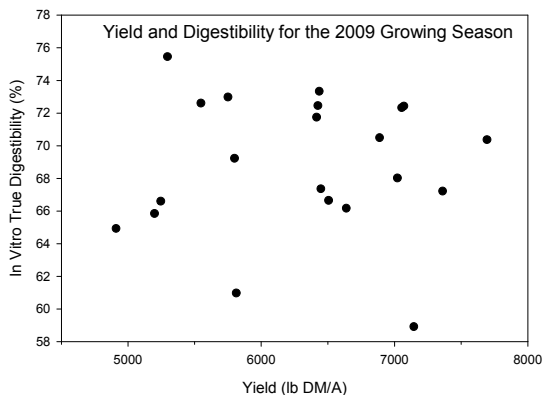


Figure 1. No relationship between total yield and in vitro true digestibility was found for the 22 species-variety combinations in the 2009 Summer Annual Variety Trial held at Virginia Tech's Southern Piedmont Agriculture Research and Extension

Center located near Blackstone, Va.

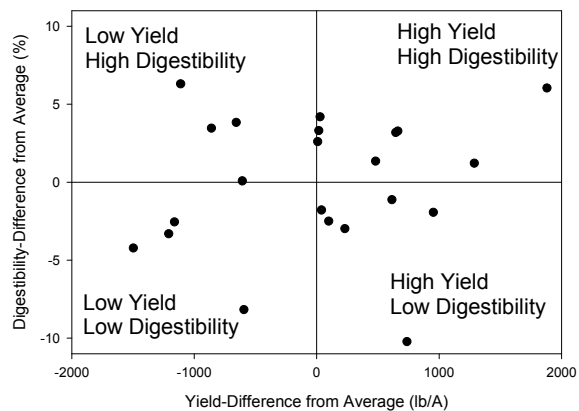


Figure 2. In this graph yield and in vitro digestibility are expressed as a difference from the average value. The value of zero represents the average value for the trial. Negative value represents a value that is below average, while a positive value represents a value that is above average. Producers should try to select varieties that are above average for both yield and digestibility.



Figure 3. Recently breeding programs for summer annual grasses have put an increased emphasis on digestibility. The photo above shows a sorghum-sudangrass that possesses the brown midrib or BMR trait that is commonly, but not always, associated with lower lignin concentrations and increased digestibility.

Silent Auction

To donate an item for the silent auction please contact the AFGC Office at 800.944.2342 or email Tina Bowling at tina.bowling@afgc.org.

Controlling Brush in Pastures and Fencerows

Byron Sleugh and S. Ray Smith

It is usually a major accomplishment and a good feeling when we finally get around to doing some brush control on our property. Brush control is used to improve and maintain pastures, CRP, fencerows, ditch banks and riparian areas, just to name a few. Dense brush can shade out desirable grasses reducing forage production and carrying capacity of a pasture. Thorny brush species like multiflora rose, locust, and blackberry can disrupt grazing patterns, and injure animals, landowners, and workers. While it is very important work, we sometimes delay brush control because we are waiting for the brush to get bigger before we control it. However, the best time to treat brush is when they first appear. Mature brush is more difficult to control and is more likely to resprout and cause continued problems.

Before we decide on controlling brush, it is important to know if the species we are about to control is a non-sprouting or sprouting species. Non-sprouting species, such as Eastern red cedar, can be controlled by mowing/cutting (below the lowest branch) or fire if less than 5 ft. tall. Sprouting species such as hedge (osage orange), honey locust, multiflora rose, sumac, and blackberry cannot be controlled by one mowing but will require consecutive years of repeated mowing to control the brush. If you intend to stick with mechanical control, you should cut the brush at the time of year when the root reserves are lowest – usually in the spring as they reach full leaf out stage and then follow up with multiple cuttings throughout the growing season. It is likely that you will have to continue cutting for several years. The drawback to mechanical control is that it is time consuming, expensive, and may only prove feasible on small scattered brush patches and not large areas of dense brush.

If you do decide to use mechanical control for a resprouting species, you can improve control by applying a herbicide to the cut surface and root collar soon after mowing/cutting. If the herbicide is applied in water, it should be applied to the cut surface (not the bark) immediately after cutting. If a herbicide like triclopyr (e.g. Remedy[®] Ultra + oil) is to be applied in oil, it can be applied any time after cutting but prior to resprouting. To get effective control it should be applied to the cut surface and the remainder of the bark down to the root collar. Resprouted brush can also be controlled by foliar applications of herbicides such as picloram + fluroxypyr (e.g. Surmount[®]), triclopyr + 2,4-D (e.g. Crossbow[®]), and triclopyr + fluroxypyr (e.g. PastureGard[®]) applied during the growing season after the plants have fully leafed out. Drought conditions can often reduce control achieved by herbicides so best results are achieved when growing conditions are favorable.

Brush can also be effectively controlled with a low volume basal application of triclopyr (e.g. Remedy[®] Ultra), or triclopyr + fluroxypyr (e.g. PastureGard[®]) herbicides mixed in oil on stems less than 6 inches in diameter. There are even triclopyr containing products like Pathfinder[®] II that are “ready to use” formulations that do not require mixing with oil and can be used for this application. Larger stems will need to be controlled by cut surface applications of herbicide to prevent resprouting.

It is important to remember that brush species are perennial plants that can be difficult to control. The task is not likely going to be achieved by one application in one year. Follow up treatments are probably going to be required to completely control the brush problem and to restore the high productivity and beauty of your pastures, riparian area, fencerows etc.

If you do use herbicides, remember to **ALWAYS** read and follow label instructions carefully. For example, Surmount is a Federally Restricted Use Pesticide and you have to have a special license to purchase and apply this product. State and local restrictions on the sale and use of some herbicides may apply, so consult the label before purchase or use for full details. The information provided on the label is very important and can help prevent inadvertently injuring or killing your (or your neighbor's) desirable plants. This is embarrassing at the least, and could lead to legal action. So, use the advice above to improve your pastures, fencerows, and other farm sites, but use caution.

Contact your local extension office or herbicide dealer for more information. Listed below are examples of good extension publications that contain information on pasture weed and brush control. Remember to check the label included with the herbicide product you buy for specific instructions and restrictions within your respective state.

Controlling Brush Continued on Page 8

Remembering a Friend and Grazing Promoter

Bob Hendershot

State Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative Coordinator

State Grassland Conservationist

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Ohio

Ohio and the country lost a great agriculture supporter on June 21, 2007. Especially those of us working with grazing, Bob Evans promoted the adoption of improved grazing management practices. He supported and encouraged those of us providing assistance to farmers adopting new pasture management techniques. He continuously promoted year-round grazing, a concept to reduce the amount of stored feed needed to maintain an animal through the winter. "Bob Evans was a big supporter of year-round grazing as a way to help maintain the traditional family farms in America. Grazing cattle in pastures of different grasses throughout the year is intended to help cut expenses for farmers. With year-round grazing, farmers can theoretically eliminate two of their biggest expenses - their balers and stored feed." Wikipedia

The greatest cost in raising grazing livestock is winter feed. Mr. Evans' business experiences taught him it was easier to make a profit from reducing expenses than from raising the price of the product. He promoted the idea of extending the grazing season, with stockpiling pasture growth, looking for new and different plants that could be used. He was an early promoter of using native warm season grasses, and utilizing common plants in a different way like grazing corn, small grains and turnips.

Bob loved children and young families and keeping them on the farm earning a respectful living was a passion for him. I am always blessed and feel content, when we have a grazing event and the crowd has a significant number of young families with children. Because I know part of Bob Evans' dream is coming to life.

He would call me early Sunday mornings when our children were much younger. They would all race to the phone on Sunday morning to talk to him. I was struggling to get awake but they were excited every week to talk to him. When they handed the phone to me, Bob was a constant flow of encouragement; "What did you do for grazing this past week? and What are you going to do this week?" were his first two questions. He would talk about something new he had read and would send me a copy to investigate further. I would share with him all the grazing activities going on in the state.

He never hesitated to call the leaders of agencies and tell them how important grazing was to Ohio and how they needed to support and promote grazing land activities.

Bob was recognized around the country for his enthusiasm about improving pasture management. At the recent American Forage and Grassland Council Annual Conference, a moment of silence was held before the banquet meal in his honor and respect. Bob hosted a leadership

Remembering Continued Page 9

Controlling Brush Continued from Page 7

University of Nebraska - Guide for Weed Management - See section on Individual Plant Treatment Techniques - <http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/epublic/live/ec130/build/ec130.pdf>

Texas A&M - Chemical Weed and Brush Control
<http://foragesoftexas.tamu.edu/pdf/brushcntl.pdf>

University of Illinois - Brush Control in Illinois - <http://ipm.illinois.edu/pubs/iapmh/08chapter.pdf> (Also provides a listing of active ingredients and gives examples of product trade names)

University of Arkansas - Pasture Weed and Brush Control - http://www.uaex.edu/Other_Areas/publications/PDF/FSA-2080.pdf

University of Missouri - Pasture Weed and Brush Control - <http://extension.missouri.edu/Stone/Ag/PastureWeedBrushJan08.pdf>

University of Kentucky - Weed Management in Grass Pastures, Hayfields, and Other Farmstead Sites - <http://www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/agr/agr172/agr172.pdf>

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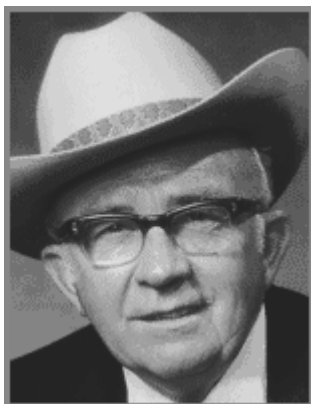
Multiflora rose after spot treatment with herbicide

Remembering Continued from Page 8

conference for the AFGC at Rio Grande, that is were I was asked to become active with American Forage and Grassland Council. Bob helped start the Ohio Forage and Grassland Council, an affiliate to the AFGC. I can still remember the very first National Grazing Land Conference, we asked Mr. Evans to give a short presentation. The room was packed; he stole the show. The whole conference was alive after his presentation. Those of us from Ohio had heard his words many times before, but the rest of the country had not. I can remember escorting Mr. Evans from interview to interview and from meeting to meeting with key leaders during the rest of the conference. The grazing conference got numerous national radio and press releases from his presentation. It allowed Bob and I to take a trip to Washington DC to talk to congressional leaders and promote grazing lands as a national priority. That event got more people excited about grazing in the eastern half of the country than anything. The western states realized there were grazing acres in the east and we could grow a lot of grass. The eastern producers realized there was a lot they could do to improve their grazing management.

We will miss Bob Evans and his encouragement, his promotion and support for grazing lands. Every time we see cows happily grazing in the snow or see a young farm family making a nice living from the farm we can remember Bob Evans and that his dream is getting closer to reality and his smile is a little brighter.

You have the opportunity to know Bob Evans even better with a book entitled "A Bountiful Heart" written by Robbin Evans, one of Bob's six children. "It is an easy to read book that provides a loving look at a man who turned a roadside restaurant in southern Ohio into a sausage and restaurant empire yet continued to live simply in Gallipolis, Ohio." Jeffery Sheban, The Columbus Dispatch. My family has enjoyed reading the book which can be found at www.abountifulheart.com.



Bob Evans



Grass release under multiflora rose after treatment

Why is this cow so happy?



Because AFGC has a new member benefit through the Plant Management Network, publisher of *Forage and Grazinglands*.

Learn more at
www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/AFGC

 Plant Management Network
International

AFGC Corporate Members

AFGC established its Corporate Membership Program to provide an opportunity for the corporate community to benefit from and contribute to the association. Through the generous support of the corporate community, AFGC is able to develop programs to support the membership while maintaining a competitive dues structure. Details on all Corporate Members are available to members by logging into the AFGC web site and selecting the Corporate Members search from the AFGC Easy Search page.

Platinum Corporate Members

Grassland Oregon, Inc.
Phone: 503.566.9900
Web: <http://www.sucraseed.com>

Dow AgroSciences
Phone: 515.226.2165
Web: <http://www.dowagro.com>

Valent BioSciences Corp.
<http://www.valent.com>

Gold Corporate Members

Barenbrug
<http://www.Barenbrug.com>

DLF International Seeds
<http://www.dlfis.com>

Pennington Seed, Inc.
Phone: 706.474.2801
Web: <http://www.penningtonseed.com>

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.
<http://www.pioneer.com>

Syngenta Seeds/NK Brand Alfalfas
<http://www.nk-us.com>

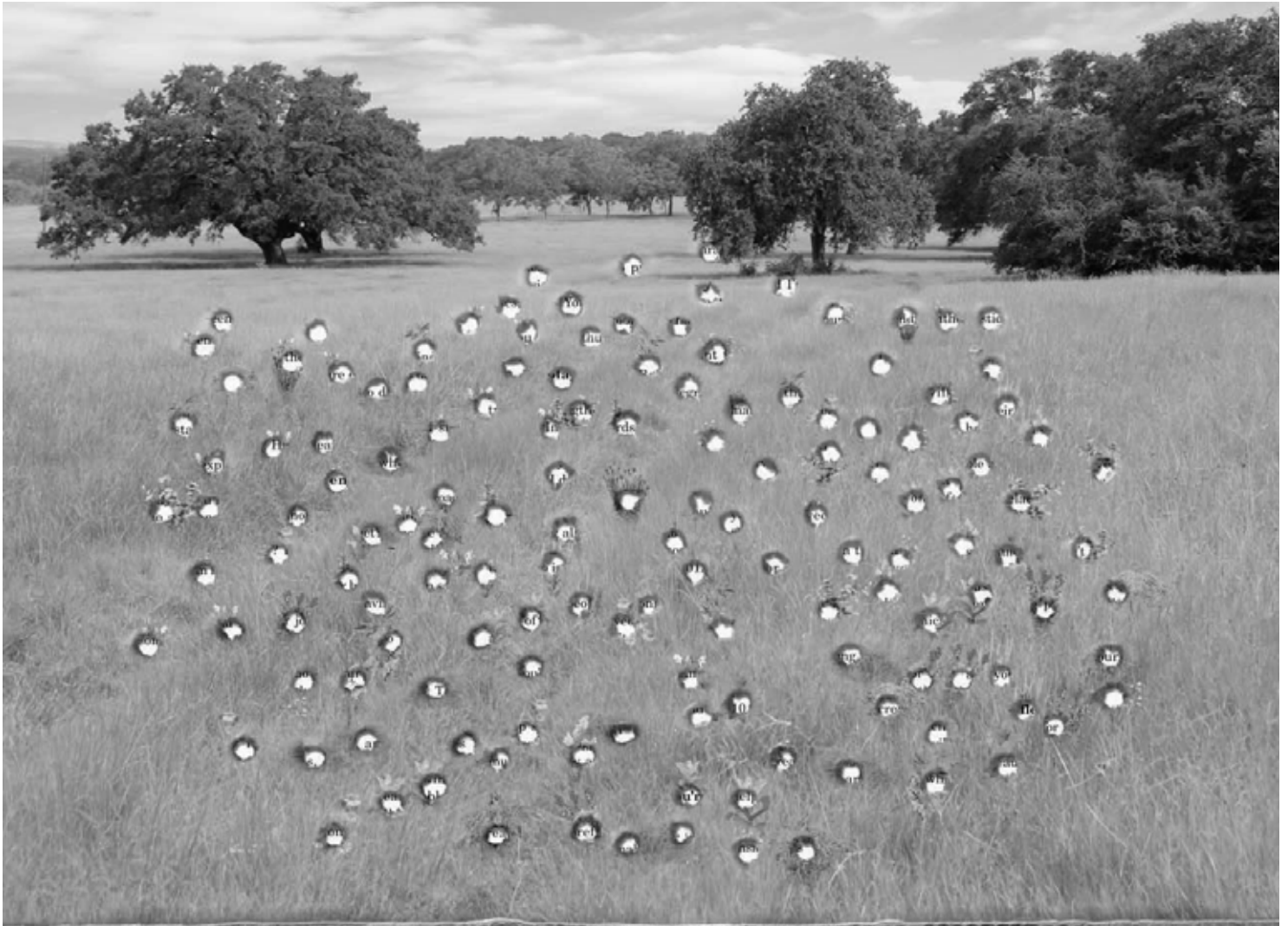
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CelPril/Bayer Crop Sciences
FFR Cooperative
Forage Genetics/America's Alfalfa
Grassworks
Growmark, Inc.
K-Line Irrigation
Pogue Agri Partners, Inc.
Producer's Choice
Sharp Brothers Seed Co.
Star Quality Samplers
W-L Research

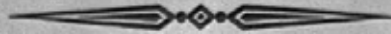
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Dow AgroSciences LLC, based in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA, is a top-tier agricultural company providing innovative agrochemical and biotechnology solutions globally. The company, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Dow Chemical Company, has sales of \$4.5 billion.

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