Effect of Nitrogen Rate and Timing of Application on Fall Stockpiled Bermudagrass. (C06-ball142551-Poster)

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Abstract:

Management strategies to lengthen the grazing season reducing hay consumption would increase profitability for cow-calf producers. Early fall rainfall patterns in the Southern Great Plains with nitrogen fertilization provides the potential for stockpiling bermudagrass to be utilized as drystanding forage in the winter. This study evaluates the effect of N rate and application timing on forage yield and crude protein in fall stockpiled bermudagrass. Nitrogen rate and timing of application had no effect on yield or forage quality in 2000-2001. Average dry matter yield for 0, 56, 112, and 168 kg N/ha were 208, 130, 162, and 203 kg/ha, respectively. Average dry matter yield by application date were 195, 186, 193, 167, and 140 kg/ha. Crude protein levels were high ranging from 18.6% with no N applied to 19.4% with 112 kg N/ha. There was a linear relationship on yield by N rate in 2001-2002. Average dry matter yield for 0, 56, 112, and 168 kg N/ha were 3317, 3584, 3936, and 4101 kg/ha, respectively. Crude protein levels were much lower when compared to 2000. However, levels were higher than 8% for each clipping date at the 112 and 168 kg N/ha rate, which is sufficient to support a dry cow without any supplementation.

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