Productivity of Irrigated Pastures under Rotational Stocking in the Intermountain West. (C06macadam100918-Poster)

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Abstract:

Irrigated cool-season grass-legume mixtures are productive under irrigation in the Intermountain West. A grazing study of eight mixtures conducted in 2001 and 2002 included tall fescue, meadow brome, orchardgrass and perennial ryegrass with either white clover or birdsfoot trefoil. In half of the plots, mixtures were cut for hay and then rotationally stocked for the remainder of the growing season (May through October). In the balance of the plots, mixtures were rotationally stocked for the entire growing season. Plots were grazed according to the regrowth rate of a particular mixture, resulting in a range of three to six grazing periods per season. As in an earlier 4-year-long clipping study, yields across treatments were higher for mixtures containing tall fescue and meadow brome than for orchardgrass and perennial ryegrass mixtures, and did not differ by legume component.

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