

APPROVED PRACTICES FOR FORAGE CROPS PRODUCTION

Select the approved practices from the list below which will be of benefit to your enterprise and record them on pages 3 and 4 in your Supervised Agriculture Experience Record Book. (This is only a general suggested list. Detail should be added to match your specific situation.)

1. Select a perennial species for long-term stands
2. Select a perennial or annual species for short-term stands
3. Buy certified seed of selected variety
4. Obtain a current soil test
5. Lime and fertilize according to soil test and desired production
6. Select a field with soils suitable for your forage choice
7. Select the proper tillage method to prepare a firm and smooth seedbed
8. Calibrate drill for proper plant population
9. Match plant population to soil yield potential
10. Adjust drill for proper depth of seed placement
11. Decide if forage will best be grown with a companion crop
12. Calibrate sprayer for proper application of materials
13. Use selected herbicides for controlling problem weeds
14. Use insecticides if necessary
15. Decide the stage of maturity to harvest the crop
16. Make a yield check
17. Keep harvesting equipment in good repair to save down time
18. Check moisture content when harvested
19. Harvest crop as soon as moisture permits to reduce losses
20. Store hay in clean, dry structure
21. Store silage in structure best adapted to your situation
22. Obtain a forage analysis
23. Track market trends and habits
24. Market crop at optimum time
25. Keep accurate enterprise records
26. Summarize and analyze records