



FORAGE BITS

Winter 2018 – 2019

Publication of the Maryland-Delaware Forage Council, Inc.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ❖ **President's Column Hay and Pasture Conferences Feature Timely Conferences Topics**
- ❖ **Feeding your 2018 Hay**
- ❖ **Forage Timely Tips: December**
- ❖ **Conference Announcements**
- ❖ **Forage Council Membership**

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President's Column

Hay and Pasture Conferences Feature Timely Conferences Topics

This winter's series of Hay and Pasture Conferences across Maryland and Delaware feature very timely forage management and utilization topics. I think the agendas of each of the four conferences have something for everybody.

You may be facing feeding lower quality hay or silage this winter. This was a very difficult year for harvesting hay and silage at the proper stage of maturity, dryness, and without rain damage. Much of this year's crop has lower quality and nutritional value than normal. I bought some second cutting grass hay that looks decent, is not dusty, but has an off odor. The sheep turned their noses up when I put it in their feeder. Nutritional value is good in this case but that is irrelevant if they will not eat it due to the odor.

If you are facing feeding lower nutritional value hay or silage, how can you supplement it to meet animal nutritional needs? Which animals should get the better quality and which the lower quality if you have various animal types and/or age groups?

This will be one of the timely topics featured at our series of four hay and pasture conferences being held January 15-18, 2019, at locations throughout Maryland and Delaware. Dr. Jessica Williamson, Penn State University Extension Forage Specialist, will focus her presentation on "Feeding Lower Quality Hay." If you are a livestock producer or horse owner you will not want to miss this presentation.

It has been some time since alfalfa production and management has been addressed at these conferences. Dr. Dennis Hancock, Forage Extension Specialist at the University of Georgia, will provide an update on "What's New in Alfalfa Production and Management?" His presentation will focus on:

- New traits in alfalfa varieties that increase the cost of seed but do they increase forage value?
- What are the economics behind Roundup Ready and reduced lignin varieties?
- What other new trends do we see happening in the alfalfa market?

We have rarely talked at these conferences about clover management and the contributions that they can make in hay and pasture production. So Dr. Hancock will address "Are Clovers Really Worth Seeding and Are Phytoestrogens in Clover Good or Evil?" in a second presentation. This presentation will not only be of interest to beef and dairy producers but the phytoestrogen aspect

will be of particular interest to sheep and goat producers. This presentation will focus on:

- Clovers increase individual animal performance, but do they increase productivity per acre?
- The N fixation of clovers is directly tied to their yield
- Is the addition of clovers to cool-season grass pastures cost-effective compared to the alternatives?
- Some clovers produce compounds that mimic estrogen, so is that good or bad?

The new University of Maryland Extension Pasture Management Specialist will be introduced at the conferences and discuss "Forage Yield and Nutritive Value of Reduced Lignin Alfalfa." So come to one of the conferences and meet our new pasture management specialist. Her presentation and Dr. Hancock's alfalfa presentation will tie together nicely and give you a good picture of the reduced lignin alfalfa trait.

Other topics vary from location to location. You can link to the complete program agenda for each conference location on our new Maryland-Delaware Forage Council web page at

<https://www.foragecouncil.com/event>.

Conferences dates and locations are:

- **Delmarva Hay & Pasture Conference**, January 15, Delaware State Fairgrounds, Harrington
- **Southern Maryland Hay & Pasture Conference**, January 16, Baden Volunteer Fire Department Hall, 16608 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, MD
- **Tri-State (Md., Pa., and W. Va.) Hay & Pasture Conference**, January 17, Garrett College Career Technology Training Center, 116 Industrial Drive, Accident, MD
- **Central Maryland Forage & Livestock Conference**, January 18, Frederick County 4-H Camp & Activities Center, 3702 Basford Road, Frederick, MD

The Central Maryland Forage & Livestock Conference is a new addition to the conference series this year, replacing the former Maryland Cattle Industry Convention & Hay and Pasture Conference that has ended.

Pre-registration is not necessary for the Delmarva conference but pre-registration is requested for the other conferences. Registration fee discounts are offered if you pre-register by the cutoff dates for each location. See the links for the Southern Maryland, Tri-State and Central Maryland conferences for registration information. Registration information follows the posted program agenda.

I think these conferences will once again be outstanding educational events and I encourage you to attend.

President, Les Vough

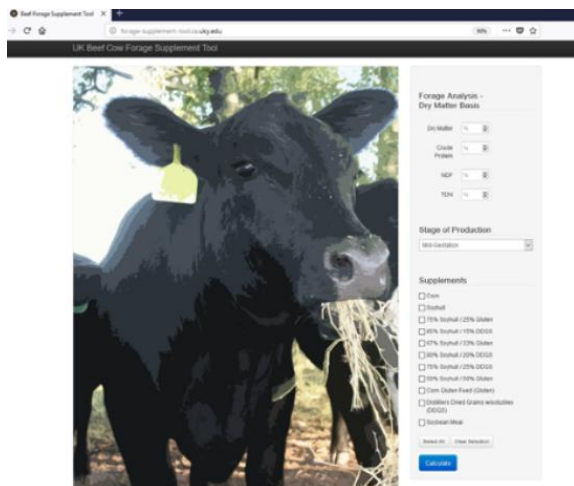
Feeding your 2018 Hay

Dr. Jimmy Henning, Farmers Pride,
Kentucky Forage News

Ration balancing options are available to beef producers who have a hay test by using a computer program. The [UK Beef Cow Forage Supplement Tool](#) is a simple web-based tool to estimate forage intake and supplementation rates. To use the tool, producers need to know the quality of the hay to be fed (dry matter, protein, NDF and TDN) and the desired stage of production of the cows. They can choose from among several supplement options and the program calculates the amount to be fed.

The program was developed by beef specialists in the UK Department of Animal and Food Sciences and is designed to provide quick and simple feeding solutions for Kentucky producers. Remember that many variables such as weather conditions, body condition, animal health, and palatability of feedstuffs can affect actual intake and animal response to a feeding program. Actual feed/forage intake and body condition should be monitored throughout the feeding program. Cattle should also have access to a complete mineral supplement and clean drinking water at all times.

The wintering cost is the largest single expense for beef cows. Manage this cost by making sound feeding decisions with your 2018 hay by using the UK Beef Cow Forage Supplement Tool



Forage Timely Tips: December

Kentucky Forage News

- Begin utilizing stockpiled pastures. Graze pastures with orchardgrass and clovers first. Save tall fescue pastures for late winter grazing.
- Using polywire, strip graze stockpiled pastures to improve Utilization. Start at the water source and allocate enough forage to for 2-3 days. Back fencing is not necessary.
- Make plans to frost seed red and white clover onto closely grazed tall fescue pastures in February.
- Some hay can be fed as stockpiled grass is grazed to stretch grass.
- Begin hay feeding as stockpiled forage is used up.
- Supplement hay as needed.
- Minimizing waste by utilizing ring feeders.

MDFC Now has a Website

Check us out -- MDFC has finally entered the electronic age, thanks to Brian Campbell, NRCS Grazing Specialist, and Dylan Brown, St. Mary's County high school student. Brian and Dylan have worked diligently on establishing the site and getting it up and functioning. While in the early stages of development, pertinent information about each of the conferences can be found on the site -- <https://www.foragecouncil.com/event>.

So check it out.

Delaware Ag Week Agenda
MD/DE Forage Council
January 15, 2019

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Welcome and Housekeeping Details

Dan Severson, University of Delaware Extension Agriculture Agent

9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. What's in the color? Managing diseases for high quality forages

Sudeep A. Mathew, Syngenta, Agronomic Service Representative, Mid-Atlantic

Forages with optimum leafiness and color is important for producing high carotene content and desirable palatability. Pasture diseases can often influence and reduce the quality of the hay. This session will discuss managing different pasture diseases to produce high quality forages and hay.

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Feeding Lower Quality Hay

Jessica Williamson, Extension Forage Specialist, Penn State University

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Are Clovers Worth It and Are Phytoestrogens in Clover Good or Evil?

Dennis Hancock, State Forage Extension Specialist, University of Georgia

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Words from the Maryland Delaware Forage Council

Les Vough, President MD/DE Forage Council and Forage Crops Extension Specialist Emeritus, University of Maryland

12:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Advancements in Alfalfa Production and Management

Dennis Hancock, State Forage Extension Specialist, University of Georgia

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. TBD

Roeland Kapsenberg, Vice President Agricultural Division, DLF PickSeed

Announcing the Southern Maryland Hay & Pasture Conference
Join fellow forage producers for a day packed with the latest hay and pasture information. We
have a great line-up of speakers from University of Georgia, Penn State, and University of
Maryland. Meet the new University of Maryland Forage Specialist. Register Now!

Program Agenda
Wednesday, January 16, 2019
Baden Volunteer Fire Department
Brandywine, MD

8:30 a.m. --9:00 a.m. *Registration, refreshments, visit exhibits*

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. *Moderator Welcome*

Moderator: Ben Beale, Senior Agent, University of Maryland Extension St. Mary's Co.

9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. *Weed Control in Hay and Pasture Systems*

Matt Morris, Agent, University of Maryland Extension Frederick Co

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. *Feeding Lower Quality Hay*

Jessica Williamson, Extension Forage Specialist, Penn State University

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Break

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1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. *Advancements in Alfalfa Production and Management*

Dennis Hancock, University of Georgia

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. *Reduced Lignin Alfalfa*

Extension Forage Specialist, University of Maryland

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION



Registration

Registration fee for the Southern Maryland conference will be \$15 per person by January 7th and \$20 after the 7th. Checks should be made payable to University of Maryland and sent to Hay & Pasture Conference, University of Maryland Extension, PO Box 663, Leonardtown, MD 20650 (phone: 301-475-4484).

Attendance at this program will also fulfill the requirements for Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification and Nutrient Management Voucher Training.

If you need special assistance to participate in the Forage Conference, please contact Ben Beale, University of Maryland Extension, (301) 475-4484, by January 7, 2019.

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.

In case of inclement weather, a message with the status of the meeting will be available at 301-475-4484.

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Southern Maryland Hay & Pasture Conference

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

**Baden Volunteer Fire Department
16608 Brandywine Road
Brandywine, Maryland - registration \$15**

NAME _____ **TELEPHONE** _____

ATTENDING _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Directions To Baden Volunteer Fire Department
16608 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, MD 20613

From St. Mary's County and Points South:

Take Rt 5 North to Hughesville. Turn right onto Rt 231 and proceed 2 miles. Turn left onto MD-381/Brandywine Road. Proceed 10 miles to the Fire Department on the right.

From Calvert County and Points East

Take Rt. 2/4 to Prince Frederick. Turn onto Rt. 231 and proceed 10.5 miles. Turn right onto MD-381/Brandywine Road. Proceed 10 miles to the Fire Department on the right.

From Points North:

Take Rt. 301 South towards Waldorf. Just before you get to Waldorf, turn left onto MD-381/Brandywine Road. Proceed 6 miles to the Fire Department on the left.

From College Park and Points West

Take Rt. 5 South from the beltway towards Waldorf. Just before you get to Waldorf and the 301/5 merge, turn left onto MD-381/Brandywine Road. Proceed 6.5 miles to the Fire Department on the left.

Central Maryland Forage & Livestock Conference

Program Agenda

Friday, January 18, 2019

4-H Camp Center

3702 Basford Rd, Frederick, MD 21703

8:30 a.m. --9:00 a.m. ***Registration, refreshments, visit exhibits***

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. ***Moderator Welcome***

Moderator: Matt Morris, Agent, University of Maryland Extension Frederick Co.

9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. ***Weed Control in Hay and Pasture Systems***

Matt Morris, Agent, University of Maryland Extension Frederick Co

10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. ***Feeding Lower Quality Hay***

Jessica Williamson, Extension Forage Specialist, Penn State University

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. ***Are Clovers Worth It and Are Phytoestrogens in Clover Good or Evil?***

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Les Vough, President MDFC and Forage Crops Extension Specialist Emeritus, University of Maryland

12:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. ***Advancements in Alfalfa Production and Management***

Dennis Hancock, University of Georgia

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ***Reduced Lignin Alfalfa***

Extension Forage Specialist, University of Maryland

Registration

Registration fee for the Central Maryland conference will be \$15 per person by January 9th and \$20 after the 9th. Checks should be made payable to "Frederick County EAC" and sent to Forage & Livestock Conference, University of Maryland Extension, 330 Montevue Ln, Frederick, MD 21702 (phone: 301-600-1594). **Payment at the door should be \$20 by check or EXACT change.**

Attendance at this program will also fulfill the requirements for Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification and Nutrient Management Voucher Training.

If you need special assistance to participate in the Forage Conference, please contact Matt Morris, University of Maryland Extension, (301) 600-1594, by January 9, 2019.

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all citizens and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.

In case of inclement weather, a message with the status of the meeting will be available at 301-600-1594.

Central Maryland Forage & Livestock Conference

Friday, January 18, 2019

**4-H Camp Center
3702 Basford Rd
Frederick, Maryland – registration \$15**

NAME _____ **TELEPHONE** _____

ATTENDING _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Directions to the 4-H Camp Center
3702 Basford Rd, Frederick, MD 21703

From Montgomery County and Points South:

Take I270 North towards Frederick. Take the ramp for I70 West and immediately merge to the right to take the exit for 340 West/ Rt. 15 South. Take the left exit to stay on Rt. 15 South. Take a right on Mountville Rd and make the next left on Basford Rd. Driveway on left.

From Howard County and Points East

Take I70 West towards Frederick. Take the exit for 340 West/ Rt. 15 South. Take the left exit to stay on Rt. 15 South. Take a right on Mountville Rd and make the next left on Basford Rd. Driveway on left.

From Washington County and Points West

Take I70 East towards Frederick. Take the exit for 340 West/ Rt. 15 South. Take the left exit to stay on Rt. 15 South. Take a right on Mountville Rd and make the next left on Basford Rd. Driveway on left.

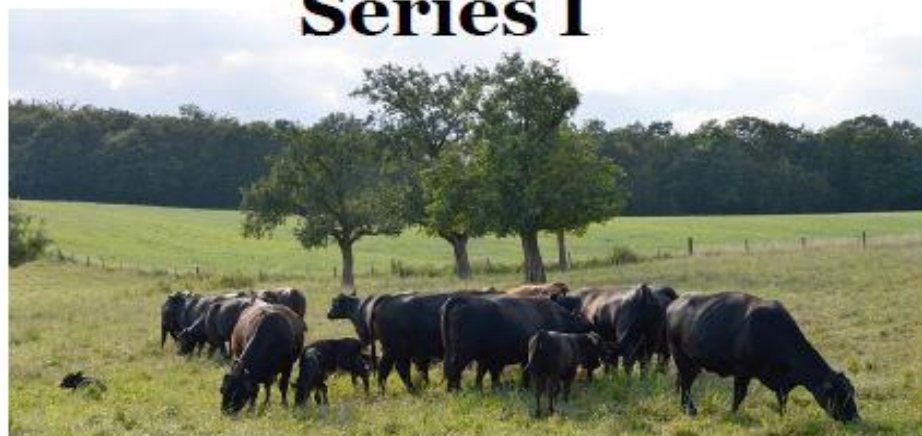
From Points North:

Take Rt. 15 South towards Frederick. Take the right exit for Rt. 180/ 340 West/ 15 South. Take the left exit to stay on Rt. 15 South. Take a right on Mountville Rd and make the next left on Basford Rd. Driveway on left.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

Beef Producer's SHORT-COURSE

Series I



January 25-26, 2019

**University of Maryland Extension
Baltimore County**

**1114 Shawan Road,
Cockeysville, MD 21030**

Cost: \$75

(Includes all educational materials and meals)

Registration applications can be downloaded at:

<https://ansc.umd.edu/extension/beef-extension/maryland-beef-producers-short-course>

**Please Contact Racheal Slattery with Questions
or to Register via email: rslatt@umd.edu or
phone: (301)405-1392**

Topics:

- Economics
- Genetics & Reproduction
- Herd Health
- Nutrition
- Hay & Pasture Management
- Grazing & Facilities

Featuring:

- University & Industry Experts
- Educational Resources
- Field Demonstrations
- Hands-on Learning

**Registration is
limited to the first
30 applicants**

**Day 2 Hands-on
Training
(Saturday, January 26)
will be held at:**

**Roseda Black Angus Farm
15317 Carroll Rd, Monkton,
MD 21111**



*An American Forage and Grassland
Council Affiliate*

December 20, 2018

Dear Maryland-Delaware Forage Council Member:

It is time once again to renew your membership in the Maryland-Delaware Forage Council (MDFC) and its parent organization, the American Forage and Grassland Council (AFGC). Now more than ever, the role of forages and grasslands must be promoted. MDFC was organized in 1983 to serve as a forum for forages and grasslands in Maryland and Delaware and to serve as the integrator of the numerous businesses, industries and service agencies associated with forage production, evaluation, marketing and use. The council seeks to coordinate the efforts of various groups and organizations with forage interests to increase the effectiveness of progress on behalf of an improved forage industry.

With your support, MDFC can accomplish much toward a better forage industry. It is a big job and we need your help; first by renewing your membership and second, by becoming involved in the council's programs. With your input, MDFC can serve an even more active role in support of the forage industry.

Your MDFC membership renewal notice is enclosed. The \$25 membership includes membership in both MDFC (\$15) and AFGC (\$10), a real bargain since an individual membership in AFGC alone is \$30.

Membership in MDFC qualifies you to receive a subscription to Progressive Forage magazine, the official publication for the American Forage and Grassland Council published 11 times per year. Progressive Forage magazine alone is worth the \$25 annual membership dues for MDFC.

A major effort of the MDFC is sponsoring the series of Hay and Pasture Conferences held in Delaware. Southern MD and Western MD. The 2018 conferences will be held January 9, 10 and 11. These conferences will focus on soil health along with hay and pasture management strategies for higher yields and improved utilization.

You should with your membership be receiving the Progressive Forage Grower magazine once a month. If you are not, please make note of that on your invoice so that we can make sure you receive it in the future.

Sincerely,

Les

Les Vough, President



An American Forage and Grassland Council Affiliate

INVOICE

Address Correction:

Telephone: _____

FAX: _____

E-mail: _____

Description	Amount
2019 Membership Dues: January 1-December 31, 2019	\$25.00
Total Amount Due	\$25.00

Please remit by January 31, 2019

Make checks payable to: Maryland-Delaware Forage Council

Remit to: Kenneth Stonesifer, 141 Hilltop Dr., Chestertown, MD 21620

Please Return This Section



An American Forage and Grassland Council Affiliate

INVOICE

Description	Amount
2019 Membership Dues: January 1-December 31, 2019	\$25.00
Total Amount Due	\$25.00

Please remit by January 31, 2019

Make checks payable to: Maryland-Delaware Forage Council

Remit to: Kenneth Stonesifer, 141 Hilltop Dr., Chestertown, MD 21620