

Emergency Forage Options

For all these recommendations below, the best seeding method will be a drill/seeder (even row planter) if possible, assuming the current stand or field condition allows it. Good seed-to-soil contact is imperative for success, especially when seeding into existing stands with varying levels of residue and plant material.

EMERGENCY FORAGE OPTION #1:

Spring Seeded Perennials (April 1 – June 15)

ENDO-GRAZE XL PERENNIAL RYEGRASS/ JUMP START PASTURE MIX

- Quick growing perennial makes a solid choice for inter-seeding into a thinning alfalfa stand or pasture
- Highest quality grass of all the perennials – harvest at boot-mid bloom if possible to retain quality and yield

Seeding Rate: *Thinning alfalfa stand or pasture*
15 - 20 lbs/acre; new seeding 30 - 40 lbs/acre

HAYMATE XL ORCHARDGRASS

- High quality perennial that's great as a companion to alfalfa and other legumes
- Maturity allows for increased flexibility over the growing season (especially when combined with legumes)
- Harvest at boot-early head stage; followed by cuttings every 35 - 40 days after

Seeding Rate: *Thinning alfalfa stand or pasture*
8-12 lbs/acre; new seeding 25 - 30 lbs/acre

STARGRAZER XL TALL FESCUE (ENDOPHYTE-FREE)

- Durable, drought tolerant perennial works well when inter-seeded into thinning pasture or hay fields across a wide range of climate and soil environments
- Endophyte-free varieties offer improved animal performance and overall feed quality – harvest at boot-early head

Seeding Rate: *Thinning hay stand or pasture*
10 - 15 lbs/acre; new seeding 30 - 40 lbs/acre

FUSION XL FESTULOLIUM

- Ryegrass/fescue hybrid offers the durability of fescue with the quality of ryegrass
- Persists for 2-3 years with proper management – harvest at boot-mid bloom

Seeding Rate: *Thinning alfalfa stand or pasture*
15 - 20 lbs/acre; new seeding 30 - 40 lbs/acre

RED CARPET® XL RED CLOVER

- Ideal legume to supplement existing hay fields or pastures – no better value
- Adding clover increases overall yield while enhancing protein and quality levels
- Crown disease protection gives 3 year clovers added persistence and quality

Seeding Rate: *Thinning alfalfa stand or pasture*
6 - 8 lbs/acre; new seeding 10 - 12 lbs/acre

EMERGENCY FORAGE OPTION #2:

Extending the Stand 1 More Year (April 1 – June 15)

TETRABANA XL ITALIAN RYEGRASS

- Excellent option for inter-seeding into a thinning alfalfa stand or pasture
- 2 - 3 cuttings possible in seeding year with proper management
- Italian ryegrass will remain vegetative until it reaches vernalization (better quality forage without seed production); will transition into an annual the next spring and will need to be managed as such

Seeding Rate: *Thinning alfalfa stand or pasture*
15 - 20 lbs/acre; new seeding 30 - 40 lbs/acre

COLDSNAP™ ANNUAL RYEGRASS

- Good option for extending alfalfa stand one more spring and summer
- Rapid establishment and excellent forage quality; can be used in grazing and silage systems

Seeding Rate: *Thinning alfalfa stand or pasture*
15 - 20 lbs/acre; new seeding 30 - 40 lbs/acre



ANNUAL RYEGRASS

FROSTY BERSEEM CLOVER

- Noticeable increases in yield (up to 30%) when inter-seeded into declining alfalfa stands
- Quick to establish and flexible enough to be harvested at same time as existing legumes

Seeding Rate: *Thinning alfalfa stand or pasture*
8-10 lbs/acre; new seeding 15 - 25 lbs/acre

SILOBUSTER PEA & OATS, SILOBUSTER PEA & BARLEY, SILOBUSTER PEA & TRITICALE, SPRINT & TRIPPER MAXX

- Small grain/legume combinations increase tonnage and protein levels vs. straight grain protein levels
- Ready to harvest in 60 - 75 days, depending on the spring growing conditions and soil temperatures

Seeding Rate: 120 - 150 lbs/acre

EMERGENCY FORAGE OPTION #3:

Summer Seeded Annuals

(June 1 – August 1) soil temps need to be $\geq 60^{\circ}\text{F}$

SORGHUM X SUDANGRASS

- Warm season grass offering quick growth (can be grazed or cut in 40 days or when stands equals 40" tall)
- BMR hybrids offer improved digestibility and improved palatability (comparable milk yields equal to silage corn)

Seeding Rate: 25 - 30 lbs/acre for BMR hybrids;
35 - 50 lbs/acre for conventional hybrids

→ Varieties we Recommend: QuickDry BMR and
Dense Tonnage BMR BD

PEARL MILLET

- Flexible warm season grass offering quick forage (can be grazed in 40 days)
- Unlike sorghum x sudangrass, pearl millet doesn't accumulate toxic prussic acid (frost damaged forage can be utilized)
- BMR hybrids offer improved digestibility with very high energy levels

Seeding Rate: 15 - 20 lbs/acre

→ Varieties we Recommend: Hercules BMR BD
and Perform BD

REPRIEVE® TEFF

- High yielding, soft-leafed annual grass with excellent palatability and forage quality (similar to timothy)
- Great emergency forage or double-crop option
- Good for inter-seeding thin alfalfa stands in final year of production
- Ready to harvest in 40 - 50 days (expect 2 - 3 cuttings depending on fertility and climate)

Seeding Rate: 6 - 8 lbs/acre into thinning alfalfa stand or pasture;
8 - 12 lbs/acre for new seedings

SOIL FIRST™ 167 SUMMER GRAZER

- 167 Summer Grazer: mix of sorghum x sudangrass, sunn hemp and radish aimed at quick tonnage for grazing systems BMR hybrids offer improved digestibility with very high energy levels

REMINDERS: For maximum tonnage, apply 1.0 - 1.25 lbs actual N/day. Consider elevated nitrate levels when grazing warm season annuals. Forage production will cease at first frost, however proper management will allow for grazing until mid-fall if chosen. This harvest window allows enough time for fall planted small grains or potentially another perennial forage.

EMERGENCY FORAGE OPTION #4:

Late Summer Planted Forages

(August 1 – August 20)

ALFALFA

- Late summer (not early fall) is an excellent time to establish alfalfa (assuming there's no auto-toxicity concerns)
- Cooler nights combined with warm soil temperatures and adequate moisture equal great growing conditions

Seeding Rate: 20 - 25 lbs/acre

SILOBUSTER PEA & OATS, SILOBUSTER PEA & BARLEY, SILOBUSTER PEA & TRITICALE, SPRINT & TRIPPER MAXX

- Small grain and peas produce high quality forages when planted in late summer
- Ready to harvest in 60 - 75 days, depending on the growing conditions (moisture and temperature)

Seeding Rate: 120 - 150 lbs/acre

OTHER OPTIONS: Winter wheat, fall rye and fall triticale are other options available, however forage production will be delayed compared to other annuals. Expect silage harvest the following spring.

Emergency Forage Option	Necessary Soil Temperature for Germination	Perennial / Biennial / Annual	Initial Tonnage Production	Forage Quality	Grazing Preference	Rapid Establishment	Rapid Regrowth
Grasses							
Annual Ryegrass	40°F	A	2	3	3	3	2
Italian Ryegrass	40°F	B	2	3	2	3	2
Perennial Ryegrass	40°F	P	2	3	3	2	2
Tall Fescue	38°F	P	1	2	3	1	2
Festulolium	40°F	P	1	2	3	2	2
Orchardgrass	40°F	P	1	3	2	1	2
Spring Wheat	38°F	A	2	3	2	2	1
Spring Triticale	38°F	A	2	2	2	2	2
Spring Oats	38°F	A	3	2	2	3	2
Millets	65°F	A	2	1	2	3	2
Sorghum x Sudangrass	65°F	A	3	2	2	3	3
Sudangrass	65°F	A	3	2	2	3	3
Hybrid Pearl Millet	65°F	A	3	2	3	3	3
Teff Grass	65°F	A	2	3	1	3	3
Broadleaves							
Buckwheat	65°F	A	3	1	1	3	2
Legumes							
Crimson Clover	42°F	A	2	2	2	2	2
Red Clover	40°F	P	2	3	2	1	2
White Clover	41°F	P	1	3	3	2	2
Berseem Clover	40°F	A	2	3	2	2	3
Forage Pea	41°F	A	3	3	2	3	1
Cowpea	65°F	A	3	2	2	3	1
Sunn Hemp	65°F	A	3	1	1	3	2
Brassicas							
Diakon Radish	45°F	A	2	2	2	3	3
Turnip	45°F	A	2	2	3	3	3
Rapeseed	41°F	A	2	2	2	3	3
Forage Collards	40°F	A	2	2	3	2	2
3	+++	Highly Recommended					
2	++	Good Option					
1	+	Will work, but not the Best Option					



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