

# CORNER POST

**LEAN ON US FOR THE FORAGE INFORMATION YOU NEED.**



**FORAGE FIRST**  
WHEN YIELD AND QUALITY MATTER®



**FORAGE FIRST Emergency Forage Options**

**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 interseeding 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

**EVISON XL FESTULOLIM**

- Regina/Rosca 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 clove 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

**MEADOW FESCUE**

- Great option for wetter soils and areas with poor drainage; ideal for grazing environments
- Tolerant to a wide range of pH (as low as 5.5)
- Greater floor digestibility when compared to most other perennial forage grasses like tall fescue and orchardgrass

**Seeding Rate:** Thinning Perennial stands 5-8 lbs/acre; new seeding 8-12 lbs/acre

**GRASSHANCER® 200/GRASSHANCER® 200FL**

- Recommended for spring plantings to boost production this season
- Grasshancer® 200 is a mix of diploid and tetraploid Italian ryegrass
- Grasshancer® 200FL combines the high production of Italian ryegrass with the added forage quality of Festulolium

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

**EMERGENCY FORAGE OPTION #2:**  
Extending the Stand 1 More Year (April 1 - June 15)

**TETABANA XL ITALIAN RYEGRASS**

- Excellent option for interseeding 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 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

**COLD SNAP™ 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

**FROSTY BERSEEM CLOVER**

- Nutritive increases in yield (up to 30%) when interseeded into existing 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

**SILORUSTER PEA & OATS, SILORUSTER PEA & BARLEY, SILORUSTER PEA & TRITICALE, SPRINT & TRIPPER MAX**

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

**Seeding Rate:** 120 - 150 lbs/acre

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## EMERGENCY FORAGE PREPARATION

Winter weather was especially rough in many areas of the Midwest, and many growers counting on spring forage could be in a bind. Depending on the region, livestock type, and forage source, livestock producers could be planning to augment forage stands as soon as possible.

### EMERGENCY FORAGE OPTIONS

To help you prepare, we've compiled a list of [recommended emergency forage options](https://bit.ly/2UxHPmz) for growers to consider, and for dealers to have stocked and ready. (<https://bit.ly/2UxHPmz>)

**PLANNING AND ACTING QUICKLY ARE IMPORTANT**  
Please take a minute to review an article we published earlier for additional tips and [considerations when winter damages your forage](https://bit.ly/2SKjVGE). (<https://bit.ly/2SKjVGE>)



## USING WINTER CEREALS IN SPRING

It is also important to remember that livestock producers can use winter cereal grains in spring as well. These cereal stands can produce adequate pasture (more so than hay) in this calendar year, either by themselves or when augmenting existing stands.

When extra seed is available (for example, carried over from the fall before), growers can consider using cereal rye, winter triticale and even winter wheat. Throughout a majority of the country, these grains will produce only vegetative growth through the summer and potentially into fall. These cereals also regrow fairly well and would even work in rotational grazing systems, as long as the grazing cycles are not sooner than a month apart.

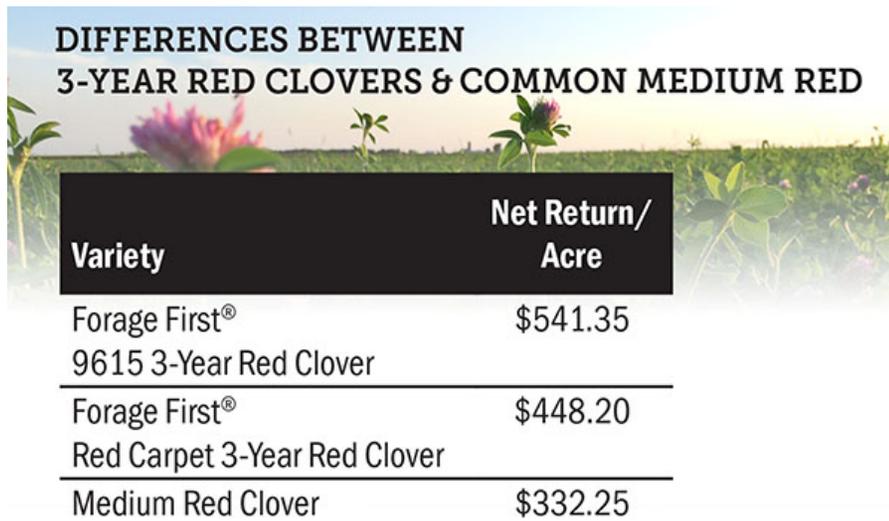
### TIPS FOR SPRING-PLANTED WINTER CEREAL GRAINS:

- Begin grazing once the stand is at least 6-8" tall
- Keep seeding rates the same as if they were being seeded in the fall for forage
- Fertility – as much as 50-100 pounds of actual Nitrogen would be incredibly beneficial, but consider split applications to help with management. Also keep in mind feeding risks associated with elevated nitrate levels.
- Cereal grains can be low in fiber (unlike brassicas, for example). Livestock could suffer from digestive issues until they get accustomed to the new feed type.

Lastly, when spring cereals are seeded by themselves it can make management a little more challenging, since they are genetically disposed to go into reproductive mode - in other words, they want to produce seed. With that said, spring cereals like oats are much better than winter cereals when the goal is tonnage production early in the season.

### **WHY 3-YEAR RED CLOVER MAKES CENTS: GREATER VALUE. GOOD MOVE.** (<https://bit.ly/2XV85sQ>)

Many growers will specifically look to enhance grass-dominated pastures and hay fields by frost seeding legumes. A popular choice for this is red clover, due to its excellent seedling vigor. Remember, not all red clovers are equal. When the rotation allows, it makes sense (and cents) to incorporate a 3-year clover. These clovers have stronger resistance to crown diseases and persist into a third year, allowing for additional harvests to further supplement hay stocks (more than paying for the slightly higher seed cost).



**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN 3-YEAR RED CLOVERS & COMMON MEDIUM RED**

Variety	Net Return/Acre
Forage First®	\$541.35
9615 3-Year Red Clover	
Forage First®	\$448.20
Red Carpet 3-Year Red Clover	
Medium Red Clover	\$332.25

#### About The Corner Post

The Corner Post is a periodic email series with timely forage tips from the agronomic experts at Forage First and La Crosse Seed. If you have a question you'd like us to answer, contact us: [info@laxseed.com](mailto:info@laxseed.com) or 800.356.7333