

TECHNICAL

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

NOTES

IOWA STATE OFFICE
DES MOINES, IOWA

Agronomy #30

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Subject: IOWA FORAGE AND LIVESTOCK BALANCE WORKSHEET

This technical note provides guidance on how to access the Iowa Forage and Livestock Balance Worksheet and Grazing Plan. This computer program can be used to assist in developing plans for grazing systems in the conservation planning process.

This program provides an estimate to the livestock grazer so they will know if the grazing system will provide an adequate amount of forage for the grazing animals. It also identifies when there are potential forage surplus and deficits. Forage yields are based upon the current forage yield tables from the electronic Field Office Technical Guide and updated by Iowa State University.

The grazing plan portion of the program provides an opportunity for the conservation planner to document decisions made with the producer. The conservation planner can use the prepared narratives or edit them as needed.

To access the computer program go to Iowa NRCS Technical Resources located at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ia/technical/landuse/pasture/>. Instructions for the balance worksheet and the grazing plan are attached to each document as a pdf. file.